

GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

HEIDI LAU

New York, NY – Greenwich House Pottery is pleased to announce Heidi Lau as our Fellowship Artist from January 11 to February 19, 2021.

Lau is a New York City-based artist who grew up in Macau. Her primary materials are paper and ceramic. In her research-based work, Lau explores nostalgia, memory, and the creation of history. Taoist cosmology influences much of her work, as do folk superstitions and Macau’s colonial history. Lao is particularly interested in burial chambers as a transitional space in which a body teeters between personhood and objecthood.

Lau has a BFA from New York University. Her work has been shown internationally, including at the Venice Biennale (Italy; 2019), the Bronx Museum of the Arts (NY; 2017), Macao Museum of Art (China; 2014), and Museum of Chinese in America (New York, NY; 2016). Lau has received a number of awards, including the Colene Brown Art Prize (2019), the Joan Mitchell Foundation Painters & Sculptors Grant (2015) and the Socrates Sculpture Park Emerging Artist Fellowship (2014). She has held residencies, including at CSULB Center for Contemporary Ceramics (2020), the Joan Mitchell Center (2018), the Museum of Arts and Design (2017), and the Center for Book Arts (2014), among others.

During her fellowship, Lau will create a series of large-scale sculptural fountains inspired by the mausoleum of Emperor Qin Shi Huang (259 – 210 B.C.) in Xian, China. Though the mausoleum is most famously known for the terracotta warriors surrounding it, Lau is taking inspiration for her project from the pools of mercury that historical accounts and archeological research indicate surround the main section of the as-yet unopened tomb.

Our Fellowship and Residency Program fosters an artist’s development by providing time, space and material in the center of the art world. The fellow has access to a private studio space (12’ x 12’) during the Pottery’s regular business hours, free stocked clay and access to gas and electric firings.

Greenwich House Pottery, a non-profit (501c3) organization, is New York City’s premier ceramic facility. Originally founded in 1909 to teach immigrants a marketable skill in the spirit of the Arts & Crafts Movement, the Pottery is now an arts center for the local and international community that strives to support the history and future of the ceramic arts through its educational facilities, artist residency and gallery.

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Portrait of Heidi Lau.
Photo by Tess Mayer for *Newest York*.



Mercury Six-Spouted Vessel, ceramic with crystalline glaze, 25 ½” x 8 ½” x 13 ½”, 2020.
Courtesy of the artist and Matthew Brown Los Angeles. Photo credit: Adam Reich.



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