

Sequoia Miller
Chief Curator and Deputy Director, Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art
111 Queen's Park, Toronto, ON, M5S 2C7 Canada
E: sequoia@gardinermuseum.com W: gardinermuseum.com

Born August 11, 1970, United States

Education

2018 PhD, Yale University, History of Art
2016 MPhil, MA, Yale University, History of Art
2014 Attingham Trust Summer School in the Decorative Arts and English Country House
2012 MA, Bard Graduate Center: Decorative Arts, Design History and Material Culture
2008 Goddard College, credit toward MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts
1992 BA *summa cum laude*, Brandeis University, Russian Cultural Studies (High Honors), Art History
1990 Moscow State Pedagogical University, USSR (Russian cultural studies courses)
1988 Middlebury College (Russian Language Intensive)

Ceramics Education

1999, 95 Haystack Mountain School of Craft, Deer Isle, ME
1997 Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT
1995, 94 Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC
1994, 93 Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
1993 Parson School of Design, New York, NY

Academic Awards, Fellowships, and Grants

2017-18 Fellow, Trumbull College, Yale University
2017 Austen Colgate Fellowship, Yale University
Mellon Dissertation Writing Fellowship, Yale University
2016 Associates in Teaching Fellowship, Yale University
Robert Lehman Distinguished Fellowship, Yale University
2015 Emerging Scholar Award, Connecticut Ceramics Study Circle
Graduate Research Assistantship, Yale University Art Gallery
2014 Robert Lehman Distinguished Fellowship, Yale University
Royal Oak Foundation Scholarship, Attingham Trust Summer School
2013 McDougal Center Fellowship, Yale University
2012 Henry S. McNeil Fellowship in American Decorative Arts, Yale University
Clive Wainright Award for Outstanding Qualifying Paper, Bard Graduate Center
2011 Graduate Research Grant, Center for Craft, Creativity & Design
2010-12 MA Fellowship in Craft, Windgate Charitable Foundation, Bard Graduate Center
1992 *Phi Beta Kappa*, Brandeis University
Dorothy Blumenfield Moyer Memorial Award, Brandeis University
1991 Ford Foundation Fellowship for Undergraduates, Brandeis University

Artistic Awards and Grants

2008 Purchase Award, Strictly Functional Pottery National
2006 Best First Time Exhibitor Award, Smithsonian Craft Show
2005 Project Grant, Artist Trust of Washington State
2004 Merchandise Award, Strictly Functional Pottery National
2001 Purchase Award, Washington Ceramics Showcase

Curatorial Experience

- 2021 *Shary Boyle: Outside the Palace of Me*, Gardiner Museum and touring
HEAVY SHINE Dianne Lee and Roby LeRoy-Evans, Contact Photography Festival, Gardiner Museum
Indigenous Public Artwork, commission, ArtworxTO, Gardiner Museum
- 2020 *RAW*, Gardiner Museum
Recent Acquisitions, Gardiner Museum
- 2019 *Cannupa Hanska Luger: Every One + Kali Spitzer: Sister*, Gardiner Museum
Ai Weiwei: Unbroken, Gardiner Museum
Catharina Goldnau: 2018 Gardiner Museum Award Winner, Gardiner Museum
International Ceramics Art Fair Preview, Gardiner Museum
- 2018 *The Diana Reitberger Collection*, Gardiner Museum
David R. Harper's Zodiac, Gardiner Museum
- 2016-17 Graduate advisor, *Place, Nations, Generations, Beings: 200 Years of Indigenous North American Art*, student curated exhibition, Yale University Art Gallery (on view 2019-20)
- 2016 *Kindred Beasts: The 2016 Everson Biennial*, Everson Museum, Syracuse, NY, with Sheila Pepe (catalog)
- 2015-16 *The Ceramic Presence in Modern Art: Selections from the Linda Leonard Schlenger Collection and the Yale University Art Gallery*, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT, with Jock Reynolds (catalog)
- 2015 *Staff Meeting*, New Bedford Museum of Art, New Bedford, MA
- 2009 *New Clay Invitational*, Seward Park Art Studio, David Smith and Company, Seattle, WA
- 2007 *Six Potters By the Sea*, Stuart Kummer Gallery, Gualala, CA
- 2006 *Transplants*, NCECA, Buckley Gallery, University of Portland, OR
- 2005 *Simple Cup Invitational*, KOBO/Higo Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1999 *Beyond the Northwest Teapot Invitational*, KOBO Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 1991 *The Photographic Landscape: Selections from the Permanent Collection of the Rose Art Museum*
Dreitzer Gallery, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, with Carl Belz

