

The Atmospheric Figure with Matthew O'Reilly

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The Missoula Clay Studio (10 week course, Jan 8th - Mar 12th 2023)

Volume yields development of skill and feedback, a vicious exponential learning experience

Projects	Demo	What to bring
<p>Facial Features Rudiments Vase/Vessels- This project is honed in on for the first class. We will be learning the nuances of sculpting each facial feature, at a variety of scales and using different techniques. Students can choose to develop anatomy rendering skills on the sides of thrown or hand built vessels.</p>	<p>-Sculpting eyes, Ears, mouths, and noses. -throwing and assembly of a slab</p>	<p>Just you</p>
<p>Figurine, Person, Place, and Story- In this project we will be learning how to create 14 inch figurines, and an accompanying plinth. We will navigate the technical feats of creating proportional anatomy at a small scale, gesture, and meaningful context. I ask students to think about the opportunity to tell a story with their figure immersed in space.of their design. The subtlest gesture of a hand or presence/or lack there of an object, presents an opportunity to tell a story, what's your story?</p>	<p>-Damp boxes -figurine making and assembly -ceramic plinth approaches.</p>	<p>-Tupper ware damp box -Reference images -foam -plastic</p>
<p>Wall Hanging Busts- let's be honest, as sculptures and ceramists, we are running out room on our tables, cabinets, mantels, etc. This project is about learning to activate wall space with sculpture, and the technical challenges such pursuits present. We will be exploring mounting techniques, figure cropping, abstracting and more.</p>	<p>-Pinch pot heads, bodies -revisiting sculpting facial features -making stamps -antiquing</p>	<p>-reference images -bring textures</p>
<p>The Life Sized Hand, Articulation and Gesture- this project explores the nuances of hands. We will walk through the making of one or two hands interacting with space and each other. Will will unpack the strategies of breaking down and making manageable complex forms. These pieces can be either wall mounts or table top pieces</p>	<p>-Sculpting hand -articulating hand</p>	<p>-reference image</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Overview</p> <p>In this ten week course we will be exploring the form and surface of figurative ceramics. Sculpturally, we will be furthering our understanding of figurative anatomy with special emphasis on the face and hands. More specifically we shall embark on three projects, 'Figurine, Person, Place, and Story', 'Wall Hanging Busts', and 'The Life Sized Hand, Articulation and Gesture'. In terms of surface, we will be leaning on the atmospheric firing techniques of cone 10 gas reduction, and cone 10 soda. Students will take away a myriad of skills and understandings surrounding the nuances of speciality firings and participate in the cultivation of a rich atmosphere. In addition to wielding anatomy, students will learn sculptural ceramics techniques such as wall hanging pieces, managing precarious forms, damp boxes, and intermediate hand building. The projects are designed to be flexible to the students interests as well as to leave students with the resources and skills to make compelling work for years to come</p>		

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Week	Project	Firing
1 Jan 8	Facial Features Rudiments Vase/vessel	
2 Jan 15	Figurine, set and setting	
3 Jan 22		
4 Jan 29		
5 Feb 5		B
6 Feb 12		Wall hanging busts
7 Feb 19		
8 Feb 26 (Tessa covering class)		
9 Mar 5	The Life Sized Hand, Articulation and Gesture	
10 Mar 12		B/G