



TESSA EASTMAN
CLOUDSPOTTING

OCTOBER 10 - NOVEMBER 16

Tessa Eastman | Cloudspotting

NEW YORK CITY — OCTOBER 10TH — CLOUDSPOTTING, an upcoming solo exhibition of work by the award-winning, London-based artist, Tessa Eastman, will open at Jason Jacques Gallery Thursday, October 10th. **The artist will be making an appearance.**

Eastman's hand-sculpted ceramic works— colorful drawn and built clusters, arrangements, and structures inspired by clouds and molecules— span the gap between the microscopic and the monumental and have a serious following among art collectors, gallerists, and ceramiphiles alike. **In the artist's own words, she aims “to fix ungraspable states such as fleeting clouds, which represent both the ideal and the perishable, doom, and fantasy.”** These ideas are articulated through a language of color, contrast, and difference: fluid and rigid, ordered and chaotic, soft and unyielding.

Drawing inspiration from the forms glimpsed through the lens of a microscope, Eastman generates works that teem with life and energy. As she picks apart and reassembles the curious, modular nature of growth, structure, and the natural world, a series of remarkable pieces appears to spring fourth from the emergent properties of her visual vocabulary and sculptural practice.

Cloudspotting **will be Eastman's debut solo exhibition in the United States**, and will be accompanied by a selection of historic European pottery from the gallery's collection, on view in the upstairs salon.

Tessa Eastman: Cloudspotting will open on **October 10th**; and an opening reception will be held from **6 - 8pm** at the gallery.

Jason Jacques Gallery is located at 29 East 73rd Street, Manhattan.



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Born in 1984 London where the artist continues to live and work. Creativity and innovation sit at the heart of Eastman's artistic practice and collectors are drawn to the originality, skill and the daring approach she brings to ceramic art. Building pieces by hand, she draws inspiration from organic form as seen through a microscope or in the skies. She explores the strangeness of growth of natural phenomena in which systems flow and digress from an intended pattern.

Eastman's playful aesthetic lends itself to the abstract cloud-like formations or curious and ambiguous sea-like creatures that appear to inhabit her work. Whether one relates pieces to the astral or underwater world, her sculptures are metaphors for the multifaceted personalities of people, which are sometimes biting and sometimes sweet.

