

## Iconic Figures: Devas, Deities, and Divas

A protector of dignity and self-confidence, a guardian of wellbeing and harmony, and one of laughter and simple pleasures — these are just some of the ceramic sentinels that comprise Vipoo Srivilasa's exhibition, *Iconic Figures: Devas, Deities and Divas.* Marking 15 years of collaborative presentations with art dealer Edwina Corlette and her eponymous Meanjin/Brisbane gallery, the show spotlights new sculptures inspired equally by themes just blossoming within the artist's practice today, as well as those that have sustained his celebrated career for more than two and a half decades. Playfully conceived by Srivilasa as a 'greatest hits' of sorts, the series utilises signature elements from his body of work. These include intricate floral motifs, coupled figurines, and the V-sign hand gesture that first debuted with Corlette in 2017.

Born in Bangkok and based in Naarm/Melbourne, Srivilasa views devas, deities, and divas as means of borrowing from the diverse cultural histories that coexist within his plural selfhood. As discrete spiritual and aesthetic categories of their own, these terms evocatively conjure an amusing array of discrepant images. In the artist's words: "Bringing these figures together lets me celebrate all forms of strength, visibility, and identity — sacred and ordinary, ancient and contemporary. It is important for me to represent each one because they reflect parts of who I am and the community around me." Rooted in Buddhist and Hindu traditions, the term deva is used in reference to spiritual beings typically associated with guardianship or protection, their ornate representation within places of worship inviting awe and reverence. Srivilasa jovially pairs these divine associations with the likes of global pop stars and his favourite drag queens, doing away with fruitless distinctions between high and low cultural forms while making space to explore additional themes of queerness, performance, and personal transformation.

For the first time in a commercial exhibition, the artist boldly introduces terracotta clay to his instantly recognisable palette of blue, white, and gold. Described as yet another bridge between his place of birth and country of residence, the red earthenware nods both to the iron-rich soils of Central Australia and to the Koh Kret village — a bustling island north of Bangkok, known for its production of traditional brick-fired pottery. Srivilasa has also incorporated aspects of his participatory artmaking practice into the show, previously reserved for the now-countless museum and public art engagements he has enjoyed in recent years. Visitors to the exhibition are invited to draw their own interpretations of modern-day and god-like idols, using a graphic of the artist's symbolic flowers to start. Srivilasa has a modest target of hanging 15 of these new drawings in the adjoining space, commemorating each year of his creative relationship with the gallery. It's safe to assume that the uptake will far exceed this number, auspiciously heralding a new chapter for their partnership.

"I first encountered Vipoo's work in Melbourne during a period of immense energy and transformation in Brisbane's cultural landscape," recalls Corlette. "I had recently opened my own gallery and was actively seeking artists whose practices could connect with Queensland audiences — work that felt deeply personal and globally relevant." Corlette credits Queensland Art Gallery I Gallery of Modern Art's mighty Asia Pacific Triennial (APT) for setting the tone for a new era of dialogue around contemporary practice in the region. "I was eager to contribute to that conversation," she continues. Of these early days, Srivilasa says, "I was lucky to join the gallery when we were both just starting out, and together we've grown our careers side by side." The artist's own inclusion in APT10 (2021-22) marked a significant milestone for both parties, honouring the international and cross-cultural resonance of Srivilasa's creative voice, as well as Corlette's patient and persistent cultivation of their association and shared audience. "She understands my love of cats, good desserts, and when I need to pause or shift gears creatively."







Golden Aura 2025 terracotta, glaze and gold lustre 66 x 33 x 19 cm \$12,000

'Guardian of well-being and harmony, shielding personal space from stress and negativity'



Radiant Bloom 2025 terracotta, glaze and gold lustre 53 x 34 x 20 cm \$10,000

'Protector of optimism and renewal, encouraging positivity and fresh starts each day'







Heavenly Bloom 2025 terracotta, earthenware, glaze and gold lustre 100 x 50 x 60 cm \$12,000

'Deity overseeing growth and creativity, nurturing fresh ideas and artistic inspiration'



Majestic Grace 2025 terracotta, glaze and gold lustre 70 x 42 x 15 cm \$12,000

'Protector of dignity and self-confidence, guiding individuals through moments of self-doubt'







