

JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE



THE JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY AT GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY PRESENTS

FUN-damentals

DIDEM MERT

Online Opening and Artist Talk | Friday October 16, 2020 | 5:00 p.m.

Exhibition on view through November 6, 2020

By appointment only

NEW YORK – The Jane Hartsook Gallery is pleased to present Didem Mert’s first solo exhibition in New York City. In this new body of work, Mert emphasizes the “fun” of ceramics by playing with basic pottery skills to reimagine vessel forms in ways that express her personality. The distinctive surfaces Mert achieves are heavily influenced by her early exposure to woodworking. As the daughter of a woodworker, Mert grew up paying special attention to surface texture and finish, a focus that carries through in her careful mark-making and selection of terra sigillata and glazes. Even the bright pops of color in her work mirror the woodshop, echoing the bright warning colors of heavy equipment, though rather than danger these tones warn of impending FUN!

Didem Mert is a San Francisco-based artist where she is also the Education Director of Clay by the Bay. Mert was born and raised in Cincinnati, OH. She earned her MFA from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania and her BFA from Northern Kentucky University. Mert has shown her work nationally, including at: The Kiln Studio (Fairhope, AL; 2019), Clay AKAR (Iowa City, IA; 2018), The Clay Studio (Philadelphia, PA; 2017), Companion Gallery (Humboldt, TN; 2016), and Erie Art Museum (Erie, PA; 2015), among others.

JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY | PRESS RELEASE

CONTACT

JANE HARTSOOK GALLERY
GREENWICH HOUSE POTTERY
16 Jones Street, (between Bleecker & West 4th)
New York, NY 10014
www.greenwichhousepottery.org
Kaitlin McClure, kmcclure@greenwichhouse.org
(212) 242-4106 ext. 25
Gallery Hours: by appointment only

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

After Image

Kate Roberts

January 8 – February 5, 2021

Where is the Bike Shop?

Taili Wu

February 19 – March 19, 2021

GHP Artists Exhibition

April 9 – 30, 2021



NYC Cultural Affairs

This program is supported by the Allan Buitekant Fund for Ceramics Art & Inquiry, the Hompe Foundation, the Lenore G. Tawney Foundation, the Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation, the Windgate Foundation, and by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.