



LLG LUCY LACOSTE GALLERY
CONTEMPORARY CERAMICS

Ken Eastman
Border Country

Ken Eastman

Border Country

January 16 - February 6, 2021

LLG LUCY LACOSTE GALLERY
CONTEMPORARY CERAMICS

Lucylacoste.com | info@lucylacoste.com

Ken Eastman: Border Country

Lucy Lacoste Gallery is pleased to start the 2021 season with the esteemed British artist Ken Eastman's exhibition *Border Country*, created expressly for the Gallery. The work of this modernist master centers around the idea of the vessel. He uses the vessel as a subject, to give meaning and form to an expression. Working through the medium of ceramics, Eastman can be both builder and painter handling shape and structure, as well as exploring tone and color.

These latest multi-faceted pots were made from numerous slabs of clay, shaped and assembled in a spontaneous and intuitive way. This process meant that the forms couldn't be planned beyond loose ideas about scale, proportion and complexity. These vessels with their composition of broad, sweeping planes and layers of color can be seen as landscape, painting or sculpture. Lighting on these delineated sculptures emphasizes the planes and abstract composition.

We are delighted to include the following catalogue essay for Ken Eastman: *Border Country*, written by Glenn Adamson, the curator and writer, who is currently senior scholar at the Yale Center for British Art:

"The Border Country is where I live, and the border is something I'm aware of and often cross." So says Ken Eastman, and the proof is in his work. His ceramics seem built from pure contradiction. Small enough to be set on plinths, they have the commanding presence of whole mountains. Their undulating volumes are formed of thin, flexible planes, yet one could not imagine anything more solid, or definite. And while that concreteness lends them an air of serenity, they also produce a completely contrary impression of vertiginous movement, of turning and tumbling, of sloping and sliding.

I think of Alison Britton, another master of muscular, wonderfully unpredictable, hand-built ceramics. Back in 1989, she wrote of an Eastman pot: "Its pleasures are abstract, it provides a place for the eye to wander in." That reminds me in turn of another British artist, William Hogarth, writing in his *Analysis of Beauty* (1753) of compositions that "lead the eye a wanton kind of chase." Other connections come to mind, too: the sculpture of Barbara Hepworth, the architecture of Frank Gehry, the choreography of Martha Graham, the tailoring of Cristobal Balenciaga. All these figures share Eastman's particular form of genius, to pitch a curve in space just so, and meet it with another, and another, and another, each shape compounding the intelligence of the whole.

Yet Eastman has something going for him that none of these others do (Britton excepted, of course): the affordances of pottery. Uniquely among art forms, it allows for a dialogue between inside and out. The relationship between a vessel's interior and its exterior topologies has no exact parallel: it is not simply a repetition, nor a mirroring, nor a molding, but its own special kind of counterpoint. In Eastman's work, that primary dialectic is echoed in a perpetual series of unfurlings, the pot in constant dialogue with itself.

Over the past few years, in the UK and the USA alike, debates over the meanings of borders have raged. Are they necessary protective barriers, delineations of identity? Or should we see them as acts of violence, cutting across the human fabric? Eastman's work exists beyond such stark opposition; every one of his edges is also a threshold. At a time like now, it's helpful to have his objects to think with. Glenn Adamson January 2021

Glenn Adamson, an independent writer and curator based in New York, and author of the new book, Craft: An American History