Guardian Light 2025
earthenware, glaze and gold lustre
100 x 50 x 50 cm
\$17,000

'Protector of clarity and decision-making, helping people find direction amidst daily challenges'



Sacred Flame 2025 terracotta, glaze and gold lustre 69 x 37 x 24 cm \$12,000

'Deity safeguarding passion and enthusiasm, reigniting motivation in everyday activities'







Joyful Deity 2025 earthenware, glaze and gold lustre 62 x 45 x 28 cm \$12,000

'Guardian of laughter and simple pleasures, ensuring daily moments of happiness'



Serene Spirit 2025 terracotta, glaze, overglaze and gold lustre 39 x 28 x 15 cm \$8,000

'Guardian of mindfulness and tranquility, maintaining balance and calm within the chaos of everyday life'







Dancing Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze and gold lustre 29 x 14 x 18 cm \$5,500

'Deity watching over self-expression and joy, preserving individuality and daily spontaneity'



Inner Goddess 2025 terracotta, glaze and gold lustre 60 x 25 x 13 cm \$12,000

> 'Protector of self-care and inner peace, inspiring moments of rest and rejuvenation'





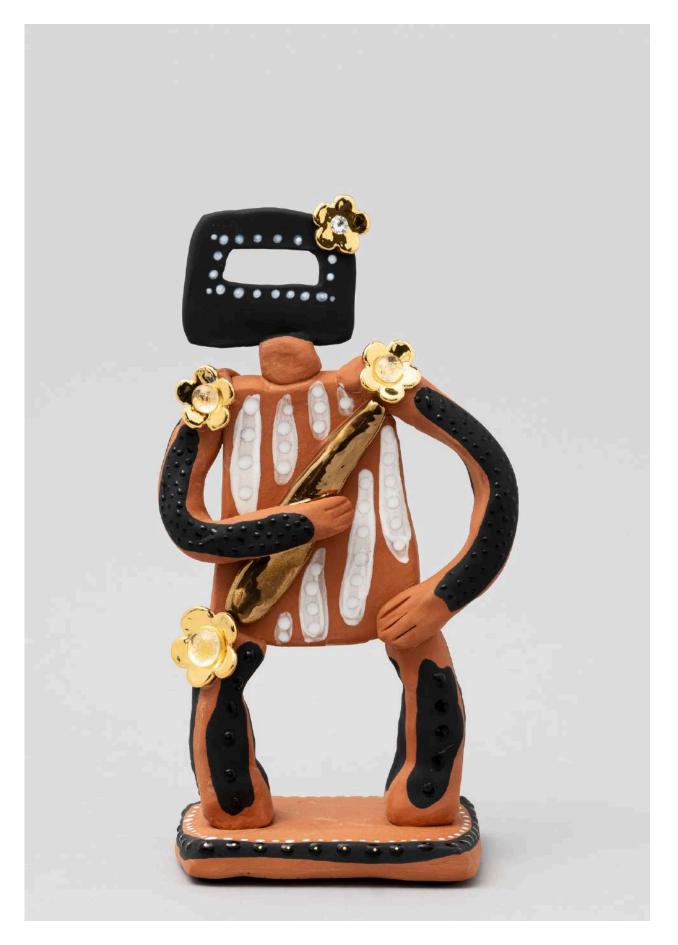


Blooming Diva 2025
terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, gold
lustre, and mixed media
15 x 12 x 9 cm
\$3,500



Boogie Deva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment and gold lustre 26 x 16 x 8 cm \$4,500







Outlaw Deva 1 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 25 x 14 x 9 cm \$4,500



Outlaw Deva 2 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 25 x 14 x 8 cm \$4,500



