

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery



Vessels: Containment and Displacement, Useful to Grand

Open through May 12, 2018

Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery

Bennington College, Bennington, VT

Tuesdays - Sundays, 1:00 - 5:00 pm

Please note that for this show only the Gallery will be open on Sundays.

Opening reception

Tuesday, April 24

7:00 - 9:00 pm

The Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery is delighted to present *Vesse/s: Containment and Displacement, Useful to Grand*, a sweeping exhibition of hollow-form ceramics. Curators **Barry Bartlett** and **Aysha Peltz** invite the viewer to consider the the history of the vessel, from its primal beginnings as a container necessary for survival through its evolution into an increasingly sophisticated form of expression. Because of this history, vessel forms cover vast thematic territories—decorative, political, religious, mythical and narrative—and serve functions from the utilitarian to the conceptual. A vessel can inspire, inform, and celebrate (and be practical as well).

Exhibited works range from ancient to current, from quotidian objects such as shaving mugs and crocks, to large-scale sculptural ceramics by contemporary artists. Not comprehensive by any means, *Vesse/s* is designed foremost as a teaching tool forged by variety.

“Our intention,” write Bartlett and Peltz in their curators’ statement, “is to have these forms aggregate into a visual marker from which we can contemplate where we have come from and where we are going as traditions of vessel-making continue to evolve.”

Vesse/s features works by artists including:

Ann Agee; Richard Aerni; Jen Allen; Mary Barringer '72; Peter Beasecker; Nicole Cherubini; Bruce Dehnert; Carolyn Dilcher-Stutz; David Eichelberger; Julia Galloway; John Gill; Andrea Gill; Martha Grover '02; Chris Gustin; Perry Haas; Mike Helke; Tom Jaszczak; Karen Karnes; Kristen Kieffer; Eva Kwong; Patrick Loughran; Liz Lurie; Kirk Mangus; Michael McCarthy; Paul McMullan; Alleghany Meadows; Lisa Orr; Donna Polseno; Patrick Purcell; Liz Quackenbush; Noah Riedel; Alison Reintjes; Lindsay Rogers; Steve Rolf; former faculty member Stanley Rosen; Jack Troy; Deborah Schwartzkopf; Mark Shapiro; Rob Sieminski; Arlene Shechet; Rosanne Sniderman; Akio Takamori; Todd Wahlstrom; Holly Walker; Sheryl Zacharia; and Arnold Zimmerman; as well as representative objects of American stoneware and porcelain (late 19th-early 20th

century); Ming Dynasty, China (1368-1644); Shipibo Culture, Peruvian Amazon (mid-20th century); and Silla Dynasty, Korea (57 BC–935 AD).

The gallery is grateful for loans offered by the Bennington Museum.

The following exhibition is the Senior Show, which will run May 22 to June 2.

About the Usdan Gallery

The Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery is a 3,200 square foot exhibition space on the main level of the Helen Frankenthaler '49 Visual Arts Center at Bennington College. The College was the site of the first retrospective exhibitions of Jackson Pollock and Robert Motherwell; Usdan Gallery continues that tradition with exhibitions in and beyond the campus of contemporary artists and themes that engage faculty and student interest, as well as the College's own art holdings. Anne Thompson is the Director and Curator.

Driving directions

The College is close to other notable art and culture destinations, including [The Bennington Museum](#) (10 minutes); [The Clark](#) (30 minutes); [The Williams College Museum of Art](#) (30 minutes); and [MASS MoCA](#) (40 minutes).

The Suzanne Lemberg Usdan Gallery

Helen Frankenthaler Visual Arts Center
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[Website](#) | [Instagram](#)