Ken Eastman
Rootie Tootie, 2020
11h x 9.75w in

Ken Eastman
That'll Do, 2020
12.20h x 8w in





Ken Eastman
From Granite to Grass, 2020
11.45h x 7.25w in



Ken Eastman
Hilly's Song, 2020
12.20h x 9.50w in

Ken Eastman
Morning Air, 2020
11.45h x 7w in

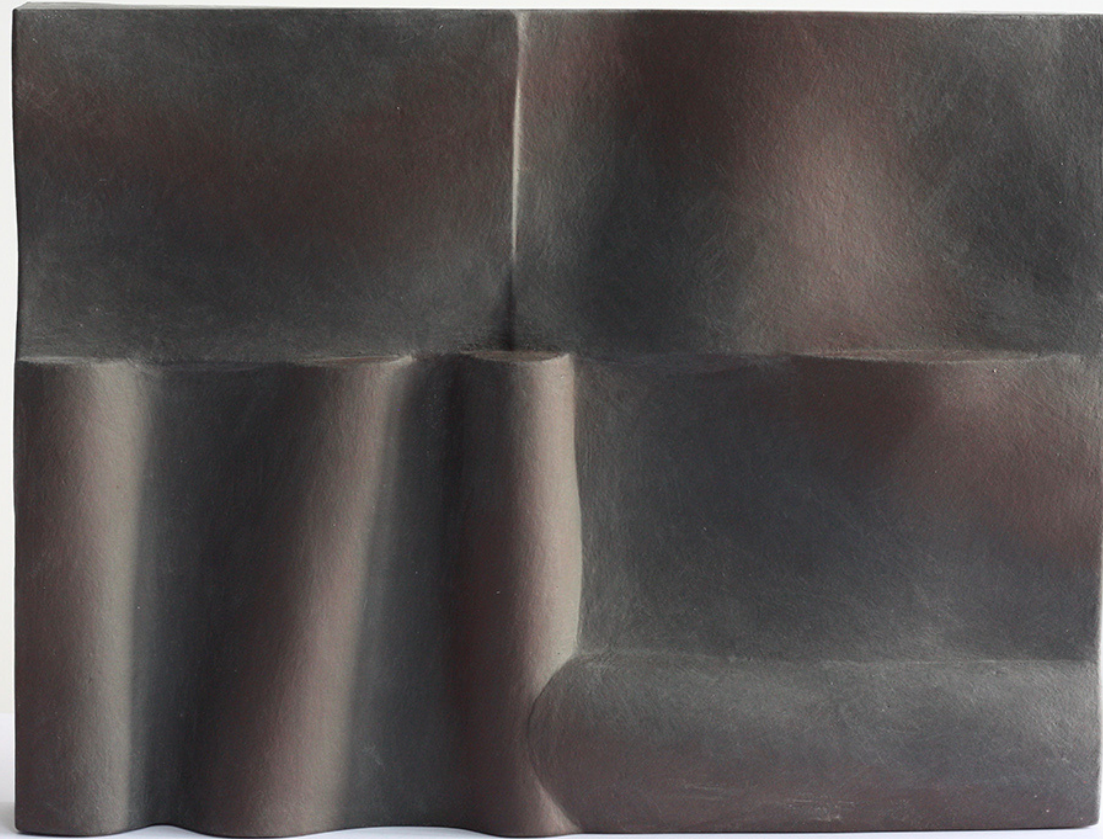




Ken Eastman
Urishay, 2020
10.25h x 10.50w in

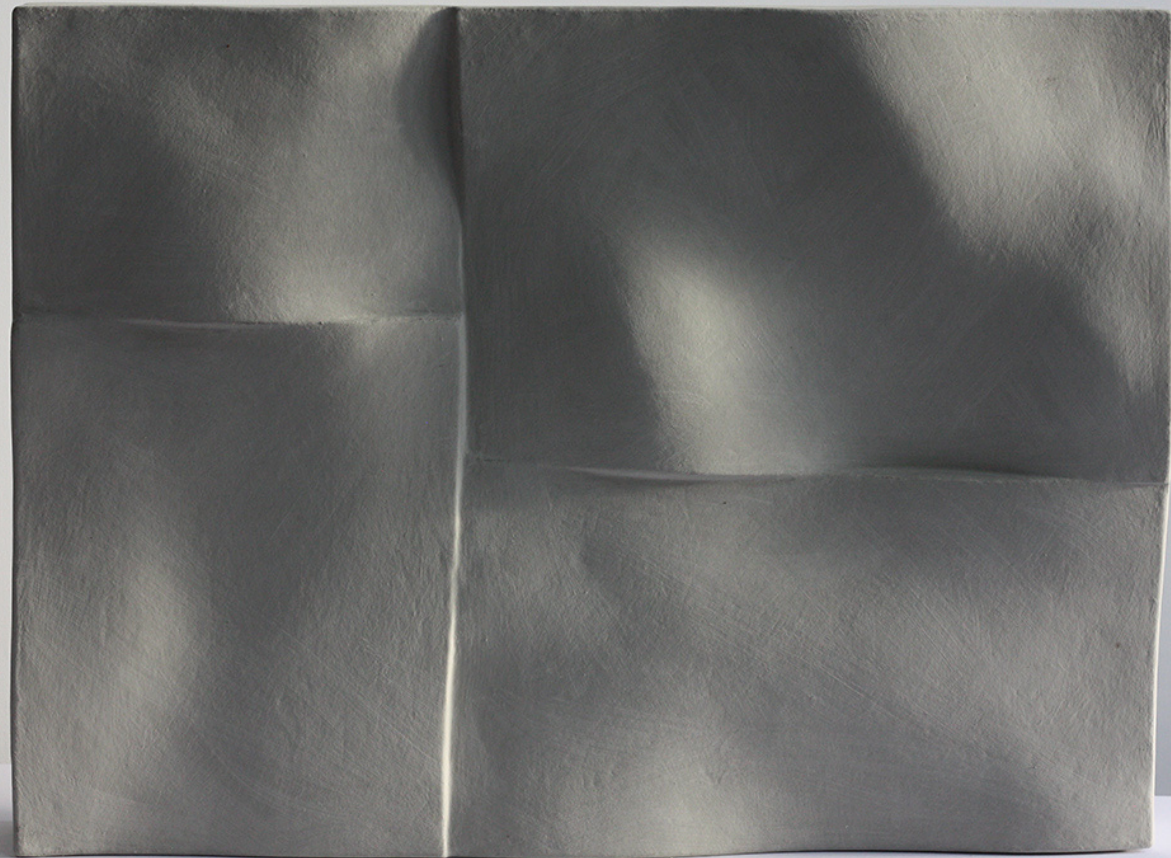
Ken Eastman
Short Story, 2020
10.25h x 10w in





