

ABOUT

CENTERED ON CLAY

Organized in conjunction with the exhibition, *Ralph Bacerra: Exquisite Beauty, Centered on Clay* gathers artists and thinkers to present their work and voice their thoughts on the cultural importance of ceramics, highlighting the value of skilled execution.

SCHEDULE

2:00	Introduction - Jo Lauria
2:15	Yeonsoo Chee
2:45	Michael Sherrill
3:20	Diego Romero
3:45	Kathy Butterly
4:30	Q+A Final Remarks Introduction of <i>Crossroads in Clay</i> co-curators Christy Johnson and Robert Miller
5-6:30	Reception Special Viewing <i>Crossroads in Clay</i> at Chouinard and Otis: <i>The Ralph Bacerra Years</i> at Vincent Price Art Museum. A group exhibition featuring more than thirty former students of artist Ralph Bacerra. On view through December 5, 2015.

THANK YOU

Special thanks to Chris Turk, Professor of Art, Ceramics and East Los Angeles College; Karen Rapp, former director of the Vincent Price Art Museum at East Los Angeles College; Japan Foundation, Los Angeles; ELAC and Otis Volunteers who have assisted with the facilitation of the symposium; and Laura Daroca, Director, Alumni Relations for sponsoring the reception.

Cover: Ralph Bacerra, *Untitled Cloud Vessel*, 1997, Porcelain. Collection of Saul E. Levi.
Right: Ralph Bacerra, *Untitled Bowl*, 2008, Ceramic. Collection of Douglas Moreland.



OTIS | BEN MALTZ GALLERY

SYMPOSIUM CENTERED ON CLAY

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27, 2015

Held in conjunction with
Vincent Price Art Museum,
Otis College of Art and Design's
Ben Maltz Gallery, and
East Los Angeles College's
Ceramics Program.

OTIS | BEN MALTZ GALLERY



SEE MORE CLAY

CONCURRENT CERAMICS EXHIBITIONS AROUND LOS ANGELES

SEPTEMBER 3 –
OCTOBER 8, 2015
West Los Angeles
College Art Gallery

Otis Revisited
Curated by Robert Miller and Christy Johnson. Artists: James Hinkley, Joanne Horton, Christy Johnson, Sue Keane, Jo Lauria, Tricia McGuigan, Robert Miller, Sue Nelson, Norma Paley, Vincente G. Peoples, Leslie Rosdol, Theresa Williams.
www.wlacgallery.org

SEPTEMBER 11, 2015 –
JANUARY 31, 2016
USC Pacific Asia
Museum

**Reshaping Tradition:
Contemporary Ceramics from East Asia**
Features works by the following internationally recognized artists to consider some of the most extraordinary developments that are reshaping ceramic practice today: Ai Weiwei (China), Ik-joong Kang (Korea), Liu Jianhua (China), Ah Xian (China), Yeesoogyung (Korea), Harumi Nakashima (Japan), and Bui Cong Khanh (Vietnam)
www.usc.edu/calendar/event/917315

AUGUST 31 -
OCTOBER 2, 2015
Marlborough School
Seaver Art Gallery

**Power of Six Women in Art: Sue Keane, Yumi Kiyose,
Porntip Sangvanich, Naomi Schoenherr, Anna Silver,
Joan Takayama-Ogawa.**
Curated by Porntip Sangvanich
www.marlborough.org

SEPTEMBER 19 –
DECEMBER 5, 2015
Vincent Price
Art Museum

**Crossroads in Clay at Chouinard and Otis:
The Ralph Bacerra Years**
A group exhibition featuring more than thirty former students of artist Ralph Bacerra, curated by Christy Johnson and Robert Miller.
vincentpriceartmuseum.org

ABOUT THE PRESENTERS



Kathy Butterly, *Constant*, 2014



KATHY BUTTERLY
Sculptor Kathy Butterly thinks of herself as a painter “who happens to work with clay, three-dimensionally.” She is known for abstract ceramic vessels ranging in size from small to nearly five feet tall, whose twisting forms with pinched openings resemble “shrunk hybrids of alien life,” as described by critic John Yau. Butterly is a practicing artist in New York City and is the recipient of the distinguished Guggenheim Fellowship. Her work is included in major national and international collections.



Diego Romero, *The Wedding Bowl*, 2013 (Detail)
Courtesy of Robert Nichols Gallery. © Diego Romero



DIEGO ROMERO
Diego Romero has built a career constructing ceramic vessels that elevate Pueblo life to Olympian stature. A third generation artist, Romero was born and raised in Berkeley, California to a Cochiti father and a non-Native mother. Working in a narrative style that evokes pre-contact Mimbres pottery, as well as Greek amphorae (two-handled vases) and Anasazi ceramics, Romero's earthenware bowls and handled-vessels investigate the marginalized status of Indigenous history and society. Since earning an MFA in 1993, Romero has developed an extensive exhibition record with works housed in significant American public collections.



YEONSOO CHEE
Yeonsoo Chee has served as Assistant Curator of the USC Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, since July 2007. She has curated numerous exhibitions including Mingei East and West, Constructed Vision: New Media from Korea, Ikko Style: The Graphic Art of Ikko Tanaka and The Arts of Korea. She obtained a B.A. in English language and literature from Ewha Woman's University in Seoul, Korea and a BA and MA in art history from California State University, Long Beach, with a focus on Korean art during the colonial period.



Michael Sherrill, *Old Man's Beard*, 2014 (Detail)



MICHAEL SHERRILL
Michael Sherrill likes to state that he is the son of an inventor-motorcycle-racer and warrior-princess-homemaker. Sherrill has lived in the western North Carolina mountains since 1974 and considers himself a materials-based artist experimenting primarily in the media of clay, metal, and glass. At the heart of his interest is the intersection of where humans and materials meet in both handmade objects and the natural world. Sherrill has an extensive international exhibition record, is in both public and private collections nationally, and is the creator of Mudtools.



JO LAURIA
Curator, *Ralph Bacerra: Exquisite Beauty*
Jo Lauria is a Los Angeles-based curator and writer who received her curatorial training in decorative arts at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. She is a specialist in design and crafts, author of several historical survey books, and numerous essays and articles. She has organized many exhibitions, most recently *Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future* (American Museum of Ceramic Art, 2015) and *Peter Shire: Public Work, Lines of Desire* (Architecture and Design Museum, 2014). Lauria received an MFA from Otis College of Art and Design where she studied ceramics with Ralph Bacerra.