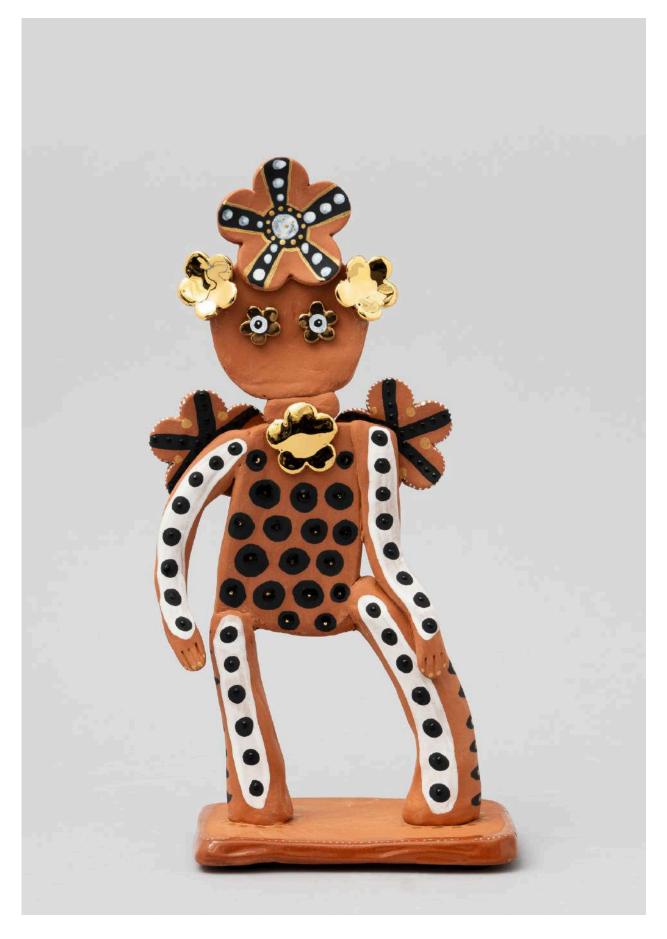


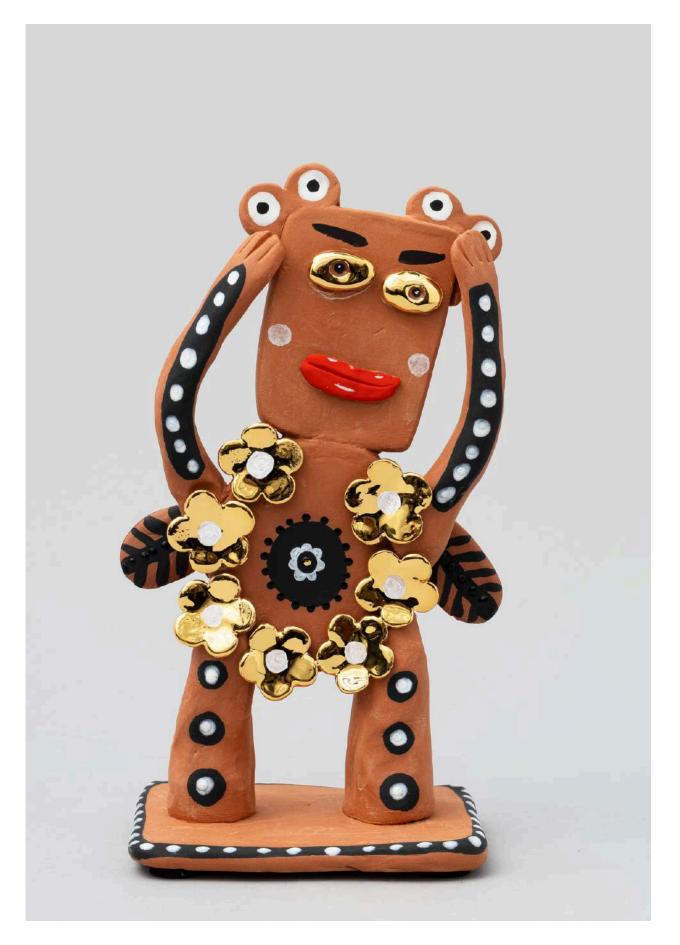


Circle of Life Deva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 22 x 14 x 9 cm \$4,500



Disco Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 25 x 14 x 8 cm \$4,500







Headache Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 20 x 12 x 8 cm \$4,000



Elite Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 25 x 14 x 8 cm \$4,500







Jazzy Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 29 x 17 x 9 cm \$5,000



Fashionista Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 23 x 16 x 8 cm \$4,500







Pink Bandana Diva 2025 terracotta, glaze, ceramic pigment, and gold lustre 25 x 14 x 10 cm \$4,500

### VIPOO SRIVILASA - CURRICULUM VITAE

Born 1969, in Bangkok, Thailand Lives and works in Australia

#### **EDUCATION**

1998 Master of Fine Art and Design (ceramic), University of Tasmania, Hobart

1997 Graduate Diploma of Arts (ceramic), Monash University, Melbourne

1994 Bachelor of Art (ceramic), Rangsit University, Bangkok, Thailand

#### **COLLECTIONS - AUSTRALIA**

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra

Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Queensland Art Gallery I Gallery of Modern Art, Queensland

The Powerhouse Museum, New South Wales

Artbank

Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria

Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria

Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Victoria

City of Darebin, Victoria

City of Port Phillip, Victoria

College of Fine Art, University of New South Wales, Sydney

Deakin University, Melbourne

Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria

Gold Coast City Gallery, Queensland

Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Victoria

Lady Cilento Children's Hospital, Queensland

Manly Art Gallery & Museum, New South Wales

Manningham City Council, Victoria

Margaret Lawrence Australian Ceramic Collection, Victoria

Muswellbrook Shire City Council, New South Wales

National Sports Museum, Melbourne

Nillumbik Shire City Council, Victoria

Parliament House Art Collection, Canberra

Rockhampton Art Gallery, Queensland

School of Rural Health, Melbourne University, Shepparton, Victoria

Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria

Tasmania Museum and Art Gallery, Tasmania

Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery, Queensland

Whitehorse City Council, Victoria

Wollongong Art Gallery, New South Wales

#### **COLLECTIONS - ASIA**

Henan Museum, Zhengzhou, China

Korean Ceramic Foundation, Korea

Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand

Australia Embassy, Seoul, Korea

Clayarch Gimhae Museum, Korea

Roopanakar Museum of Fine Arts, Bharat Bhavan, Bhopal, India

#### COLLECTIONS - NORTH AMERICA

College of Arts and Humanities, University of Hawaii, Hawaii, United States of America

Kamm Teapot Foundation, California, United States of America

The Shaw International Centre for Contemporary Ceramics, Medalta, Canada

The Rosenfield Collection, Texas, United States of America

The American Ceramic Society, United States of America

#### **COLLECTIONS - EUROPE**

Craft Council, London, United Kingdom

#### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Iconic Figures: Devas, Deities, and Divas, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane
- 2024 The Deity of Daily Need, N. Smith Gallery, Sydney

Marvellous Mythical Mates: A Menagerie of Dream Pets, Counihan Gallery, Melbourne

Flower Bears Deity, Fremantle Arts Centre, Perth

- 2023 Solitude and Connection, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane
- 2022 Always Better Together, Olsen Gallery, Sydney

Hungry Ghosts, Scott Livesey Galleries, Melbourne

The Tangible Tales, Art Jakarta 2022, Indonesia

Collection Focus, Rockhampton Art Museum, Queensland

2021 My Sunshine Doesn't Come From The Sky, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane

COVID Superheroes, Art Gallery of Ballarat, Victoria

Re/JOY, Warrnambool Art Gallery, Victoria

Wellness Deity, Linden New Arts, Melbourne

- 2020 Fresh from the Studio, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane (online)
- 2019 The Marriage of Sang Thong, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane

The Marriage of Sangthong, S.A.C. Subhashok The Arts Centre, Bangkok

They Fill Your Heart Without Trying, Olsen Gallery, Sydney

Devils and Deities, Art Connection Space, Rosewood Bangkok, Thailand

2018 Everyday Shrine, Gippsland City Council Art Gallery, Victoria

Everyday Shrine, Scott Livesey Galleries, Melbourne

2017 #happy\_together, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane
This Might Be The Place, Hugo Michell Gallery, Adelaide

2016 Red-Eared Slider, Alder Subhashok Gallery, Bangkok

Deity, Scott Livesey Galleries, Melbourne

Animalier, Nicolas Project, Melbourne

- 2015 Happy Land, Scott Livesey Galleries, Melbourne Collective Reef, Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria
- 2014 Equilibrium, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane
- 2013 How To Make a Million Before Dinner, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane Red Room, Maunsell Wickes Gallery, Sydney

