

GEORGE RODRIGUEZ

SANCTUARY

March 2017



FOSTER/WHITE GALLERY



Cover image: We the People, stoneware, 44 x 21 x 16 inches

This page: Pride, stoneware, 44 x 21 x 14 inches



Hands Up
stoneware
50 x 25 x 14 inches



Indigena
stoneware
45 x 21 x 14 inches



In Hijab
stoneware
43.5 x 16 x 12 inches



Debutante
stoneware
43 x 21 x 12.5 inches



The Queen
stoneware
22 x 11 x 22 inches



GEORGE RODRIGUEZ

Sanctuary

2017

In a time of increasing divisiveness, the need for community and togetherness is ever more important. This new work continues my exploration of the interconnection we share as people, and of how our differences should be a means to unite rather than separate. I look at the importance of inclusivity and how different cultures influence each other through celebration rituals, objects of worship, and representations of community.

The idea of belonging has been a steady thread in my work. During times of personal change, joy, hardships, and creative excitement, I have found solace in the people who surround me. They are my sanctuary. They are the sacred space that provides me safety, the community that both challenges and accepts what I have to offer.

Through the creation of guardian figures, tomb sculptures, and shrines, I depict my community current and forthcoming. I remember the people that have been formative in my life and look ahead to their continued support. I hope to bring these objects—ancient relics that transcend time—into the present. They carry hope and loss, acceptance and challenge, ornament and simplicity. It is diversity that makes things whole. My goal is to blur lines so that we can notice our differences but accept each other as one.



Howling at the Moon
stoneware
19 x 8.25 x 19.5 inches



Venus
stoneware
48.5 x 19.5 x 16 inches



Virgen del Nopal
stoneware
31.25 x 17.5 x 8 inches

GEORGE RODRIGUEZ

Education

- 2009 MFA Ceramics, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- 2006 BFA Ceramics, University of Texas, El Paso, Texas

Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 'Sanctuary,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2016 'Beneath the Surface,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2014 'Here After,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2012 'In Costume,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 'End of the Trail,' Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 'Instrumental Divide,' Rainier Tower, Jeffrey Moose Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2011 'GEORGE,' Foster/White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 'Symbiotic/Parasitic,' KOBO at Higo, Seattle, WA
- 2009 'The Belle of the Ball,' Ceramic Metal Arts Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2006 'Recess,' Memorial Triangle, University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX

Group Exhibitions

- 2017 '50 Years of Pottery Northwest,' National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts, Portland, OR
- 2016 'Artist Trust 30th Birthday Exhibit,' Artist Trust, Seattle, WA
- '#30 Dia de los Muertos: Journey of the Soul,' National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
- 'Offering,' Gallery One Visual Art Center, Ellensburg, WA
- Koch Gallery, Vashon Center for the Arts, Vashon Island, WA
- 'Beyond Aztlán: Mexican and Chicana/o Artists in the Pacific Northwest,' Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner, WA
- 2015 SOFA Exposition, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL
- Samsøen collaborative sculptural installation with Mark Cooper, Seattle Art Fair, Paul Allen Living Computer Museum, Seattle, WA
- 'FEAT: Fellowship Exhibit Artist Trust,' Galvanize, Seattle, WA
- 'Out of Sight,' King Street Station, Seattle, WA
- 'Ceramics Invitational: Northwest Clay,' Traver Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 'Art in True Fashion,' Abmeyer + Wood Fine Art, Seattle, WA
- 2014 'Tree of Life,' Helen S. Smith Gallery, Green River Community College, Auburn, WA
- 2013 'Mostra/UGA,' Palazzo Vagnotti, Cortona, Italy
- 'Cute,' Blindfold Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 'Maneki Neko: Japan's Beckoning Cats- from Talisman to Pop Icon,' Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA
- 'Beyond the Brickyard,' Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT
- 'Speaks Volumes,' SPCS Gallery, Seattle Design Center, Seattle, WA
- 2012 'Flattery,' The Nicklas Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 'Clay Lives Here,' NCECA, Seattle Design Center, Seattle, WA
- 2012 'Stations of the Cross,' St. James Cathedral, Seattle, WA
- 'The Potter and the Urn,' Greg Lundgren Monuments, Seattle, WA
- 2011 '360 Collaboration,' Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2010 'MADArt Redux,' Foster White Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2009 'MADArt Windows Exhibition,' Madison Park Shops, Seattle, WA
- '2009 University of Washington MFA Thesis Exhibition,' Henry Art 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 Missoula, Missoula, MT
- 2008 'Heads(dis) Embodied,' Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland, WA
- 'Flash Forward: Coupling VI,' Ouch My Eye Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2007 'Reality and Fantasy – 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 'The Value Show,' 910 Texas St., El Paso, TX
- 'Action of the Heat,' Union Gallery, University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX
- 2005 'National Society for Arts and Letters Exhibit,' Glass Gallery, University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX
- 'Fresh Talent '05,' Crossland Gallery, El Paso, TX
- 2004 'Art from the Epicenter,' Project Space, University of Texas El Paso, El Paso, TX

Awards

- 2016 MoNA Luminary Award, Patty Warashina Award for Emerging Artist, Museum of Northwest Art, La Conner, WA
- 2011 Grants for Artist Projects (GAP), Artist Trust, Seattle, WA
- Resident Artist Project (RAP) Grant, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
- 2009 Bonderman Travel Fellowship, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
- Individual Artist Projects Grant, 4 Culture, Seattle, WA
- smART Ventures, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, Seattle, WA
- 2007 Graduate 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 Las Cruces, Las Cruces, NM
- Award of Excellence for Sculpture Student, University of Texas, El Paso, TX
- 2005 Catherine Crowell Belk Art Scholarship, University of Texas, El Paso, TX
- 2004 Manuel Acosta Memorial Art Scholarship, University of Texas, El Paso, TX

Publications

- 2015 Hanus, Julie. "Let it Grow" American Craft. August/September 2015. p.48–57.
- Harnetty, Jennifer. "Studio Visit: Deborah Schwartzkopf and George Rodriguez." Ceramics Monthly. March 2014.
- 2014 Smith, Nan. "500 Figures in Clay Volume 2." Lark Books. Sterling Publishing Co. 2014.
- 2013 Upchurch, Michael. "Flower Power with a Philosophical Twist." The Seattle Times.
- 2012 "Seattle Artist ReDesign the Waterfront." The Stranger. Seattle Art & Performance Fall Issue. September 5
- Webb, Dan & Matthew Offenbacher. Jeffry Mitchell – Closed Fist Open Hand. "Joy in Repetition, 1991" La Norda Press. 2012.
- Davis, Branglen. "Local Rock Stars of Clay." Seattle Magazine. March 2012.
- Kangas, Matthew. "Symbolic/Parasitic." Ceramics Monthly. February 2012. p. 62-63.
- 2011 Faigin, Gary. "Heads Up: George Rodriguez at Foster White." Artdish Magazine. November 25, 2011.
- "Famous Georges make for fun sculpture." Narr. Gary Faigin & Jeannie Yandel. KUOW Presents. 94.9 KUOW Seattle NPR. November 21, 2011.
- "George." Sheila Hartley. Art Talker. 98.1 KING FM. November 5, 2011.
- Upchurch, Michael. "Storefronts Seattle puts art and life in empty retail spaces." Art Review. The Seattle Times. August 25, 2011.

- 2009 Lambert, Ken. "Ceramic work is music to your eyes." The Seattle Times. June 6, 2009.
Stoesz, David. "If it walks like art..." Seattle Weekly. June 02, 2009.
- 2008 Norris, Molly. "Heads (dis) Embodied." Art Access, Volume 17. June 2008, pgs 10-11.
Farr, Sheila. "Here's a heads-up for a must-see." The Seattle Times. May 16, 2008. pg 41

Collections

National Museum of Mexican Art, Chicago, IL
Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA
Sam and Anne Davis, El Paso, TX
MADart, Seattle, WA
Swedish Medical Center, Seattle, WA

Professional Experience

- 2016 Instructor, GAGE Academy of Art, Seattle, WA
Instructor, Sculpture Week, GAGE Academy of Art, Seattle, WA
- 2014 Visiting Lecturer, School of Art, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Visiting Lecturer, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Sitka, AK
Selection Committee Member, Bonderman Travel Fellowship, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Instructor, Moshier Community Clay Studio, Burien, WA
Instructor, Seward Park Clay Studio, Seattle, WA
Instructor, Redmond Clay Studio, Redmond, WA
- 2013 Visiting Lecturer, Lamar Dodd School of Art,
University of Georgia (UGA) Studies Abroad Program, Cortona, Italy
Visiting Lecturer, Sitka Fine Arts Camp, Sitka, AK
Lecture, Pecha Kucha: Luck of the Draw (May 3, 2013), Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA
Selection Committee Member, Bonderman Travel Fellowship, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Selection Committee Member, Grants for Artist Project (GAP), Artist Trust, Seattle, WA
Instructor, Teen Art Studio, GAGE Academy of Art, Seattle, WA
- 2012 Visiting Lecturer, Green River Community College, Auburn, WA
Visiting Lecturer, School of Art, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Lecture, NCECA Invitational (Feb 3, 2012), Bellevue Art Museum, Bellevue, WA
Selection Committee Member, Bonderman Travel Fellowship, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Selection Committee, Tile Heritage Foundation Prize, Artisan Tile NW, Seattle, WA
Artist in Residence and Instructor, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
Invited Artist, Set the Table for SAM, Olympic Sculpture Park, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
- 2011 Visiting Lecturer, School of Art, University of Washington, Seattle, WA
Visiting Instructor, Nathan Hale High School, Seattle, WA
- 2009 Instructor, Kirkland Art Center, Kirkland, WA
Graduate Student Teaching, School of Art, University of Washington, Seattle, WA

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