

TUMAY ERMAN

Tumay Erman was born 1975 Edremit Turkey. Being a descendant of a family of miners and geologists with roots in Thessaloniki and Lesvos/Greece. Tumay Erman earned a BFA Degree in Ceramics and Glass from Dokuz Eylül University, Faculty of Fine Arts in 1997 İzmir. Between 2001-2002, she completed her studies at the English Language Academy, University of St. Maarten/NA, and obtained an MFA in Ceramics and Glass at Dokuz Eylül University's Institute of Fine Arts in 2018, completing a thesis on Crystalline glazes. Between 2001-2015, while living abroad, she attended a summer education program on glaze chemistry at Alfred University in New York, USA 2009. The artist has spent 15 years of her professional career in St. Maarten/NA, USA. She is a ceramics sculptor, based in Izmir, Turkey. Currently she is a professional consultant on ceramic materials for individual artists and numerous ceramics companies. Erman is also an educator on ceramics and glaze chemistry, holding workshops nationally, internationally and also authoring book on the subject.

Tumay Erman's ceramic sculptures explore correlations and parallels, between the formative processes of the geological realm and the social dynamics that have formed human society, focusing especially on pressures impacting women's lives. She draws analogies, between crystalline formations on the surfaces of glazes caused by atomic bonding under the effect of heat, and social upheavals caused by the pressure of conflicts in human societies. Erman examines impermanent pairings and mergers which balance and harmonize contrasting elements that complement one another. She is fascinated by how relationships between all beings are determined by the dichotomy of attraction and repulsion. Her sensitivity to the experience of societal restrictions that Anatolian women have endured, in their quest for security and independence, as well as to the prevailing atmosphere of uncertainty due to political tensions, informs the visual language of her works, which stand as metaphors for energies in conflict. Tumay Erman's biomorphic / metamorphic ceramic forms, are inspired by the molecular configurations of the glazes she formulates to cover their surfaces, and allude to the microscopic building blocks at their core. In her latest works, where hand building, wheel throwing and mold pressing techniques have been used to shape porcelain and stoneware into biomorphic forms, She used mid-range and high fire glazes (cone 7-10) to obtain shiny spikey and reflective crystalline glazes to create an aura of depth, tension, humor, hope, and nature's multidimensional reverberations. On these forms and surfaces she has developed a visual language that blends depth and shallowness, enhanced by the use of both shiny, textural and matt glazes.

Tumay Erman works have been exhibited internationally in countries such as Greece, Turkey, the French island of St. Barthelemy and Dutch Sint Maarten. Locally, her works can be seen in French St. Martin at the Roland Richardson Museum, Lapierre's Marble Art Gallery and in Dutch Sint Maarten.

Selected Exhibitions

- March, 2024: Group exhibition in memory of the 100th anniversary of the Republic of Turkey, İzmir Kültürpark
- July, 2023: Group exhibition, Leon Art Gallery opening / Çeşme
- October 2021: "*Dört Mevsim Sanat*" (Four Season Art) Vino Art Gallery / Çeşme
- August, 2021: "*Options*" PG Art gallery Maslak, Istanbul
- May, 2021: "*Birlikte Daha İyi*" (Better Together) Vino Art Gallery, Çeşme, Izmir
- 2016: "*Göç*" (Migration) Group exhibition, Izmir Painting and Sculpture Museum, Izmir
- 2016: "*Equinox*" Dart Gallery Group exhibition, Beyoğlu, Istanbul
- 2014: "*Caribbean Voices*" (Karayipli Sesler), Lapierre Marble Gallery, Traditional Anniversary, Group Exhibition Cul de Sac St. Martin
- 2014: *Group Exhibition of Members of the International 'Art Lovers' Association*, MJC Art and Culture Center, Grand Case, St. Martin, French West Indies
- 2014: Double Solo Exhibition with French Painter Sir Roland Richardson and Tümay Erman at Noco Art Gallery, St. Maarten, French West Indies
- 2013: "*Find Your Center*" German Painter Corinna Trimborn and Tümay Erman at Cliff Art Gallery, Cupecoy, St. Maarten, French West Indies.
- 2013: "*Life is Art*" at Lapierre Marble Factory Art Gallery, Hope Estate, St. Maarten, French West Indies
- 2013: "Chamber for Art" (Sanat Odası) at Sir Roland Richardson Museum and Gallery, Marigot, St. Martin, French West Indies
- 2013: "*11th Traditional Art Lovers Association Group Exhibition*", MJC Culture and Art Center, Grand Case, St. Martin
- 2012: *Cupecoy 'Art Lovers' Gallery Opening, Painting and Ceramic Exhibition*, Port Cupecoy, St. Maarten
- 2012: "*2nd International Art Lovers Association Artists Exhibition*", Radion Blue Hotel Gallery, Anse Marcel, St. Maarten
- 2012: "*50 International Artists*" Group Exhibition, MJC Culture and Art Center, Grand Case, St. Martin, French West Indies
- 2011: "*Contemporary West Indies Art Exhibition*", Lapierre Marble Gallery, Hope Estate, St. Maarten, French West Indies.
- 2010: "*The Nude Effect*" Group Exhibition in Art, La Shore Art Gallery, Grand Case, St. Maarten, French West Indies
- 2010: "*30 Caribbean Artists*" Group Exhibition, MJC Culture and Art Center, Grand Case, St. Maarten, French West Indies

