

# Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery

## Current Exhibitions

Spring & Summer: April 9 to August 24, 2017

*Cultural Topographies:*

*The Complexities of History and Identity in Canada*

April 9 to August 24, 2017



Timber I, 2011, Laurent Craste. Photo by David Bishop Noriega

Curated by Julie René de Cotret

Opening Reception: April 9 • 2:00pm with remarks at 2:30pm. Artists will be in attendance. This event is free and all are welcome.

This exhibition features concept-driven artworks in ceramic and glass that explore identity, culture and history in Canada. Exhibiting artists include: Ann Beam, Adrian Blackwell, Laurent Craste, Chris Curreri, Léopold L. Foulem, Mathieu Grodet, David R. Harper, Sarah Maloney, Kelly Mark, Nadia Myre, Tasman Richardson and Tim Whiten. These artworks are outstanding examples of the potential of ceramic and glass art works to examine the complexities of our culture, inspiring fresh perspectives and new considerations. Some of the artists featured in this exhibition have chosen to focus on specific historical markers and some on the evolution of our cultural voices in their broader context demanding that we contemplate their origins. Every work highlights the complexity of our habitus and the inherent potential for our betterment. In doing so they further define our identity. The hierarchical categorizations and divisions imposed between art and craft are re-examined in this exhibition. Léopold L. Foulem, whose conceptual ceramic practice is principal to the development of this exhibition, once said, “matter doesn’t matter”, addressing the tendency of the art world, for example, to assign greater value to works made of bronze than to those in ceramic. The conceptual contributions of crafts to the arts are seldom recognized. These artworks were selected for their aesthetic and conceptual value. In the context of this exhibition, the works embody the important contributions of craft concept to art, specifically in the fields of sculpture and installation. The craft concepts explored by these works are those of containment, and of the object as frame.