Professional Experience

- 2021 Chief Curator and Deputy Director, Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, ON. Overseeing Curatorial, Education, and Programs departments of the Museum. Institutional strategy and management.
- 2018 – 21 Chief Curator, Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, ON.
- 2016 Graduate Supervisor, Native American Art Initiative, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT. Supervised undergraduate summer interns researching Native art collections at Yale.
Oral History Project, Furniture Society, Philadelphia, PA. Conducted oral history interviews with furniture makers for a sponsored history project.
- 2014-16 Exhibition Curator, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT. Co-curated large-scale exhibition *The Ceramic Presence in Modern Art* with Jock Reynolds, including all aspects of project planning and execution across multiple museum departments.
- 2013-14 Graduate Curatorial Intern, Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT. Assisted curator Patricia Kane with research for online archive of colonial and early Federal furniture from Rhode Island.
- 2011-12 Faculty Research Assistant, Bard Graduate Center, New York, NY. Assisted Professor Patricia Kirkham with research for *History of Design* textbook and Eva Zeisel book.
Ceramics Consultant, European Sculpture and Decorative Arts and American Wing, Metropolitan Museum.
- 2011 Graduate Summer Intern, American Wing, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY. Research on Robert A. Ellison Collection of American Art Pottery.

- 2010-11 Exhibitions Assistant, Bard Graduate Center Gallery, New York, NY. Provenance research, catalog development, and exhibition coordination.
- 2010-11 Educator, Education Department, Bard Graduate Center Gallery, New York, NY. Gallery teaching and public school arts education outreach.
- 1996-2010 Studio Potter, Sequoia Miller Pottery, Olympia, WA. Maintained full-time studio pottery business exhibiting and selling work nationally in galleries, stores, museums, and selected craft shows.

Academic Teaching Experience

- 2020-21 Adjunct Faculty, University of Toronto (course: History of the World in Objects)
- 2017 Associate in Teaching, Yale University (course: Decorative Arts in the Long 20th Century: Craft, Design and Art)
- 2016-17 Adjunct Faculty and Invited Critic, Rhode Island School of Design (course: Source Presentation)
- 2013-16 Teaching Fellow, Yale University (courses: The Body in Art since 1945 (Kobena Mercer); Western Art since 1950 (David Joselit); Introduction to the History of Art: Decorative Arts in a Global Context (Edward S. Cooke))
- 2000-10 Adjunct Professor, South Puget Sound Community College, Olympia, WA (courses: Introduction to Ceramics, Continuing/Advanced Ceramics, Art Appreciation)

Other Teaching Experience, selected

- 2011-12 Instructor, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY (course taught: Advanced Wheel)
- 2010 Instructor, Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, NV (summer workshop: Altered Thrown Forms and Unexpected Surfaces, June 21-25)
- 2009 Instructor, Seward Park Art Studio, Seattle, WA (course taught: Advanced Ceramics)
Instructor, Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe, NM (summer workshop: Altered Pots Form and Surface)
Instructor, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN (summer workshop: The Only Constant is Change)
- 2008 Instructor, Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle, ME (summer workshop: Thinking Through Pots)
- 2006 Instructor, Arrowmont School for Arts and Crafts, Gatlinburg, TN (summer workshop: Altering Thrown Forms)
- 2004 Instructor, Penland School of Craft, Penland, NC (fall 8-week workshop: Making Balanced Pots)

