

ZAK HELENSKE

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EDUCATION

- 2014 MFA, Rochester Institute of Technology, School for American Crafts, Ceramics and Ceramic Sculpture, Rochester, NY
- 2009 BFA, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 New Work, Vetri Gallery, Seattle, WA(April)
- 2019 As a Guest Pt. II, Eutectic Gallery, Portland, OR
- 2019 As a Guest Pt. I, Chin Chin Pottery, Tainan City, Taiwan
- 2018 Medicine Jars + Other Useful Objects, Vetri Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2017 Slipware, Shoreline Community College, Shoreline, WA September)
- 2017 Proximity: Assembled Pots, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2013 Records of Resistance and Vulnerability, Powerhouse Gallery, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2012 MFA Thesis Exhibition: Verse, Gallery 311, Hungerford Heights, Rochester, NY
- 2009 BFA Thesis Exhibition: Organic Progression, Memorial Union Gallery, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Utilitarian Clay VII Exhibition(Invited Artist), Arrowmont School for Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN
- 2020 The Table, Signature Gallery, NCECA, Richmond, VA
- 2020 Yunomi Invitational, Clay AKAR, Iowa City, IA
- 2020 Small Favors, Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2019 Solo Feature, Clay AKAR, Iowa City, IA
- 2019 Reimagined Vessel, Lacoste Keane, Concord, MA
- 2019 Dallas Pottery Invitational, Empire Room, Dallas, TX
- 2019 Small Favors, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2018 ClayFest NW, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA (invited auction Artist)
- 2018 Featured Artist, Asher Gallery, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Houston, TX
- 2018 Yunomi Invitational, Clay AKAR, Iowa City, IA
- 2018 Annual Group Exhibition, Gallery IMA, Seattle, WA
- 2017 Clay Fest NW, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2017 National IV, Red Lodge Clay Center, Red Lodge, MT (Juror: Sunshine Cobb)
- 2017 Ceramic Innovations, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA (Juror: Chris Gustin)
- 2017 Yunomi Invitational, Clay AKAR, Iowa City, IA
- 2017 Small Favors, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2017 Last Call II, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN
- 2017 50 Years of Pottery Northwest, NCECA, Portland, OR
- 2016 UnWedged Juried National, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA (Juror: Sandy Simon)
- 2016 Lillstreet Holiday Show, Lillstreet Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2016 Mugshot Monday, Lillstreet Art Center, Chicago, IL

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- 2016 Pottery Northwest Retrospective, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2016 ClayFest Northwest, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2016 Irons in the Fire, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN (Juror: Justin Rothshank)
- 2016 Strictly Functional Pottery National, Market House Craft Center, Lancaster, PA (Juror: Simon Leach)
- 2016 CHEERS, Medalta, Medicine Hat, Alberta, CA
- 2016 Coffee and Clay, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2016 Clay? VI, Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland, WA (Jurors: Jaimie Walker, Doug Jeck, Michael Swaine)
- 2016 Working Pots, James May Gallery, Alagoma, WI (Juror: Simon Levin)
- 2016 Resident 8x8, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Mugen/Infinity, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Steering Committee Exhibition, Trim Tab, Birmingham, AL
- 2014 XIV International Casting Exhibition, Akademia Sztuk Pienknych, Gdansk, Poland

PROFFESIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2020 Adjunct Professor, Lecturer, North Seattle College
- 2019 Visiting Resident Artist, Tainan National University of the Arts, Tainan, Taiwan (2 months)
- 2018 Artist in Residence, Pentaculum, Arrowmont School for Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN
- 2017-19 Co-Curator, Clayfest NW, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2017 Committee Member, National Clay Week: North West Open Studios
- 2015- Board Member, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Visiting Artist/Visiting Lecturer, School of Art, 3D4M, University of
- 2015- Instructor, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015-17 Artist in Residence, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2015 Steering Committee Member: Demonstrations, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2014 Visiting Artist, XIV International Casting Workshop, Akademia Sztuk Pienknych, Gdansk, Poland
- 2013-14 Artist in Residence, Foundry Manager, Ceramics Studio Manager, Sloss Arts, Birmingham, AL
- 2013 Artist in Residence, Assistant Foundry Manager, Sloss Metal Arts, Birmingham, AL
- 2013 Steering Committee Member: Demonstrations, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL
- 2012 Resident Artist/Instructor, Redbird Studio and Gallery, Columbia, SC
- 2011-12 Instructor, Ceramics, School for American Crafts, RIT, Rochester, NY
(Instructor of Record)
- 2010-12 Studio Assistant to Rick Hirsch, Rochester, NY
- 2011-12 Crucible Projects: Mobile, AL, Rochester, NY, Lake Charles, LA,
Montevallo, AL
- 2011-12 "Mano" Project, School for American Crafts, RIT, Rochester, NY
- 2010-12 Studio Manager/Technician Clay Department, School for American Crafts, RIT, Rochester, NY
- 2011 Visiting Artist, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

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2011 Iron Foundry Charging Crew/Cast, Second Act of Matthew Barney's Ancient Evening: "KHU"

PANELS/LECTURES

2019 Lecture: Artist Talk, Critique, Tainan National University of the Arts, Tainan, Taiwan
2017 Lecture: Artist Talk, Workshop, Shoreline Community College, Shoreline, WA
2016 Lecture: Artist Talk, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
2015 Lecture: Artist Talk, School of Art, 3D4M, University of Washington, Seattle WA
2015 Lecture: Artist Talk, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
2014 Lecture: Artist Talk, Akademia Sztuk Peinknych, Lodz, Poland
2014 Lecture: Artist Talk, Akademia Sztuk Peinknych, Gdansk, Poland
2013 Lecture: Glaze Chemistry, University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL
2013 Moderator/Panelist, Heat + Alchemy = Transformation, Sloss Arts
2012 Panelist, Mano Project, School for American Crafts, RIT
2012 Lecture: Artist Talk, State University of New York Geneseo, Geneseo, NY
2011 Lecture, Aluminum Casting, Fine Art Studio, RIT, Rochester, NY
2011 Lecture: Artist Talk, Mcneese State University, Lake Charles, LA
2011 Panelist, Material Integration, National Conference on Cast Iron Art, Sloss Furnaces, Birmingham, AL

AWARDS

2017 Ceramics Monthly Emerging Artist
2016 Purchase Award, "Irons in the Fire" Juried by Justin Rothshank, Companion Gallery, Humboldt, TN
2016 Jurors Award, "Coffee and Clay" Juried by Noah Riedel, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
2016 Honorable Mention, "Working Pots" Juried by Simon Levin, James May Gallery, Algoma, WI
2015 Pottery Northwest Wally Bivins Resident Artist Project Grant
2015 NICHE Awards finalist: Functional Ceramics

REPRESENTATION/COLLECTIONS

Vetri Gallery, Seattle, WA
Eutectic Gallery, Portland, OR
ClayAkar, Iowa City, IA
Signature, Atlanta, GA
Chin Chin Pottery, Tainan City, Taiwan

The Rosenfield Collection, Dallas, TX
TNNUA Foundation, Tainan National University of the Arts, Tainan City
Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
Sloss Metal Arts Foundation, Birmingham, AL
North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND