



Images left to right: Travis Winters, Samantha Momeyer, Huang Hung Yu and Julia Walther.

Baltimore Clayworks Welcomes Four New Artists!

Baltimore, Maryland - July 13, 2015 - Baltimore Clayworks is pleased to announce the arrival of FOUR new artists joining us this September! Two fellowship artists **Travis Winters** and **Samantha Momeyer**; and Taiwan Exchange Artist, **Huang Hung Yu**, will be the new additions to our artists' studio building. Baltimore Clayworks will also welcome **Julia Walther**, a new Associate Artist.

Travis Winters is joining Baltimore Clayworks as the 2015-2016 Lormina Salter Fellow. Winters has an MFA in Ceramics from Edinboro University in Pennsylvania and a BFA in Ceramics from Buffalo State College in New York. He has served a summer residency at Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, as a short-term resident artist at Red Lodge Clay Center, and was most recently an Artist in Residence at Odyssey Center for the Ceramic Arts. He has exhibited at Baltimore Clayworks, as well as: Fire House Gallery, Morean Center for Clay, The Ceramics Center, The ARTS Center of Clemson, Workhouse Arts Center, and Push Gallery. Travis' work explores the creation of characters that captivate the imagination of the viewer, inviting interpretation and narratives that expand the work beyond its existence in the gallery. His animated figures with exaggerated folds and wrinkles, create thought provoking visceral experiences using clay as a vehicle for tactile expression. Through his work, the viewer can experience narrative in an alternative way to the typical written or spoken word.

The Lormina Salter Fellowship provides one artist annually a free studio and materials stipend. The fellow is the highest ranked applicant from a national pool of artists applying to be in residence at Baltimore Clayworks.

Samantha Momeyer is the 2015-2016 Margie and Tom Pozefsky Fellow. Samantha creates functional stoneware pottery inspired by the spinning of the potter's wheel and the ability to create. Momeyer's pottery has been exhibited in a variety of venues. As a 2014 Emerging Artist scholar, Samantha Momeyer showed her stonework at the Dollar Bank Three Rivers Arts Festival. Momeyer says of making pottery, *"It is the connection with those that use my work that draws me to functional pottery. The first time I saw somebody use one of my pots I felt a sensation that could not be ignored. Pottery invites its audience to touch and interact with it. I had sold and given many prints and drawings to my family and friends long before ever experiencing clay, but I found that after a while they faded into the landscape of their home, which is a lovely thing for an object to be appreciated enough to occupy a permanent space of honor in their homes, but the art was no longer interacted with. There is a beautiful relationship between the maker, the object, and the owner - it is like an ongoing conversation. The owner develops an intimate relationship with the vessel through holding it, eating, and drinking from it."*

The Margie and Tom Pozefsky Fellowship provides an opportunity for an emerging artist looking to grow in their career - a stepping stone to a traditional artist residency program. For the artist looking to further their career through mentorship, this fellowship provides oversight and the opportunity to work alongside professional ceramic artists. Fellowship provides: studio space, living and material stipends, artist mentor, travel stipend, exhibition, opportunity to teach and work in community, sales in Gallery shop, support of the Margie and Tom Pozefsky Committee.

Baltimore Clayworks is also excited to announce the arrival Taiwanese artist **Huang Hung Yu** through our exchange program with the Tainan National University of the Fine Arts in Taiwan. The exchange artist program offers vital dialogue, both visually and intellectually, to the Clayworks community's pursuit of ceramics as a focal point for building community through hands-on, creative endeavors. Huang Hung Yu, is a student of professor Chang Ching Yuan from National Tainan University of the Arts. She will begin her 4 month residency on September 8, 2015.

Julia Walther is a ceramic artist living and working in Washington, D.C. She received a B.A. in Art History at Carleton College in Northfield, MN, and spent a year in the post-baccalaureate ceramics program at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She has worked as an educational assistant at Penland School of Crafts, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, taught community classes at Pewabic Pottery in Detroit, and most recently completed a two-year residency at John Glick's Plum Tree Pottery in Farmington Hills, MI. She is currently a resident artist at Red Dirt Studio in Mt. Rainier, MD and is a newly minted Associate Artist at Baltimore Clayworks.

Walther said of being accepted into the Associate program, *"I am thrilled to be included in this community through my artwork and service. There are only a few great ceramic centers that engage artists and the community alike in the States, and I feel very fortunate that our family relocation a few months ago brought us near one of these institutions. I look forward to the opportunity to connect with members of the clay community at all levels of experience at Baltimore Clayworks in the coming months."*

Baltimore Clayworks' Associate Artists are an extended family of ceramic artists engaged with the organization. While their studios are not located at Clayworks - and several live across the country - these artists add their skills, talents and creativity to the Clayworks' community while benefiting from the opportunities that the organization provides. The Associate Artist program includes resident and fellowship alumni, past exhibiting artists and new artists that are juried annually in May.

Baltimore Clayworks is a not-for-profit ceramic art center located in the Mt. Washington neighborhood in northwest Baltimore. Founded in 1980, Clayworks is housed in two reclaimed and renovated buildings located across the street from one another. This organization offers classes, artists' spaces, exhibitions, and programs throughout the community. Gallery hours are 10AM - 5PM, Monday through Friday, and 12-5PM Saturday through Sunday. For more information call Baltimore Clayworks at 410-578-1919 or visit our website, www.baltimoreclayworks.org.

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