# GEORGE GEORGE RODRIGUEZ EXHIBITION NOVEMBER 2011



# FOSTER/WHITE GALLERY

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# nar•cis•sism

noun

inordinate fascination with oneself; excessive self-love; vanity.



### GEORGE RODRIGUEZ

The people I know. This exhibition is all about me and my buddies, other Georges that I've never met but can relate with because of the namesake. I'm interested in similarities that bring people together, be it an event, a hobby or even a name. By morphing myself into other Georges, not only am I learning more about them, I'm also connecting my life with theirs. My community continues to grow.







George Rodriguez with Flowers, 2011 21 x 13 x 16 in.

A self portrait for celebration and a self portrait for remembrance. Flowers bring beauty, joy, and hope. I bring beauty, joy and hope, along with a good dose of humble. Look at me, look at me, l'm sprouting.

George Clinton, 2011 21 x 15 x 16 in.

An American singer and mastermind of the bands Parliament and Funkadelic. The atomic dog is a walking embellishment. Multi pair shades, colorful hair and a larger than life appearance can blur even the darkest lines. Rock and Roll can feed the soul but can also wear the body down. Face doesn't lie.









*Curious George*, 2011 18 x 14 x 16 in.

A curious little monkey. Brought to the big city by the "The Man with The Yellow Hat", the possibilities are endless. Jump, swing swing, sniff, poke, peek, and play. Curiosity killed the cat, but made the monkey grow. Cheerful and friendly - a sense of exploration is important.









George Walker Bush, 2011 18.5 x 14 x 16 in.

Was the 43rd President of the United States and the 46th Governor of Texas. Boots, buckles, and buddies keep "W" company. Manny, Moe and Jack also stay near to help with mechanics. As my home state often chants, everything is bigger in Texas ... blunders included.

*Boy George,* 2011 20.5 x 16.5 x 15 in.

A British singer - songwriter who helped give androgyny an international stage with the success of Culture Club. The Karma Chameleon takes the spotlight; sweet, diva, contradiction. If you really want to hurt me and you really want to make me cry, get to know me first.











George Burns, 2011 18 x 13 x 19 in.

An American comedian, actor, and writer. His arched eyebrow and cigar smoke is a signature trademark of his embodied persona. On his mind, Gracie Allen adorns a martini glass paired with a couple of olives - class in glass. Deceased at age 100, he worked until the end. Have passion.



George Sand, 2011 16 x 15 x 14 in.

George Sand is the pseudonym of Amantine Lucile Aurore Dupin, French novelist and memoirist. Letters make words, which then form sentences, to be arranged as poetry, and experienced as emotions. What a novel idea. Love can sneak up and sneak away. Jot it down.













George J. Jetson, 2011 17.5 x 14 x 17 in.

A fictional character from the animated television series The Jetsons. Wife, daughter, son, dog and robot maid; he has it all. With the cosmos on his mind, and his temper running hot, he cares most about his family. I value family. Kindness and craziness fill my eyes. Focus is essential.



George E. Ohr, 2011 20.5 x 15 x 16 in.

The self-proclaimed "Mad Potter of Biloxi," was an iconic American ceramic artist. He might have gone a little mad using all of his juicy lead glazes but his commitment to his craft was sane. I pay homage to the material. Fun, quirky and hardworking; a little crazy goes a long way.







George Washington, 2011 17 x 13 x 16 in

The first President of the United States and "Father of his Country". The feathers that adorn his hair resemble a Native American ceremonial headdress before bursting into an array of stars. Sharing the name of my alma mater, his leadership skills stay in my sight. Learn then execute.













Saint George, 2011 24 x 23 x 13.5 in.

Saint George is seen as a Christian martyr and regarded as one of the most prominent military saints. Immortalized in the tale of Saint George and the Dragon, his courage saved the day and the girl. As dragons invade his halo, his face remains stoic. Be brave, sacrifice, and get the girl. Pride is not always a deadly sin.

