

JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE



**THE JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY
AT GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY PRESENTS**

TEAPOT

A National Juried Exhibition

Opening Reception | Saturday, September 9, 2017 | 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

NEW YORK – September 9 – October 6, 2017. The Jane Hartsook Gallery is pleased to present *Teapot*, A National Juried Exhibition with works selected by juror, John Neely. Neely's selections demonstrate the plethora of inventive approaches to creating a teapot and the object's adaptable nature, inviting the most eccentric or subtle changes to form. The teapot, a device designed for brewing and serving tea serves as a sacred participant in the Japanese tea ceremony and a symbolic element for Victorian era upper class society. It is also an object of fetishism, expression and iconography, a truly versatile object. When covered with extravagant embellishments, it is highly collectible kitsch or a political statement or both. The maker can imbue the teapot with a narrative that adds context to the form as a means of communication. Artists in this exhibition expand our experience of a teapot's function and the possibility of surprise through elaborate and decorative deviation.

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Creating a teapot often requires attention to how the object moves or is handled during use, engaging a curiosity for how to adapt construction and invention. The works in this exhibition are a result of those skills, trial and error, experimentation and tenacity. For utilitarian teapots, this might pertain to how the belly of the form contains tea or how it transitions through and out of the spout. For non/semi-functional teapots, movement is emphasized more through design, textural curiosity and/or conceptual fascination. As a result, artists see to fruition teapots with wood-fired surfaces, representations of nature, decorative pattern-making and implications of humor.

Exhibiting artists include Posey Bacopoulos, Hayne Bayless, Jim Budde, Todd Burns, Mary Elizabeth Cotterman, Scott Dooley, Christopher Drobnock, Stephen Heywood, Steve Hilton, Jamie Kirkpatrick, Chris Pickett, Louis Reilly, Taylor Robenalt, Meryl Ruth, Josh Scott, Nathan Willever, Tripti Yoganathan and Dan Zulawski. Featured image is courtesy of Chris Pickett.

John Neely is the Professor of Ceramics at Utah State University and is an accomplished ceramicist having presented his work in over 100 domestic group exhibitions as well as solo and international exhibitions which include China, Korea, Australia, Japan, New Zealand and Yugoslavia. John has lectured and conducted workshops at the International Woodfire Conference in Flagstaff, AZ; Functional Ceramics Workshop in Wooster, OH; Utilitarian Clay Conference in Arrowmont, TN; Mendocino Arts Center in Mendocino, CA, and the Experimental Porcelain Workshop in Jingdezhen, China. He will provide a one-day workshop in conjunction with *Teapot* on Friday, September 8, 2017 at Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY.

CONTACT

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Gallery Hours: Wednesday – Saturday, 12:00 – 6:00 p.m. (or by appointment)

ABOUT GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY

Greenwich House Pottery is a school that supports artists and their projects with a commitment to teaching and promoting ceramics. Starting with clay modeling classes in the earliest days of Greenwich House as part of its Handicraft School, the Pottery flourished with the help of the community and philanthropic support from patrons like Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney. GHP remains a stalwart of innovation and art.

GHP is dedicated to expanding public awareness of the diversity and complexity of ceramics and fostering the development of artists through internships, residencies, exhibitions and classes. Extending our educational mission of making, exhibiting, and learning from contemporary ceramics, GHP operates

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“Ceramics Now,” an exhibition series in the Jane Hartsook Gallery committed to supporting emerging, underrepresented and established ceramists. GHP raises awareness of the importance of creative engagement with art. Like so many nonprofit arts organizations, GHP plays a vital role in community building and providing access to the arts. Centers like GHP have become rare but are regaining popularity as society rediscovers the amazement in creating art by engaging physically with materials. GHP offers a chance to learn from clay in a direct way, particularly the pottery community of the West Village, and to foster connections between artists, material and the larger ceramics community.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Teapot: A National Juried Exhibition

September 9 – October 6, 2017

Andrew Casto, Evan D’Orazio, Hilary Harnischfeger

October 19 – November 17, 2017

Bandana Pottery

November 2 – December 22, 2017

A. M. Martens

January 12 – February 9, 2018

This program is supported by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the Allan Buitekant Fund for Ceramic Art & Inquiry, the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Hompe Foundation, and New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