Ken Eastman
Shaping Silence, 2020
13.25h x 17.50w in

Ken Eastman
Somewhere, 2020
13.75h x 18w in



Ken Eastman

Born, Hertfordshire, U.K. 1960

Education

- 1979-83 Edinburgh College of Art BA Hons Degree in Design (Ceramics)
- 1984-87 Royal College of Art, London MA Degree in Ceramics
- 1998-2010 Academic Research Lecturer, Glasgow School of Art
- 2003 Elected member of International Academy of Ceramics
- 2011-present Associate Lecturer in Design Thinking and Creativity, Open University

Select Exhibitions

- 2021 'Border Country', Lucy Lacoste Gallery, Concord, MA USA
- 2020 'Covering ground', Gallery Marianne Heller, Germany
Taiwan Ceramics Biennale, Yingghe Ceramics Museum, Taiwan
- 2019 Korean International Ceramic Biennale, Icheon, Korea
XIV Bienal Ceramica Artistica, Aveiro, Portugal
Blanc de Chine exhibition, ICAA, Beijing, China
'Abstraction', 12th Festival de Sculpture Ceramique Europeenne, Galerie du Don
- 2018 2nd Latvian International Ceramics Biennale, Latvia
'About clay, Pearls of European Ceramic Art', Fiskars, Finland
Solo Exhibition, Marsden Woo Gallery, London
- 2017 '4 British Artists', Galerie De Witte Voet, Amsterdam
8th Internacional Bienal de Ceramica, Talavera de la Reina, Spain, Primer Premio
'Open to Art', International Ceramics Competition, Officine Saffi, Milano, Italy
- 2016 'Contemporary British Studio Ceramics, the Grainer Collection' Mint Musuem
- 2015 'Ken Eastman', Solo Exhibition, Marsden Woo Gallery, London
'Blue and white, British Printed Ceramics' Victoria and Albert Museum, London
- 2014 'Built and formed' Galerie Handwerk, Munich
Ken Eastman and Elke Sada' Puls Gallery, Brussels, Belgium'
Ken Eastman and Suku Park, Interplay' Gallery Marianne Heller, Germany'Open to art'
Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy
'XXIII Biennale Internationale de Vallauris', France
'Sculpture by the sea', Cottlesloe, Australia

