

JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE

THE JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY AT
GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY PRESENTS

CLAY IS JUST THICK PAINT **JENNIFER ROCHLIN**

ANGELIK VIZCARRONDO-LABOY (curator)



Opening Reception
February 21, 2020 | 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Artist/Curator Talk
February 21, 2020 | 4:00–5:00 p.m.

On view through March 20, 2020

NEW YORK – The Jane Hartsook Gallery is pleased to present new work by Jennifer Rochlin, curated by Angelik Vizcarrondo-Laboy. Aptly titled *Clay Is Just Thick Paint* after a quotation from artist Peter Voulkos, this exhibition argues for the equality of clay and paint as artistic materials. Trained as a painter, Rochlin began working with clay in 2007 and now exclusively works with the medium. This exhibition features ten of her hand-built pots and reliefs, each of which tells a story about love, lust or longing.

Rochlin's pots and reliefs highlight her interest in storytelling and the human body. The former are metaphors for the body, each having its own lumps and imperfections. Every piece in this exhibition is a memory embodied. Rochlin covers her pots' surfaces with vignettes whose painterly quality alludes to the way impressions often take precedent over details in our recollections. As viewers experience the pots in the round, they encounter scenes unbound by chronological order, just as personal memories often arise out of sequence. Even Rochlin's construction methods connect to storytelling; the pinches and pokes she uses to give her pots form mirror the hand gestures storytellers use to punctuate their narratives.

Jennifer Rochlin (born 1968 in Baltimore, MD) is a Los Angeles-based artist working in ceramics and painting. She has had solo exhibitions at Geary Contemporary (New York, NY; 2019), Lefebvre & Fils (Paris, France; 2018), The Pit (Los Angeles, CA; 2018) and Black Dragon Society (Los Angeles, CA; 2007). Rochlin's work has been featured in numerous group and two-person shows such as *Paintings and Pots*, The Green Gallery (Milwaukee, WI; 2018); *Jennifer Rochlin/Gene Moreno*, Institute of Visual Arts, University of Milwaukee (WI; 2007); *Home Show, Revisited*, Santa Barbara Contemporary Arts Forum (CA; 2011), *Open Daybook*, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (CA; 2011); *MKE-LAX*, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design (WI; 2012); Venice Beach Biennial, in conjunction with *Made in LA*, Hammer Museum (Los Angeles, CA; 2012) and *Sculptures*, 356 Mission (Los Angeles, CA; 2013). Rochlin is the recipient of the Individual Artist Grant from the Belle Foundation (2015) and the Durfee Foundation ARC Grant (2007) and has had residencies at Lefebvre & Fils (Versailles, France; 2018) and Civitella Ranieri (Umbria, Italy; 2019).

Angelik Vizcarrondo-Laboy (born 1992 in San Juan, Puerto Rico) is a New York-based curator, writer and arts administrator focusing on contemporary art and craft, with an emphasis on ceramics. She serves as Assistant Curator at the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD), New York. Since 2016, she has been part of MAD's curatorial team, helping to organize over nineteen exhibitions and installations. She also manages MAD's Burke Prize, a contemporary craft award, and curates its accompanying exhibition. She is a 2020 Curatorial Fellow at the Center for Craft

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(Asheville, NC), where she is curating *Sleight of Hand*, a group show of ceramics that demonstrate the power of humor as a tool of resistance, resilience and healing. She holds an MA from the Bard Graduate Center in Decorative Arts, Design History & Material Culture and a BA in Art History from the University of Florida, with minors in Anthropology and Ceramics.

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 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

GHP Artists Exhibition
April 10 – May 1, 2020

21st Century Caddo
Raven Halfmoon
May 22 – June 19, 2020



NYC Cultural Affairs

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