



Chris Johnston

Background

Always with clay beneath my feet - and often under my fingernails.

I grew up in Murrumbena, and since 1980, I've been a resident of and worker in Brunswick. Both localities are part of Melbourne's rich clay stories. Now I also live near Newstead in Victoria's stony gold-fields landscape.



Ceramics education

1975 - taught by Judy Lorraine @ CAE – threw my first basic and earthy pots using a Leach kick wheel – very 70s. Bitten by the clay bug, but gave it up for many years.

1999-2000 - taught by Jane Sawyer.

2000 - Holmesglen TAFE - Pottery Skills & Sales course

2001 - 2003 Dip Art (Ceramics) – completed a range of subjects at Holmesglen TAFE with some great teachers.

2008 – Diploma of Art completed – ANU School of Art.

Wall piece: 'Off the Wall'



Studio

Joined 3-Phase Design (261 Albert Street, Brunswick) July 2000 and stayed until Jan 04. 3 Phase Design is a shared studio space with people working in clay, wood, photography, design, and painting.

Moved to Aireys Inlet 2004, and then to Newstead (Central Vic) 2005.

Awards

2008 – ANU School of Art Emerging Artist Support Scheme 2008 – Group Exhibition Award

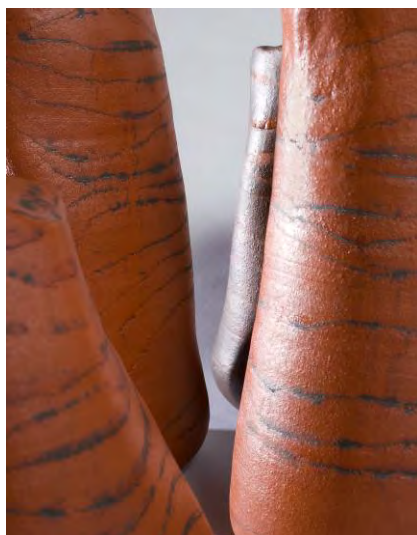
2008 – ANU School of Art Emerging Artist Support Scheme 2008 – Journal Of Australian Ceramics Subscription Award

Falling to Earth: ANU final project, 08

Cupful series



Gorges-Gaps 2008



Exhibitions

2001 - *The Erotic Cup* - Midsumma Festival at Northcote Pottery - group of 5 terracotta and slip cups.

2001 - *Pat Emery Award (VCG) Exhibition*

Inside me - a group of 3 terracotta pots, thrown and altered.

2002 - *3PD* - Counihan Gallery in Brunswick 12 July - 4 August 2002. (3PD = 3 Phase Design – a studio exhibition)

Water pots - six groups of ceramic bowls and loose jug forms based around the paradox of water in the desert'

2002 - *Kiss My Art Window Works* - HomeSweetHome window, 27 Sept - 18 October. *Rice Bowl Migrations* - an installation of ceramic bowls (whole and broken), cloth and rice.

2003 – *Shop Stop Art – Cut Paw Paw* bookshop window. *Cupful* - a series of grouped goblets expressing ideas about the way we become filled up with emotions.

2004 – *Women's Salon, Counihan Gallery*

Selected works – Cupful - Tea and sympathy (set) and Banksia bowls (set).

2008 – *ANU School of Art Graduating Exhibition 2008*
6-14 December 2008.

2009 – *Land & Water III*, Herring Island

Ceramics Victoria selected exhibition as part of the Herring Island Arts Festival. Exhibition dates 14/2 – 1/3/09.

2009 – *Contemporary Art Society Collectors' Exhibition*
4-17 May 2009, Steps Gallery, Carlton.

2009 – *Eclat* - Ceramics Victoria Exhibition - *Pat Emery Award (VCG) Section*. 3 pieces – *Caught 1, 2, 3*

2010 – *Clunes Ceramic Award Exhibition* – Selected entrant – entry title *Nurturing Land*

2010 – *Women's Salon - Counihan Gallery (Brunswick)*

Selected entrant – *Nurturing Lands* – presented artist floor talk during exhibition.

2011 – *Clunes Ceramic Award Exhibition* – Selected entrant – entry title *Ground Truth*

Ceramics contributions

Member of the Victorian Ceramic Group Exhibitions Committee 2002-03

Development of Ceramics Centre proposal for Hoffman Brickworks, Brunswick

Clay passions

Fluids - fluid pots - wet clay - moving - expressive.

Land that imprints on our heart and spirit.

Other lives

Heritage consultant, historian, community activist