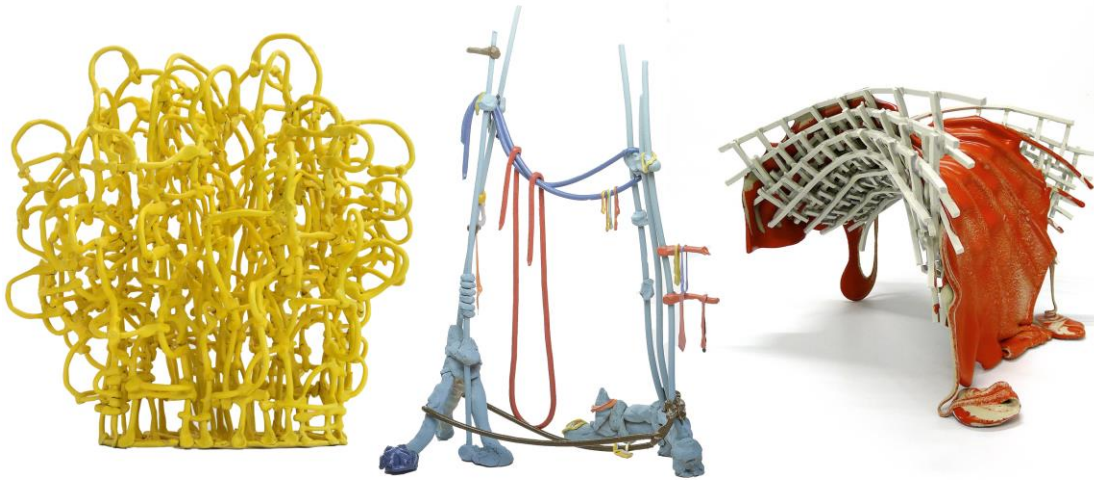


JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE



From left to right: Shannon Goff, *Sourpuss*, 2015; Lauren Mabry, *Lasso*, 2019; Peter Christian Johnson, *Jilted*, 2019.

**THE JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY
AT GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY PRESENTS
BREAKING THE PLANE
SHANNON GOFF, PETER CHRISTIAN JOHNSON, LAUREN MABRY**

Opening Reception | Friday, October 11, 2019 | 5:00–7:00 p.m.
Exhibition on view through November 8, 2019

NEW YORK – The Jane Hartsook Gallery is pleased to present *Breaking the Plane*, an exhibition of new work by Shannon Goff, Peter Christian Johnson, and Lauren Mabry. This show brings together three artists who are using clay and glaze to create lines that cannot be confined to two-dimensions. Goff and Mabry challenge the fundamentally two-dimensional form of the line by using clay to draw in the round. Mabry and Johnson thwart expectations by separating glaze from the ceramic surface and giving it volumetric form, while Goff and Johnson use a density of three-dimensional lines to give their “drawings” mass.

Shannon Goff’s ceramic work embraces abstraction and is heavily rooted in the practice of drawing. Through continued experimentation, she strives to repurpose the perceived limits of her medium into possibilities. Goff begins her sculptures as meditative doodles, but current events and images often co-opt them. She addresses themes of containment, collapse, landscape, and structure in these sculpted drawings with humor and an aesthetic sensibility that often belies the seriousness of her subject matter. Drawing out loud helps Goff understand how to best navigate the built and natural environments of contemporary society’s tumultuous terrain.

Peter Christian Johnson creates architecturally-inspired material studies that represent the tragic beauty he sees as the human condition. He laboriously sketches out scaffolding in porcelain, encouraging it to warp in the kiln by using the weight of volumetric glaze to collapse and shift the finished object. For Johnson, the collapsing forms evoke a sense of sorrow and distortion that is emblematic of the various burdens we carry.

Lauren Mabry uses clay and glaze to draw and paint in three dimensions, creating a feeling of mystery and surprise that forces every viewer—no matter their ceramic knowledge—to engage with the material and try to piece together her making process. Mabry likens her process to building with Tinkertoys. She extrudes coils and fires them, using wet clay to connect the hard pieces and firing them again before adding rings of pure glaze. Over time Mabry has been learning how to anticipate the distortion the kiln

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introduces in her work, but the process will always remain a careful balance between intentionality and the freedom of surprise.

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

Breaking the Plane

Shannon Goff, Lauren Mabry, Peter Christian Johnson

October 11 – November 8, 2019

In-Between Moments

Janice Jakielski

November 22 – December 20, 2019

City Wide

Carly Slade

January 10 – February 7, 2020



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