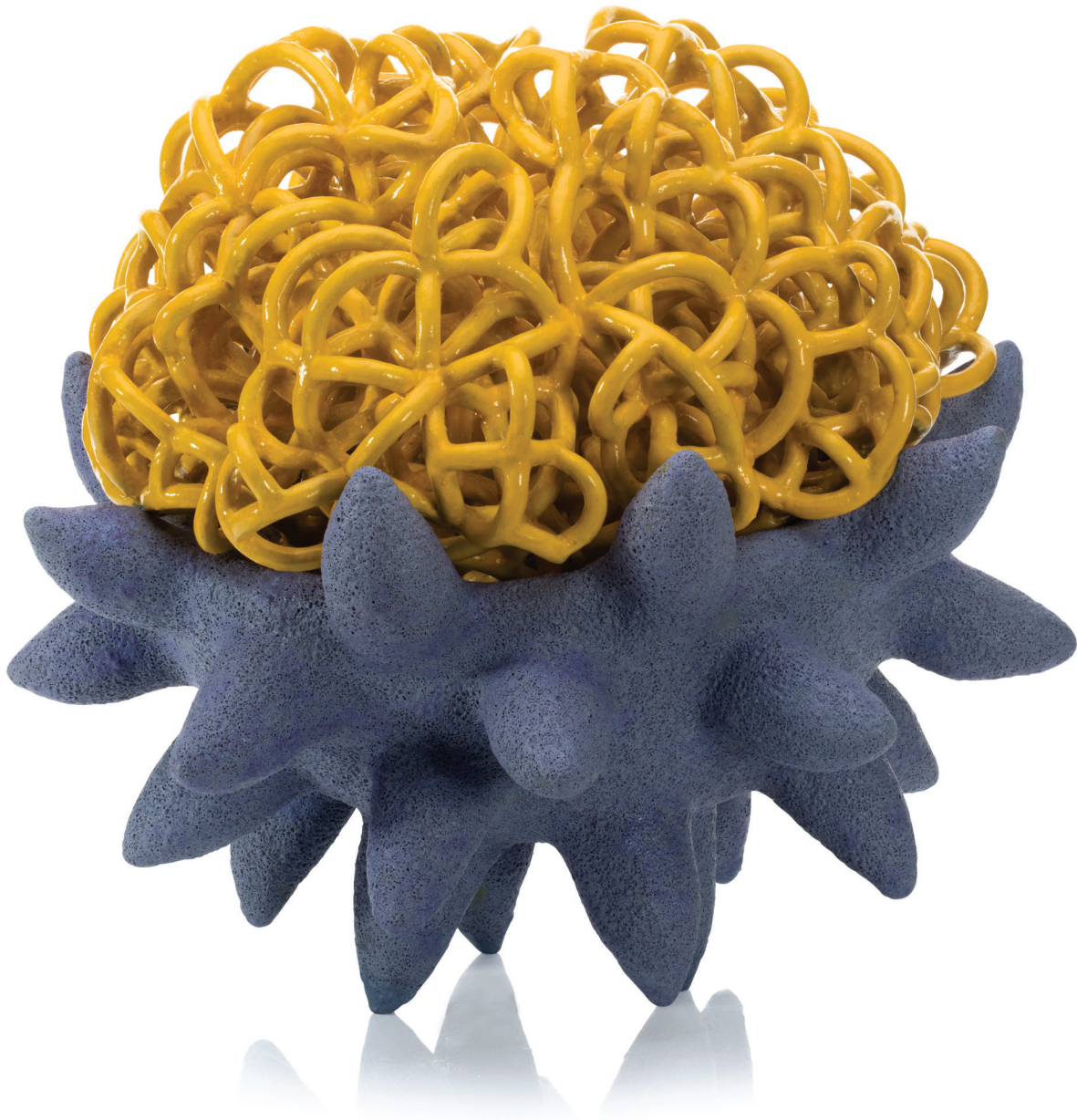


The artist foregoes what is pretty and classical in ceramic history, creating objects that are uncanny and bizarre. The idiosyncratic shape, the combination of solid and open forms, bulbous and interlaced, accretive and geometric, weighs with the attention she gives to their surfaces.

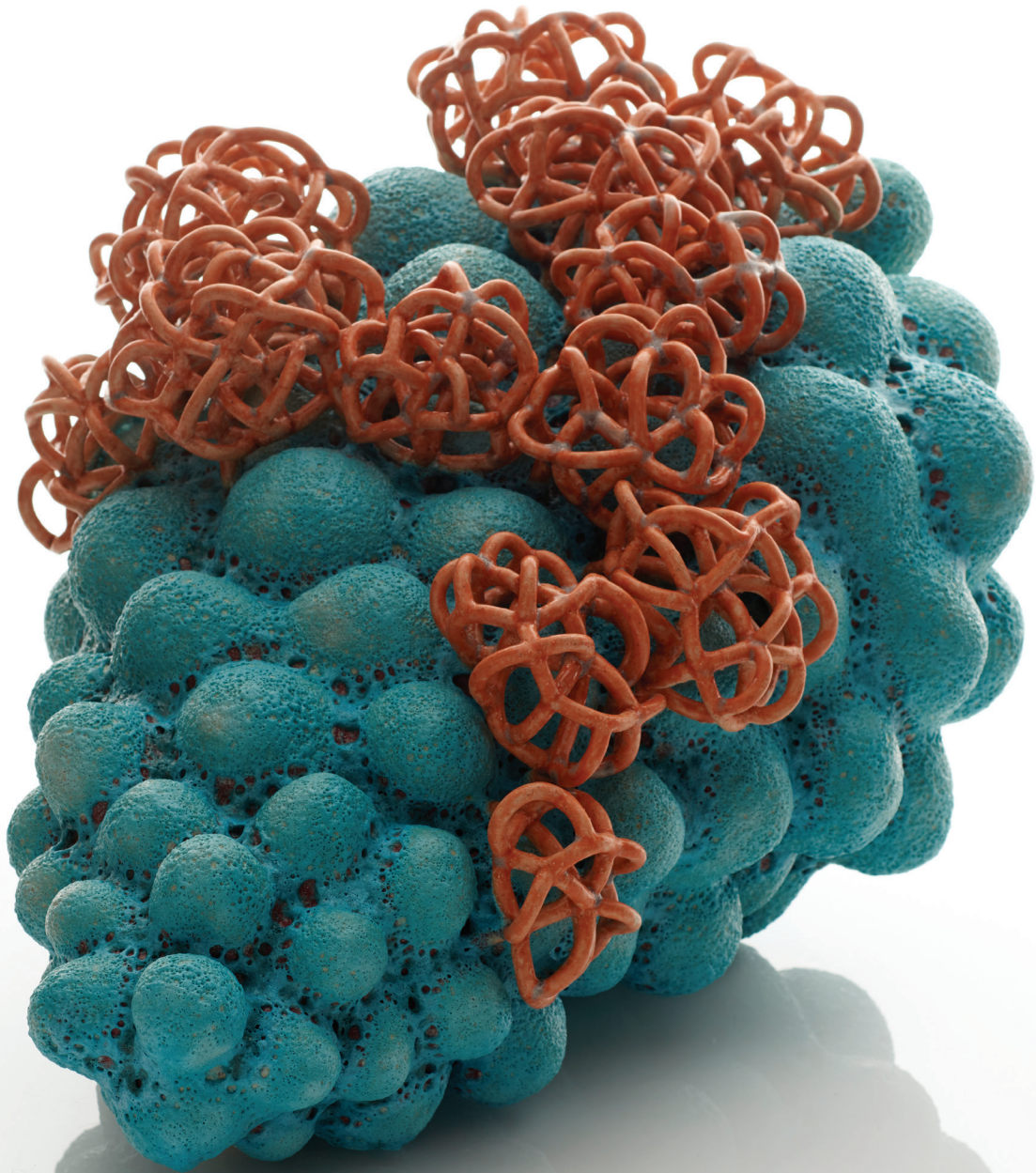
Coarse and smooth, soft and glossy, pristine and weathered, textures are presented in heightened colours, following intensive research into glaze science. Eastman's studio is situated at Cockpit Arts, a community of London's leading craftspeople. She graduated from the University of Westminster in 2006 with a BA Honours in Ceramics, and in 2015 gained a MA in Ceramics and Glass from one of the world's most reputable design schools, The Royal College of Art.