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2025 Within Heaven and Earth, Fairfield City Museum and Gallery, New South Wales
- 2024 Cats and Dogs, National Gallery of Victoria

Name Dropping, Museum of Old and New Art, Hobart

SIXTY: The Journal of Australian Ceramics 60th Anniversary 1962–2022, The Australian Design Centre On

Tour exhibition, Design Tasmania, Launceston

Indian Ocean Art Triennial, Fremantle Arts Centre, Fremantle

Kerameikos, Chau Chak Wing Museum, New South Wales

2023 The Tel Aviv Biennale of Crafts and Design', MUZA, Eretz Israel Museum

Melbourne Now', National Gallery of Victoria

Portrait 23', National Portrait Gallery, Canberra

Worlds of Infinite Possibility', Horsham Regional Gallery, Canberra

Jugs', Craft Victoria, Melbourne

Flourish: Explore a Re-Imagined Natural World', Glen Eira City Council, Victoria

The Great Granville Garden Show', Granville Centre Art Gallery, New South Wales

Contemporary Small Sculpture Award', Deakin University Art Gallery, Victoria

Make Award', Australian Design Centre, Sydney

2022 The Summer Show, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane

Social Ceramics, Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria

Art Can Die, River City, Bangkok

Finalist, Lake Art Prize, Museum of Art and Culture Lake Macquarie, Yapang, New South Wales

Finalist, Woollahra Small Sculpture Award, Woollahra Gallery at Redleaf, New South Wales

Finalist, Fisher's Ghost Art Award, Campbelltown Arts Centre, New South Wales

2021 The 10th Asia Pacific Triennial, Queensland Art Gallery I Gallery of Modern Art, Queensland

Clay Dynasty, Powerhouse Museum, New South Wales

Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Olsen Gallery, New South Wales

The 4th CHINA CHINA Ceramic Art and Design Exhibition, Shangyu, China

Time-Lapse Reflecting on Thai Art, 333 Anywhere, Bangkok, Thailand

Design/Isolate Exhibition, Australian Design Centre (online)

Crepuscule, Olsen Annexe, Sydney

Ceramix Manly Art Gallery & Museum, Sydney

Cloudy — A Few Isolated Showers, Castlemaine Art Museum, Victoria

Maker's Eye: Stories of Craft, Crafts Council Gallery, London

2020 Bharat Bhavan International Ceramic Exhibition, Roopanakar Museum of Fine Arts, Bhopal, India

Maker's Eye, British Crafts Council Gallery, London, United Kingdom

Indigo Monster Return, La Lanta Fine Arts, Bangkok, Thailand

Inaugural Exhibition, Alan Finkel Room's, Monash University Museum of Art, Victoria

Modern Mysticism, JamFactory, Adelaide

Objects of Love, Craft Victoria, Victoria

Skilled Hands, Shared Culture, RMIT Gallery online

Miffy and Friends, QUT Art Museum, Brisbane

Lost and Found, Yelo House, Bangkok, Thailand

2019 Finalist, Deakin Small Sculpture Award, Deakin University Art Gallery, Melbourne

Finalist, Whitegold International Ceramic Prize, United Kingdom

All That's Gold Does Glitter, Venetian Macao, China

Gaia Reborn, Urban Nation, Project M, Berlin

The Great Race, Clay Art Centre, New York

Tea for Twenty, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Tasmania

Open Door: Contemporary Makers and Designers, Craft Victoria, Melbourne

Pleasure & the Grotesque: Decorating Bodies 1980s to Now, RMIT Gallery, Melbourne

ASEAN Crafts: Place, Scent and Atmosphere, ASEAN Culture House, Busan, Korea

Cheongju Craft Biennial, Korea

2018 Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, United Kingdom

Australian Collection, Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane

Obsessed: Compelled to Make, Australian Design Centre, New South Wales

Hyphenated, The Substation, Melbourne

Lucky Hall, The Gallery at Bayside Arts and Cultural Centre, Victoria

Devil In the Detail, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria

Finalist, Tom Bass Prize for Figurative Sculpture, New South Wales

Finalist, The Korea-Australia Arts Foundation Prize (KAAFP)

10th Anniversary Exhibition, Edwina Corlette, Brisbane

2017 Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Edwina Corlette, Carriageworks, Sydney

Subhashok The Arts Centre, Art Stage Singapore

Muswellbrook Art Prize Works, Muswellbrook Regional Art Centre, New South Wales

Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale, Icheon World Ceramic Center, South Korea

Empty Vessels, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, Melbourne

Animal Kingdom, The Johnston Collection, Victoria

Deakin Small Sculpture Award, Deakin University Art Gallery, Victoria

Super Hero, Kingston Arts Centre, Melbourne

2016 Sugar Spin - You Me and Everything, Queensland's Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane

The First Central China International Ceramics Biennale, Henan Museum, China

Fleurieu Art Prize, The Samstag Museum of Art, Adelaide

Basil Sellers Art Prize, The Ian Potter Museum of Art, Melbourne

15 Artists Exhibition, Redcliffe Art Gallery, Queensland

Sculpting Stories' Gallery Oldham, London

The Blue and White: The Impact of The New, Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taiwan

Function, Form and Fantasy: Ceramics from Dr Robert and Deanna Harris Burger Collection, The Flint Institute of Arts, Michigan

Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Chelsea Hospital, London

Animal, Nicolas Project, Melbourne

Art Taipei, S.A.G Gallery, Taipei World Trade Centre

The Texture of Sensation, CC Gallery, Taiwan

Wired Ceramic, Gippsland Art Gallery, Victoria

#### 2015 Beyond Limitations, Clayarch Gimhae Museum, Korea

Collisions: Cross-Cultural Collaborations, Shepparton Art Museum, Victoria

Storm In a Teacup, Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery, Victoria

Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Edwina Corlette, Carriageworks, Sydney

More Love Hours, The Ian Potter Museum, The University of Melbourne

Imagining Ned, Bendigo Art Gallery, Victoria

Everything Is all White, Kasher Potamkin, New York

New York Ceramic and Glass Fair, Bohemian National Hall, New York

Leaders, Craft Victoria, Melbourne

Two of a Kind, Bundoora Homestead Art Centre, Melbourne

Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London

C H O I C E: Contemporary Australian Ceramics, Beaver Gallery, Canberra

#### 2014 Melbourne Art Fair, Edwina Corlette

Contemporary Porcelain, Queensland Art Gallery I Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane

ArtKamp: Indigo Mass, Independent Art Project, Massachusetts, United States of America

Made In China, Independent Art Project, Massachusetts, United States of America

Earth and Fire: South 'East Asian Ceramic', Workhouse Art Centre, Virginia, United States of America

BIG Ceramic, Yarra Gallery, Melbourne

The XXIIIrd International Biennale of Vallauris Biennale, France

Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Chelsea Hospital, London

Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London Inquiring Finds, Honolulu Museum of Art Spalding House, Hawaii

Mythology Meets Archetype, Northern Clay Centre, Minneapolis, United States of America

Important Exhibition of Australian Ceramic, Mossgreen Gallery, Victoria

Stanthorpe Art Festival, Stanthorpe Regional Art Gallery, Queensland

50 Shades of Brown, Gallerysmith, Melbourne

Adrian Sassoon, The European Fine Art Fair, Maastricht Exhibition Centre, The Netherlands

#### 2013 The Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale, Icheon, Korea

SEXSE@Medalta, Medalta Gallery, Canada

Ceramic Top 40, Ferrin Contemporary Art Fair, Edwina Corlette

3x3 Project, The National Art Gallery, Bangkok

Hobart Art Prize, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart

The Hua Krathi Project, RMIT University School of Art Gallery, Melbourne

Modern Masters, International Trade Fair, Munich, Germany

#### 2012 New World: Timeless Visions, New Mexico Museum of Art Santa Fe, New Mexico

Pavillion of Art & Design, London, Berkeley Square London W1

Collect: Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, Saatchi Gallery, London

