



## MATTHIAS MERKEL HESS

Born 1978 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
Lives and works in Los Angeles, California

### EDUCATION

2010, MFA in ceramics, University of California, Los Angeles  
2005-2006, Special Studies, California State University, Long Beach, CA  
2003-2005, Continuing Education, Pasadena City College, Pasadena, CA  
2002, BS, Journalism; BA, environmental science, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2014

*MerkelWare Party*, Marine Projects, Los Angeles  
*Things*, Volume Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Water and Gasoline*, Burnet Gallery in Le Méridien Chambers, Minneapolis, MN

2013

*Hereafter*, Salon 94 Freemans, New York, NY  
*Anvils*, ACME, Los Angeles, CA  
*Oeuvreday*, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA

2011

*Bucketry*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
*Two Projects and a Drawing*, Mary Moody Gallery, West Texas A&M, Amarillo, TX  
*Spottieottiedopaliscious Dishes*, IKO IKO, Los Angeles

2010

*Devils Tower-LA*, Las Cienegas Projects, Los Angeles, CA

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2014

*Cassius Clay*, Marcelle Joseph Projects, London, England  
*Transmogrification of the Ordinary*, Angles Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
*20 Years of ACME.*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
*Another Cats Show*, 356 Mission, Los Angeles, CA



SALON 94

*More Material*, Salon 94 Bowery, New York, NY

*Corporeal Impulse*: Julia Haft-Candell, Matt Merkel Hess, Jeffrey Mitchell, Kathleen Ryan, Bari Ziperstein, curated by Allyson Unzicker, Vincent Price Art Museum, Monterey Park, CA

2013

*The Cat Show*, curated by Rhonda Lieberman, White Columns, New York, NY

*Faux Real*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA

*HIGH LOW*, Irvine Fine Arts Center, Irvine, CA

*Salon No. 10: The Boy's Club*, Marine Art Salon, Venice, CA

*The White Album*, Louis B. James Gallery, New York, NY

*A Thousand Hours*, Jane Deering Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA

2012

*Americana*, Grey Area, New York, NY

*Venice Beach Biennial*, curated by Ali Subotnik, Venice, CA

*The Planter Show*, ForYourArt Space, Los Angeles, CA

*.SUM: Matthias Merkel Hess, William J. O'Brien, Arlene Shechet*, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS

*Material: A Group Show Curated by Duro Olowu*, Salon 94 Freemans, New York, NY

2011

*001*, Favorite Goods, Los Angeles, CA

*Works of Paper*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA

*Paul Clay*, Salon 94, New York, NY

*Los Angeles Museum of Ceramic Art*, ACME, Los Angeles, CA

2010

*Monster Drawing Rally*, Outpost for Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

*Haunted JMOCA*, Justin's Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA

*(N)either Swords (N)or Plowshares*, Cerritos College Gallery, Norwalk, CA

*Wet Paint II*, Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles

*Keramik*, Pacific Design Center, West Hollywood, CA

*MFA Thesis Show*, New Wight Gallery, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

2009



SALON 94

*MFA 2010 Exhibition*, New Wight Gallery, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

*Greater Los Angeles MFA Exhibition*, California State University, Long Beach, CA

*College Art Association Los Angeles MFA Exhibition*, University of Southern California, Roski Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

2008

*Greater Los Angeles MFA Exhibition*, California State University Long Beach, Long Beach, CA

2006

*Insights 2006*, University Art Museum, California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, CA

## LECTURES

2013

Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA

Biola University, La Mirada, CA

Chapman University, Orange, CA

Santa Barbara City College, Santa Barbara, CA

2012

Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS

Visiting Artist Talk, Ceramics Department, Otis College of Art & Design, Los Angeles, CA

2011

Visiting Artist Talk and Seminar, West Texas A&M, Amarillo, TX

2010

Visiting Artist Talk, Ceramics Department, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Visiting Artist Talk, Ceramics Department, Cerritos College, Norwalk, CA

## PRESS

2013

Graves, Jen. "Touching Things," *The Stranger*, Vol 23, No. 2, September 11-17, page 27.

Zara, Janelle. "Art for the Afterlife," *Modern Painters*, June 2013, p. 25.



SALON 94

Donelan, Charles. "Light Touch: Ceramics and Photography on Display," *Santa Barbara Independent*, 17 Jan. 2013.

Ollman, Leah. "Review: Matthias Merkel Hess' sculptures at once earnest and sly," *Los Angeles Times*, 19 June 2013.