Eastman was shortlisted for the Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramics Prize in 2017 and won the Craft Emergency Award in 2016 which granted her a solo show at Aspex Gallery in Portsmouth in 2018. She has been exhibiting in the UK and abroad since 2005 and her work is shown regularly at International Art Fairs. Her sculptures have been selected for Biennials including the British Ceramics Biennial at the old Spode Factory in Stoke-on-Trent in 2015 and she received an honourable mention at the Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale in Korea in 2017. Pieces have found a serious following among collectors and her work has been commissioned and presented by the financial firms Abacus in 2003, Gresham Private Equity in 2016 and Clifford Chance in 2019.





Pollinating Creature, 2018
Multiple glazed stoneware
13.78h x 14.17w x 14.17d in



Sprouting Limitless Cloud, 2017
Glazed ceramic
13.78h x 23.62w x 15.75d in



Cocoon Cloud Blue Orange Fizz, 2017
Multiple glazed ceramic
14.96h x 16.93w x 13.78d in

Jason Jacques Gallery — History

Jason Jacques Gallery is an American contemporary art gallery specializing in artists working in clay. Over its thirty year history, the gallery has both made its mark building museum collections of late 19th century European Art Pottery and become renowned for exhibiting some of the most exciting and influential international contemporary ceramic artists.

Jason and his team now not only maintain a rigorous contemporary program, but work to foster new talent. The gallery's mission is bolstered by careful attention to the history of ceramics and commitment to maintaining an ongoing dialogue with the medium's rich past.

Jason began his career in Europe three decades ago, combing through flea markets and antique shops for star pieces to send back to American dealers. He returned with a specialty in what he calls the Art Pottery Renaissance of the late-19th century— works by Lucien Lévy-Dhurmer, Ernest Chaplet, Clément Massier, Georges Hoentschel, and the like.

After an explosive work by Gareth Mason caught his eye in 2010, Jacques thus launched a program in contemporary ceramics, the prime focus of the gallery today. By placing Morten Løbner Espersen's vividly glazed confections, Katsuyo Aoki's porcelain masterworks, and Beth Cavener's animistic sculptures alongside the Japonist creations of Paul Jeanneney or the biomorphic inventions of Beate Kuhn, the gallery lends historical context to the contemporary talent on their roster. Artists represented by the gallery also include* Kim Simonsson, Eric Serritella, Anne Marie Laureys, Osamu Kojima, and Aneta Regel.

Jason Jacques Gallery hosts exhibitions, tours, and talks at their Madison Avenue space, located in a historic 1871 Upper East Side Manhattan townhouse, in addition to participating in an international array of art fairs in Miami, San Francisco, Dallas, New York, Maastricht, and Basel.

Works sold by the gallery have been acquired by New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, Carnegie Museum of Art, Saint Louis Art Museum, Wadsworth Atheneum, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Detroit Institute of Arts, and Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, RISD Museum, and the Museum of Arts and Design, among other institutions.

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