

Relational Learning:
ACAD Ceramics Visiting Artists
The First 3 Decades

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Peter Christian Johnson

2003–2004



photo by Genevieve Gaudreau

Peter Christian Johnson received his Bachelor of Science (Environmental Science) at Wheaton College (Wheaton, IL) and his Master of Fine Arts at Pennsylvania State University (University Park, PA).

Johnson has taught at Eastern Oregon University (La Grande, OR) and Pennsylvania State University (State College, PA). He has been a resident artist and visiting lecturer at the Australian National University (Canberra, Australia), the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts (Helena, MT), the LH Project (Joseph, OR) and the Odyssey Center for Ceramic Arts (Asheville, NC). Johnson has exhibited in Australia, Canada and throughout the United States, including the exhibition *Fluid* with Bobby Silverman at Eutectic Gallery (Portland, OR) in 2015 and the solo exhibition *POISE* at Ferrin Contemporary (North Adams, MA) in 2016.

Architecture, labour and time aesthetically inform Johnson's porcelain sculptures. Reminiscent of architectural plans for Gothic churches, the laboriously exacting porcelain structures are transformed/warped during the firing process as a soft, fluid skin of glaze envelops the structure. The pairing of soft and hard in the form of glaze and grid conceptually materializes deconstruction.

Johnson is presently an Assistant Professor at Kent State University (Kent, OH).

“My year at the Alberta College of Art + Design as an instructor and Visiting Artist was a pivotal event in my development as an educator. It provided my first full-time teaching opportunity and will be an experience I will always cherish.... From an academic perspective, I believe that the Alberta College of Art + Design’s Visiting Artist program should serve as a model for other institutions. This position introduces students to a broad range of viewpoints and methods of working while providing a clear model of what it looks like to be a working artist in the field of ceramics. It broadens students’ awareness of what is happening globally by bringing in instructors of different nationalities. Because of the rotating, one-year appointment, it allows the average student to experience four different perspectives during their education.”

Peter Christian Johnson, *The Waste Land*, 2016
 hand-built porcelain with glaze, 73.7 x 38.1 x 33.0 cm
 collection of the artist, photo by Peter Christian Johnson