Suqi, Rima. "Ceramics that make the afterlife more fun," *New York Times*, 19 June 2013.

2012

Ollman, Leah. "The Happy Medium," *Art in America*, December 2012, p. 156-161.

Harris, Gareth and Riah Pryor. "Domestic Bliss Meets DIY," *The Art Newspaper*, Frieze Art Fair Friday edition, 17 Oct. 2012, p. 2.

Finkel, Jori. "Venice Beach gets a Breezy Biennial on the Boardwalk," *The Los Angeles Times*, 11 Jul. 2012.

Drohojowska-Philp, Hunter. "Biennial Goes to the Boardwalk," KCRW Art Talk, 12 Jul. 2012.

Wagley, Catherine. "Venice Beach Biennial Preview: 'Art World' Artists Meet Boardwalk Vendors," *LA Weekly*, 12 Jul., 2012 {<http://www.laweekly.com/2012-07-12/art-books/venice-beach-biennial-boardwalk/>}

Rolnik, Daniel. "Recap of the 2012 Venice Beach Biennial," Argot & Ochre, July 18, 2012, <http://argotandoc>

Thorson, Alice. "Nerman Museum Exhibit Shows the Power of Ceramics," *The Kansas City Star*, 16 June 2012.

"Artist of the Week: Matthias Merkel Hess," [lv3.tumblr.com](http://lv3.tumblr.com) 2 April 2012.

Artist Project, *Slake*, Issue #4 "Dirt," P. 208-211, Apr. 2012

Smith, Roberta. "Duro Olowu: Material," *New York Times*, 2 March 2012.

Ollman, Leah. "Clay Keeps Breaking the Mold," *Los Angeles Times*, 29 Jan. 2012.

Shaw, Michael. "Matthias Merkel Hess: Come for the Merkel, Stay for the Bucketry," *The Conversation: an Artist Podcast*, [notesonlooking.com](http://notesonlooking.com), 13 Jan. 2012

2011

Hodge, Brooke. "Seeing Things: Matthias Merkel Hess," *New York Times T Magazine Seeing Things Blog*, 8 Dec. 2011.

Ollman, Leah, "Art Review: Aaron Morse and Matthias Merkel Hess at ACME," *Los Angeles Times*, 8 Dec. 2011.

Wagley, Catherine. "Five Artsy Things to See This Week," *LA Weekly*, 1 Dec. 2011.

Baum, Gary, Marissa Gluck and Alexis Johnson. "Arts & Power: On the Make," *Angeleno Magazine*, Dec. 2011.

"Pin-Up Menagerie: A Collection of 69 Beautiful Things," *Pin-Up Magazine*, Issue 11, Fall/Winter



2011-2012, p. 167.

Hodge, Brooke. "Iko Iko Goes West," *Seeing Things blog, New York Times T Magazine*, 18 Aug. 2011.

Ollman, Leah. "Art review: 'Works of Paper' at ACME," *Los Angeles Times*, 21 Jul. 2011.

Smith, Roberta. "Art in Review: 'Paul Clay,'" *New York Times*, 30 June 2011.

Kilston, Lyra. "Los Angeles Museum of Ceramic Art," *Artforum.com* critics pick, 20 Jan. 2011.

Pagel, David. "Art Review: 'Los Angeles Museum of Ceramic Art' at ACME," *Los Angeles Times*, 13 Jan. 2011.

## PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Hallmark Art Collection, Kansas City, Missouri

Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, Kansas

Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TX

## CURATORIAL

2012

*The Planter Show*, ForYourArt Space, Los Angeles, CA co-curator with Lisa Sitko

2008

*Group Effort: Collaboration as Form and Process*, Wight Biennial 2008, Wight Gallery, University of California, Los Angeles, co-curator with Jennifer Gradecki, Alexandro Segade and Wu Tsang

## FELLOWSHIPS & AWARDS

Fellowship for Visual Arts, Emerging Artist, California Community Foundation, 2014

18<sup>th</sup> Street Arts Center Project Room Award, 2010

Elaine Krown Klein Award, University of California, Los Angeles, 2009

Laura Andreson Ceramics Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2009

Matthias Denny Award, University of California, Los Angeles, 2009

Hoyt Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2009

Hyman Eugene Oxman Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2008

Laura Andreson Ceramics Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2007

Fine Arts Affiliates Scholarship, California State University, Long Beach, 2006

Art Department Scholarship, Pasadena City College, Pasadena, CA, 2005