

# JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE



Left: Joanna Powell, *Flower Vessel*, ceramic, 17" x 9.5" x 9.5", 2019. Right: Joanna Powell, *Perfect Pretenders*, digital photograph, 30" x 45", 2019. Photo: Clarissa Rose Peppers.

## THE JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY AT GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY PRESENTS ***LAY ME IN A HOT BED AND TRY NOT TO DROWN*** JOANNA POWELL

Opening Reception | Friday, May 17, 2019 | 5:00–7:00 p.m.  
Exhibition on view through June 14, 2019

**NEW YORK** – The Jane Hartsook Gallery is pleased to present new work by Joanna Powell. *Lay Me in a Hot Bed and Try Not to Drown*, Powell's New York City debut, was inspired by the harrowing experience of returning to Dallas after her mother's death. In this exhibition, Powell explores emotions that are universally felt in highly individualized ways. Everyone eventually grapples with the death of a loved one, but each person's experience is unique. Using ceramic, photography and neon, Powell unpacks how those humid Dallas nights felt, trying to fall asleep despite the crush of emotion and thick summer air, and what it means to have common experiences without actually being able to share them.

Powell's work is joyful while retaining a sense of loss. Infinite black backgrounds make intense colors pop with life, and white vessels are washed in color. Pots and paintings alike are lush with beautiful plant life whose fruit and flowers promise plenty that they ultimately cannot fulfill. Joy and pain are present in Powell's work in a way that welcomes viewers to contemplate their experiences with loss without dictating their responses.

Joanna Powell is an artist based out of Helena, Montana. She received her MFA in ceramics from the University of Colorado, Boulder and her BFA in ceramics from the University of North Texas. She was an artist in residence at the Archie Bray Foundation and has had solo and group exhibitions at University of Wisconsin-River Falls (River Falls, WI; 2019), Denison Artspace (Newark, OH;

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2016), Hoffman Gallery (Portland, OR; 2018), and The Clay Studio (Philadelphia, PA; 2013), among others.

## CONTACT

JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY  
GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY  
16 Jones Street, (between Bleecker & West 4<sup>th</sup>)  
New York, NY 10014  
[www.greenwichhousepottery.org](http://www.greenwichhousepottery.org)  
Kaitlin McClure, [kmcclure@greenwichhouse.org](mailto:kmcclure@greenwichhouse.org)  
(212) 242-4106 ext. 25  
Gallery Hours: Wednesday–Saturday, 12:00–6:00 p.m. (or by appointment)

## ABOUT GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY

Greenwich House Pottery is a ceramics center that has been supporting artists and promoting the field of ceramics for over 110 years. 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 *Ceramics Now*, an exhibition series in the Jane Hartsook Gallery committed to supporting emerging, underrepresented and established ceramists.

GHP strives to increase public recognition 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 and to foster connections between artists, material and the larger ceramics community.

## UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

### *Ollas*

**Lisa Holt and Harlan Reano**

July 12 – August 8, 2019

### *Touching Time*

**Christopher Staley**

August 30 – September 27, 2019

This program is supported by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the Allan Buitkant 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.