Publications

- Books** *Ko-Kutani and Nabeshima: Japanese Porcelain from the Macdonald Collection*, Gardiner Museum (editor), 2020
Ai Weiwei: Unbroken, Gardiner Museum (editor)
The Diana Reitberger Collection, Gardiner Museum
The Ceramic Presence in Modern Art: Selections from the Linda Leonard Schlenger Collection and the Yale University Art Gallery, with an essay by John Stuart Gordon. New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Art Gallery, 2015. Award, Best Art Book, Independent Publishers Group (IPPY national award). Honorable Mention, New England Museum Association Publication Award

- Essays** "Inside the Palace of Me" in *Shary Boyle Outside the Palace of Me*, edited by Sara Angel (Toronto: Art Canada Institute, 2021 forthcoming)
 "Contemporary Indigenous Ceramics" in *Form and Relation Contemporary Native Ceramics*, edited by Jami C. Powell (Hanover, NH: Hood Museum of Art, 2020)
 "RAW" in exhibition broadsheet (Toronto: Gardiner Museum, 2020)
 "Contemporary Ceramics and Majolica" in *Majolica Mania Transatlantic Pottery in England and the United States*, edited by Susan Weber et al. (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2020)

- "A Century of Ceramics" in *Materiality: The Miller Ceramic Art Collection*, edited by Wayne Higby (Stuttgart, Germany: Arnoldsche Verlagsanstalt, 2019)
- "Tomimoto Kenkichi" in *Art Purposes: Object Lessons for the Liberal Arts*, edited by Joachim Homann (Brunswick, Maine: Bowdoin College Museum of Art, 2019)
- "The Mechanics of Natural Philosophy: The Reverend John Prince's Air Pump Inside of a Cabinet, 1783," *Winterthur Portfolio* 52, no. 1 (Spring 2018): 47-74
- "British Studio Pottery in Popular Culture" in *Things of Beauty Growing: British Studio Pottery*, edited by Glenn Adamson, Martina Droth, and Simon Olding. New Haven, Conn.: Yale Center for British Art, 2017
- "Minnie Negoro," *O Pioneers! Women Ceramic Artists 1925-1960*. Edited by Ezra Shales. Alfred, NY: Alfred Ceramic Art Museum at Alfred University, 2015
- "Thinking About Contemporary Pots," *Studio Potter* 42, no. 1 (Winter/Spring 2014): 70-73
- "Ron Meyers," Yama Gallery Project, Seattle, WA, 2012
- "Working Potters," *Ceramics Monthly* 58, no. 6 (June/July/August 2010): 40-41
- "Sequoia + Isaac," *Studio Potter* 37, no. 2 (Summer/Fall 2009): 60-63
- "Starting Out," *Studio Potter* 33, no. 1 (December 2004): 44-45

- Reviews** Book review, Martha Drexler Lynn, "American Studio Ceramics: Innovation and Identity, 1940 to 1979" (New Haven, Conn.: Yale University Press, 2015), *West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History and Material Culture* 24, no. 2 (forthcoming Fall/Winter 2017)
- Exhibition review, "Crafting Modernism: Midcentury American Art and Design," Museum of Art and Design, *West 86th: A Journal of Decorative Arts, Design History and Material Culture* 19, no. 2 (Fall/Winter 2012): 341-343

Academic Lectures and Presentations

- 2021 "Blackface Harlequin," Invited Alumni Forum, History of Art Department, Yale University
- 2020 "Racialized Porcelain in Eighteenth Century Europe," Visiting Lecture, Ceramics Department, University of Florida Gainesville
- 2019 "Wet Clay, Pottery, and the Museum as a Forum," Perkins Lecture, Alfred University
"Art History: What is it For?," History of Art Department, University of Toronto
- 2018 "Getting to Know You: Conceptual Ceramics, Studio Pottery, and the Gardiner," Gardiner Museum
- 2017 "What Makes a Good Pot?," Gallery Lecture, Asian Art Department, Yale University Art Gallery
"British Studio Pottery and Popular Culture," Art in Context Gallery Lecture, *Things of Beauty Growing*, Yale Center for British Art
"Long Shadows: Tradition, Influence, and Persistence in Modern Craft," Symposium organizer and panel chair, Yale Center for British Art
Windgate Visiting Scholar and Lecturer, Ceramics Research Center, Arizona State University and Museum
Plenary Lecture, "Dig Tunnels Deep and Store Grain: Woodfiring Dialogues in the United States," Woodfire Conference, Seagrove, NC
Panelist, "White Birds, Blue Idols: A Roundtable on Language, Materiality, and the Capacity for Change," National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts, Portland, OR
Respondent, "Kevin Snipes," Syracuse University
- 2016 The Emma and Jay Lewis Lecture, American Ceramics Circle, Wadsworth Atheneum
Emerging Scholar Lecture, Connecticut Ceramics Study Circle, Bruce Museum, Greenwich, CT
"Rick Bartow and Native American Art at Yale," Roundtable, Yale University Art Gallery
Panel organizer and moderator, Utilitarian Clay IV, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts
Guest Lecture, Graduate seminar "Craft and Design in the USA," Bard Graduate Center
Participant, Craft Think Tank, Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, Asheville, NC

- 2015 Guest Lecture, Undergraduate seminar "Histories & Critiques of the Art Museum," Yale University
 Gallery Lecture, "California Clay: Crucible of Sculpture" with Kathy Butterly, Yale University Art
 Gallery
 Guest Lecture, Undergraduate seminar "Archaeological Ceramics," Yale University
 Gallery Lecture, "The Materials of Sculpture," Yale University Art Gallery
 Symposium Lecture and Panelist, "Ceramic Presence: Conversations on Making, Looking, and
 the Museum," Yale University Art Gallery
 Panelist, "Challenging the Cabin Mentality," National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts,
 Providence, RI
 Gallery Lecture, "Staff Meeting," New Bedford Museum
- 2014 Presenter, "Turning Workshop," Harvard University
 Lecture, "Thinking About Contemporary Pots," American Pottery Festival, Northern Clay Center
 Lecture, "50 Shades of Brown: Studio Pottery and Authenticity in the 1970s," Yale Material
 Culture Colloquium

Service

- Exhibitions Advisory Group, Northern Clay Center, 2020 – present
 Convener, Racialized Porcelain Working Group, 2020 – present
 Book Reviews Editor (North America), *Journal of Modern Craft*, 2018 – present
 Adjudicator, Biennial Exhibition, Potters Guild of Hamilton and Region, Hamilton, ON, 2020
 Adjudicator, Emerging Artist Award, National Council for Education in Ceramic Arts, 2019
 Adjudicator, McKnight Fellowship and Grant, Northern Clay Centre, 2019

Affiliations

- 2021 American Ceramics Circle, National Council on Education in Ceramic Arts
 Prior American Craft Council, College Art Association, Yale Group for the Study of Native America,
 Yale Material Culture Colloquium, Connecticut Ceramics Study Circle, NW Designer Craftsmen

Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions, selected

- 2010 Schaller Gallery, online
 2009 June Fitzpatrick Gallery, with Warren Mackenzie, Portland, ME
 Works Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
 Turtle Gallery, Deer Isle, ME
 2008 AKAR Design, Iowa City, IA
 Turtle Gallery, Deer Isle, ME
 June Fitzpatrick Gallery, Portland, ME
 2007 Artisan Gallery, Northampton, MA
 Red Star Studios, Kansas City, MO
 Works Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
 KOBO/Higo Gallery, Seattle WA
 June Fitzpatrick Gallery, Portland, ME
 2006 Lacoste Gallery, Concord, MA
 June Fitzpatrick Gallery, Portland, ME
 Red Lodge Clay Center, Red Lodge, MT
 2005 June Fitzpatrick Gallery, with Warren Mackenzie, Portland, ME (catalog)
 Turtle Gallery, Deer Isle, ME

Group Exhibitions, selected

- 2017 "Lineage: Rock Creek Pottery," Mars Hill University Gallery, NC

- 2013 "American Pottery Festival," Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN
 "It's All About Ruth," Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
- 2012 "Seward Park Artists," NCECA, Seattle Design Center, Seattle, WA
- 2010 "BAM Biennial: Clay Throwdown!," Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, WA
 Smithsonian Craft Show, Washington, DC
 "Perspectives," Oconee Art Center, Watkins, GA
 "The Defining Edge," Blue Spiral Gallery, Asheville, NC
 "Summer Faculty Show," Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, NV
 "Made in Clay," Jane Hartsook Gallery, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
 "Strictly Functional Then and Now," NCECA, Philadelphia, PA
 "La Mesa VI," NCECA, Santa Fe Clay, Philadelphia, PA
 "Yunomi Invitational," AKAR Design, Iowa City, IA
- 2009 "Veneration," NCECA, Eye Lounge Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
 "Cup Show," NCECA, Cervini Haas Gallery, Phoenix, AZ
 "La Mesa V," NCECA, Santa Fe Clay, Phoenix, AZ
 "Winterfest," Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, MD
 "Functional Comfort: The Art of the Cup," Ogden Museum, New Orleans, LA
- 2008 "Ceramic: Form and Function," Reynolds Gallery, Westmount College, Santa Barbara, CA
 (catalog)
 "Strictly Functional Pottery National," Lancaster Museum, Lancaster, PA (catalog)
 "Cut," Red Lodge Clay Center, Red Lodge, MT
- 2007 "From the Earth," University of Kentucky Art Museum, Lexington, KY
 "O The Art of Giving," Ogden Museum, New Orleans, LA
 "Holidazzle," Kentucky Museum of Art + Design, Louisville, KY
 "Tabletops," Long Beach Island Foundation for the Arts, NJ
 "Mingei in the Northwest," Glenn Richards, Seattle, WA
 "Art School At Old Church Invitational," Karen Karnes curator, Demarest, NJ
 "Mastery in Clay," The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
 "From the Studio," Lacoste Gallery, Concord, MA
- 2006 Smithsonian Craft Show, Washington, DC
 "Tea Time: The Art Of The Teapot," Kalamazoo Institute of Arts, MI
 "West Meets East," Montgomery College, Rockville, MD
 "Teapots: Universal Adoration," Pewabic Pottery, Detroit, MI
 "La Mesa II," NCECA, Santa Fe Clay, Portland, OR
- 2005 Philadelphia Art Museum Show - Philadelphia, PA
 "Art School At Old Church Invitational," Karen Karnes curator, Demarest, NJ
 "Bottled Spirits," Kentucky Museum Of Arts + Design, Louisville, KY
 "For The Love Of Flowers," Kentucky Museum Of Arts + Design, Louisville, KY
 "Functional Ceramics 2005," Wayne Center For The Arts, Wooster, OH

Bibliography, selected

- Books** *The Best of 500 Ceramics* (Asheville, NC: Lark Books, 2012)
 Ray Hemachandra, *500 Vases* (Asheville, NC: Lark Books, 2010)
 Fu Ziyang, *Ceramics Artists From Around the World*, (Shanghai: Shanghai Fine Arts, 2006)
 Steven Woodhead, *Teapots: Approaches to Design & Making* (London: A&C Black, 2005)
 Susan Peterson, *Working with Clay*, 2nd ed. (New York: Thames & Hudson, 2002)
 Susan Peterson, *Smashing Glazes: 53 Artists Share Insights and Recipes* (Madison, WI: Guild Publishing, 2001)
 Kevin A. Hluch, *The Art of Contemporary American Pottery* (Iola, WI: Krause Publications, 2001)

Newspapers and Periodicals, selected

"Career Shift," Spotlight, *Ceramics Monthly*, November 2014
Lynn Jacobson, "What our writers love..." *Seattle Times*, November 6, 2010
Chris Starrs, "Potter's perspectives..." *Athens Banner-Herald*, September 8, 2010
Michael Upchurch, "Some smashing ceramics..." *Seattle Times*, September 2, 2010
Bob Keyes, "Adventures in Ceramics," *Maine Sunday Telegram*, December 6, 2009
Bob Keyes, "The Lure of Portland's Gallery Scene," *Portland Press Herald*, July 19, 2009
"Clay & Fiber Review," *Ceramics Monthly*, March 2007
"Traditions & Transitions," *Ceramics Monthly*, December 2006
"East Meets West," *Clay Times*, June 2006
Philip Isaacson, "Warren Mackenzie & Sequoia Miller," *Maine Sunday Telegram*, March 13, 2005
K.T. Anders, "In Depth with Sequoia Miller," *Clay Times* (Sept/October, 2004): 14-18, cover
"Sequoia Miller," Up Front, *Ceramics Monthly*, January 2003
Leigh Taylor Mickelson, "Pots Presented," *Ceramics Art & Perception*, June 2002
Sara Cormeny, "Sequoia Miller," *Ceramics Monthly*, November, 2000

Artist Lectures, Presentations, Workshops, selected

2017 Visiting Artist, Connecticut College, New London, CT
2015 Invited Resident Artist, Aidashed, Givat Haviva, Israel
2012 Visiting Artist, Kingsborough Community College, Brooklyn, NY
2011 Presenter, Fusion Conference, Ontario Clay and Glass Association, Toronto, ON
2010 Visiting Artist, "Meet the Masters" series, Oregon College of Art & Craft, Portland, OR
Invited Resident Artist, Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, Newcastle, ME
Workshop Presenter, "Weekend with Sequoia Miller," Salt Spring Island Craft Guild, Salt Spring Island, BC
Workshop Presenter, "Perspectives Master Workshop," Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation, Athens, GA
Workshop Presenter, Lee Art Center, Arlington, VA
2009 Presenter, "Altered Lids," American Pottery Festival, Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN
Workshop Presenter, "Altered Pots, Form and Surface," Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe, NM
Workshop Presenter, Craft Alliance, St. Louis, MO
Workshop Presenter with Josh DeWeese, Kirkland Arts Center, Kirkland, WA
2008 Panelist, "Teaching and Residencies," Northwest Designer Craftsmen, Tacoma, WA
2007 Visiting Artist, University of Alaska, Anchorage and Fairbanks
Visiting Artist, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
Workshop Presenter, "Approaching Simplicity," Red Star Studios, Kansas City, MO
Workshop Presenter, "The Square Wheel," Snow Farm New England Craft Program, Williamsburg, MA
Workshop Presenter, "Listening to the Quiet Mind," Seward Park Clay Studio, Seattle, WA
Visiting Artist, Pottery Northwest, Seattle, WA
2006 Workshop Presenter, Glenn Echo Pottery, Glenn Echo, MD
Visiting Artist, Anne Arundel Community College, Arnold, MD
Presenter, "Sequoia Miller and Bernadette Curran," American Pottery Festival, Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, MN
2005 Workshop Presenter, "Pottery for Primates," Open Door Session, Haystack Mountain School of Craft, Deer Isle, ME
Visiting Artist, The Evergreen State College, Olympia, WA
Workshop Presenter, Carbondale Clay Center, Carbondale, CO