Awards / Fellowships

- 2024: “Coalescence” NCECA Multicultural Fellowship Conference, Richmond, USA
- 2014: “Best Artist of the Year Award” Caribbean Ministry of Tourism and Culture and Daily Herald Media
- 2013: “2nd Best Artist of the Year Award” Caribbean Ministry of Tourism and Culture and Daily Herald Media
- 2010: “Excellence Award for Art Activity” at the 2nd Traditional Children's Festival of St. Maarten
- 2010: “1st Prize in Most Creative Work at Caribbean Home Decor and Art Fair”, Sonesta Maho Hotel, St. Maarten
- 2010: “Second Prize for Social Responsibility Project” by Des Cinque Sens Disabled Association, Marigot, French West Indies
- 2008: “Best International Architectural Ceramic Design Award” by USA Master Pool Guide Magazine, Princes Chateau Pelican, St. Maarten

Attendance and Participation in Workshops, Conferences and Symposia:

- 2024: “Coalescence” NCECA Conference, Richmond, USA.
- 2020: “Crystal Glazes in Reduction Atmosphere”, Workshop by Jose Mariscal, Albons, Spain.
- 2019: “Overcoming Barriers with Art”, International Ceramic Workshop, İzmir, Turkey
- 2015: John Traweek luster alcohol reduction raku workshop, Capetown FL, USA
- 2014: “Positive and Negative Model Glass Molding Workshop” with Dean Alison
- 2009 The Alfred University Summer Ceramics Glaze Program /Alfred NY, USA
- 2007: “5th International Anguilla Art Festival and Biennial”, Anguilla, British Island
- 2005: “2nd International Caribbean Art and Education Symposium”, University of West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago

Teaching / Workshops

- Feb 2025 Glazing and surface decoration on stoneware and porcelain bodies. Meclay Academy, İstanbul
- Nov 2024 Ceramic materials and glaze chemistry mid fire glaze workshop – Meclay Academy, Seyrantepe İstanbul
- May 2024 Ceramic materials and glaze chemistry cone4-5-6 glaze workshop - Mia and Gaia Ceramic, Antalya
- May 2023 Ceramic materials and glaze chemistry beginner glaze workshop - Biz Mekan Kadıkoy, İstanbul
- Dec 2022 Glazing and Surface decoration finishing techniques - Crafix art Center, Kozyatağı İstanbul
- Jan 2022 Ceramic materials and glaze chemistry beginner glaze workshop - HAD Studio Anıttepe Ankara
- Nov 2019 Ceramic materials and glaze chemistry cone 4-5-6 glaze workshop - Ciflikteki Atölye, Kemerburgaz - İstanbul
- July 2016 John Traweek and Tunay Erman luster alcohol reduction raku workshop, Capetown FL, USA
- June 2016 Raku glaze workshop - Dokuz Eylül University Ceramic and Glaze department, Narlıdere İzmir

Work in Public Collections

- Sir Roland Richardson Museum and Gallery, Marigot, St. Martin
- Private Collection of Cy Twombly Association President Tom Saliba, USA
- Lapierre’s Marble Factory Gallery Collections, Hope Estate, St. Martin
- La Petite Favorite Art Gallery, Grand Case, St. Martin
- Efta Petrol A.Ş
- Tüprag Mining
- Promer Engineering
- Mrt Mining Industry

Public Commissions

- The Cliff Wall mural for lobby Cupecoy St. Maarten
- Ceramic wall murals made for the Manisa Municipality building
- Princess Chateau, Pool side murals, Simpson Bay, St. Maarten
- Light fixtures, pool side murals, La Domaine Resort Hotel and Spa, Anse Marcel, St. Martin
- La Samanna Orient Express Luxury Caribbean Resort and Spa, Terras Basses, St. Martin
- Ceramic wall panels, Port De Plaisance Resort Hotel and Spa, Cole Bay, St. Maarte

Member of Organizations: ICAN (International Ceramics Artists Network - formerly “Potters Council”)

<https://ceramicartsnetwork.org/ican-membership>, Art Saves Lives Foundation <https://artsaveslivesfoundation.org>

NCECA

(National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts) <https://nceca.net/about-us-1>, I Can Foundation <https://www.i-can-foundation.org>