- 2013 'Something old, something new' Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2013, Korea
 '6th Festival of European Ceramic Sculpture', Galerie du Don, France
 'Contemporary Spins on Blue and White Ceramics', Lacoste Gallery, USA
- 2012 'The shape of things', Solo Exhibition, Marsden Woo Gallery, London
 The Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition, London
 'James Tower and Contemporary Ceramic Art' Gimpel Fils, London
- 2011 'Printing techniques on Ceramics', Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
- 2010 Contemporary British Studio Ceramics, The Grainer Collection, The Mint Museum,
 USA WCC-BF Second European Triennial of Ceramics and Glass, Mons, Belgium
 Alison Britton, Ken Eastman, Carol McNicoll, Clara Scremini Gallery, Paris
 Modern British Potters', Goldmark Gallery, Uppingham, Rutland
- 2009 Out of Place', Solo Exhibition, Marsden Woo Gallery, London
 5th World Ceramics Biennale 2009 Korea, International Competition, Bronze Medal
 The World Cup, Galerie Frank Steyaert, Gent, Belgium
- 2008 Masters in Clay, International Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition, Jingdezhen China
 International Academy of Ceramics, Members Exhibition, Fuping, China
 Taiwan Ceramics Biennale 2008
- 2007 'Object Rotterdam' with Marianne Heller Gallery, Netherlands
 Ruth Duckworth, USA and Ken Eastman, England, Marianne Heller Galerie, Germany
 Solo Exhibition Barrett-Marsden gallery, London
- 2006 Solo Exhibition, Frank Steyaert Gallery, Gent, Belgium
- 2005 Solo Exhibition, Barrett-Marsden Gallery, London
- 2004 Solo Exhibition, Galerie De Witte Voet, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2003 'Modern Masters', Internationale Handwerkesmesse, Munich
 'Highlights of English Ceramics', Marianne Heller at Hetjens Museum, Dusseldorf
- 2002 New Work, Solo Exhibition, Barrett-Marsden Gallery, London
 Ceramic Modernism: Hans Coper, Lucie Rie The Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art
 'Ceramics as Expression', Ken Eastman and Lawson Oyekan, Marianne Heller Galerie
- 2001 'Poetics of Clay' Philadelphia Art Alliance, and Museum of Art and Design, Helsinki, FIN
 New Work, Solo Exhibition, Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, USA
 'World Ceramic Exposition 2001 Korea', Gold Medal
- 2000 'British Studio Ceramics', Works from the New Millennium, The Clay Studio
 Philadelphia
 'New Ceramics' Solo Exhibition, Barrett-Marsden Gallery, London
- 1999 British Ceramics.2000.dk', Keramikmuseet Grimmerhus, Denmark
- 1998 Constructions: Ceramics & Memory of Architecture, Galerie Marianne Heller Germany
 San Francisco International Art Exposition, Dorothy Weiss Gallery, San Francisco
 4th Cairo International Biennale for Ceramics, Cairo, Egypt
- 1997 Solo Exhibition, Pro-Art Gallery, St. Louis, Missouri, USA
 Ill Manises European Biennale of Ceramics: Awarded "Diputacion Valenciana".
- 1995 Solo Exhibition Marianne Heller Gallery, Heidelberg
 Solo Exhibition: Contemporary Applied Arts, London
- 1994 49th International Ceramic Art Competition, Faenza, Italy: Awarded the "Premio
- 1993 Faenza"
 Solo Exhibition, Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York
 Solo Exhibition: Pro-Art Gallery, St Louis Missouri, USA

Select Public Collections

Crafts Council
Victoria & Albert Museum
Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh
Scottish Crafts Council
Racine Art Museum, Wisconsin, USA
Shipley Museum & Art Gallery
Powerhouse Museum, Sydney, Australia
Gardiner Museum of Ceramics, Toronto, Canada
Musée des Arts Décoratifs de Montréal
World Ceramic Centre, Ichon, Korea
Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Kansas State University, USA
National Museums of Scotland
Museum Boymans van Beuningen, Rotterdam
The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, USA
Museu de Ceràmica de Manises, Valencia, Spain
Museu de Ceràmica de L'Alcora, Spain
Faenza International Ceramic Museum, Italy

The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Japan
Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Germany
The Schipper Bosch Collection of Contemporary Ceramics, Amersfoort
Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge
Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taiwan
Museum of Art and Design, New York
Frank Steyaert Private Museum of Ceramic Art, Ghent Belgium
Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Latvia
Jingdezhen Sanbao Ceramic Art Institute, China
Gallery Oldham Manchester, UK
Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu, Japan
The American Museum of Ceramic Art, California, USA
National Gallery of Australia
Museum Ariana, Geneva, Switzerland

Awards and Prizes

2020 'Special Prize' at the 2020 Taiwan Ceramics Biennale, Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taiwan
2019 'Diploma of honour', at Korean International Ceramic Biennale 2019.
2017 'Primer Premio' at the 8th Internacional Bienal de Ceràmica, Talavera de la Reina, Spain.
2016 'Primer Premi' at the VI Biennial Internacional de Ceràmica de Marratxí, Majorca.
2009 'Bronze Medal' at the 5th World Ceramic Biennale Korea, 2009. 'Industry Award' with Royal Crown Derby, British Ceramics Biennial, Stoke-on-Trent.
2005 'L'Alcora Premio' 25th International Competition of l'Alcora, Valencia, Spain.
2004 'Special Acquisition Award' 2004 Sidney Myer International Ceramic Award Exhibition, Australia
2001 'Gold Medal' at the 1st World Ceramic Biennale Korea, 2001.
'President De La Generalitat Valenciana' at the 5th Biennale Internationale De Ceràmica, Manises, Spain.
2000 'Special Merit Award' at the Gold Coast International Ceramic Art Award Exhibition, Australia.
1998 'Arts Foundation Fellowship in Ceramics', UK.
1997 'Disputacion Valencia' at Manises European Biennale of Ceramics, Spain.
1995 'Premio Faenza' at the 49th International Ceramic Art Competition, Faenza, Italy.