Pacific Rim Connection, Azuma Gallery, Seattle, Washington

The Pottery Workshop 25th Anniversary Seattle Design Center, Washington

On Kindness: An Australia India Culture Exchange, Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Man and Beast, Rex Irwin Art Dealer, Sydney

#### 2011 SOFA Chicago, John Natsoulas Gallery, California

Ceramic Annual of America, San Francisco

Manningham Victorian Ceramic Award, Manningham Gallery, Victoria

The Pursuit of Porcelain, SOFA New York and Ferrin Gallery, New York

In Family Unity – Unity of the World, Moscow State Institute of International Relations, Russia

East-West Ceramic Collaboration, University of Hawaii Art Gallery, Monoa

#### 2010 International Ceramics Competition, L'Alcora, L'Alcora Ceramics Museum, Spain

A New Insight of International Contemporary Ceramics, Degas Arts Space, Shanghai Elegant Monsters, Gallerie Philosophie, Taipei

Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award, The Art Centre, Queensland

Ceramic Now?, Whitehorse Art Space, Melbourne

Hobart Art Prize, Tasmania Museum and Art Gallery, Hobart

Anna Pappas Gallery, Depot Gallery, Sydney

In the Family Unity - Unity of the World, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

2009 Blue-White, White-Blue, Galerie Handwerk, München, Germany

The Ring of Fire, Ayala Museum, The Philippines

At the Crossroad of Civilization, Yingge Ceramic Museum, Taiwan

Pressing Matter, Cheongiu Biennale, South Korea

Super Normality, J Gallery, Bangkok

Zibo International Ceramic Art Expo, Zibo, China

Trans-Pot, Nanjing Arts Institute, Nanjing, China

The Art of Making: Invention and Artisanship, Castlemaine Visual Arts Biennial, VIC

Bravura: 21st Century Australian Craft, Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide

Recent Acquisitions: City of Port Phillip, The Gallery, St. Kilda Town Hall, Melbourne

#### PRIZES / AWARDS

2023 Winner, Make Award, Australian Design Centre

Grant, Visual Arts and Crafts Strategy (VACS) Major Commissioning Projects Grant

Winner, The Civic Choice Award, Melbourne Prize for Urban Sculpture

Finalist, Deakin University Contemporary Small Sculpture Award, Victoria

- 2022 Highly Commended Acquisitive Prize, Lake Art Prize
- 2021 The Ceramic Artist of The Year 2021, The American Ceramic Society
- 2020 Grant, Creative Victoria, Sustaining Creative Workers Grant
  - Grant, Australian Council for the Arts, Resilience Fund
- 2019 Highly Commended, The Korea-Australia Arts Foundation Prize, South Korea

Honorable Mention, The Korean International Ceramic Biennale Competition

- 2018 Winner, National Sports Museum Basil Sellers Creative Arts Fellowship
- 2017 Winner, 44th Muswellbrook Art Prize Ceramic
  - Highly Commended, Deakin Small Sculpture

Award Australian Council for the Arts, Skill and Arts Development General Grant

Grant, Career Development Grants, Australian Council for the Arts

2016 National Sports Museum Basil Sellers Creative Arts Fellowship

Shortlisted, Fleurieu Art Prize, Anne & Gordon Samstag Museum of Art, Adelaide

Finalist, Basil Sellers Art Prize, The Ian Potter Museum of Art, University of Melbourne

2008 Arts Victoria, International Program Grant

Sculpture Award, Suncoast Clayworkers Awards, Queensland

Finalist, Toyota Travel Award

2007 Australian Council for the Arts, New Work Development Grant Honorable Mention World Ceramic Biennale, Icheon, Korea

2005 Australia – Thailand Institute Project Grant

Arts Victoria, International Program Grant

2004 First (Acquisitive) and Third Prize, Artful Teapot Award, Paynter Gallery, Bendigo, Victoria Second Prize, Golden Teapot Award 2004, Morpeth Gallery, Morpeth, New South Wales

2003 First Prize, Golden Teapot Award, Morpeth Gallery, Morpeth, New South Wales

2001 First Prize (Ceramic Hand-Building), City of Redcliffe Excellence in Craft Award, Queensland Merit Prize (Paperclay), Port hacking Potters Group Awards, New South Wales

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