In 2010, the Bonderman Travel Fellowship took Seattle ceramist George Rodriguez across 26 countries over 8 months. What he brought back was a fresh perspective on culture, fashion, architecture and how we use decoration to express ourselves. Rodriguez says, "I like the psychology behind putting on heavily decorated clothing, be it for fashion, ritual, or celebration. It takes a special person or a special event to be so bold."



### GEORGE RODRIGUEZ

### Education

2009 MFA Ceramics, University of Washington, Seattle, WA2006 BFA Ceramics, University of Texas, El Paso, Texas

### Exhibitions

- 2011 "GEORGE", Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2010 "MadArt Redux" Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- "Pottery Northwest Holiday Show," Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA"MAD Art Windows Exhibition," Madison Park Shops, Seattle, WA"2009 University of Washington MFA Thesis Exhibition," Henry Art Gallery, Seattle, WA
  - "Belle of the Ball," Ceramic Metal Arts Gallery, Seattle, WA "Mentoring," SAM Gallery, Seattle, WA
  - "Ouch My Eye Annual International Invitational," Ouch My Eye Gallery, Seattle, WA
  - "International Cup," The Clay Studio of Mussoula, Missoula, MT
- 2008 "2D & Small Work," Jacob Lawrence Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
  - "Heads(dis) Embodied," Kirckland Fine Arts Center, Kirkland, WA
  - "Flash Forward, Coupling VI," Ouch My Eye Gallery, Seattle, WA
  - "SoA Annual Open student Juried Show," Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Seattle "Scholarships for Scholars IV," Ceramic Meal Arts Gallery, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- "Reality and Fantasty the art of play," Gallery at Mars Hill, El Paso, TX "From the Ground Up XXIII," Las Cruces Museum of Art, Las Cruces, NM "Contenido Neto (a rational play on the possibilities of an intercultural world)," 301 W. Overland, El, Paso, TX
- 2006 "Recess," Memorial Triangle, University of Texas, El Paso, TX

- "Student Juried Exhibition 2006," Stanlee and Gerald Rubin Gallery, University of Texas, El Paso, TX
  "The Value Show," 910 Texas Street, El, Paso, TX
  "Action of the Heat," Union Gallery. University of Texas, El Paso, TX
  "National Society for Arts and Letter exhibit." Glass Gallery. University
- 2005 "National Society for Arts and Letter exhibit," Glass Gallery, University of Texas, El Paso, TX
  - "The Value Show," 910 Texas Street, El, Paso, TX
  - "Action of the Heat," Union Gallery. University of Texas, El Paso, TX
- 2005 "National Society for Arts and Letter exhibit," Glass Gallery, University of Texas, El Paso, TX
  - "Americo: Celebration, Freedom Rememberance," Crossland Gallery, El Paso, TX
  - "Fresh Talent '05," Crossland Gallery, El Paso, TX
- 2004 "Art From the epicenter," Project Space, University of Texas, El Paso, TX

### Awards

- 2009 Bonderman Travel Fellowship, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2007 Graduatte Opportunities & Minority Achievement Program Research Assistantship,
  - University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2006 Regina Brown Undergraduate Student fellowship, National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, Erie, CO
  - New Mexico Potter's Guild Award, Potter's Guild of LasCruces, Las Cruces, NM
  - Award of Excellence for Sculpture Student, University of El Paso, El Paso, TX
- 2005 Catherine Crowell Belk Art Scholarship, University of Texas, El Paso, TX
- 2004 Manual Acosta Memorial Art Scholarship, University of Texas, El Paso, TX



Design: Judith Rinehart

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\*George Sand images, courtesy Foster/White Gallery

Photograph of the Artist: Sophia Agtarap

Text by George Rodriguez

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Details of Jetson, Washington, Bush, Burns, 2011, ink drawn silkscreen prints

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