

## ***Press Release***

### ***Lasting Impressions at the Crypt Gallery***

**Private View: Wednesday 18th September, 5-9pm**

*Lasting Impressions*: Impressions which convey diverse sensual-aesthetic experiences, impressions where form, idea and meaning converge – all of which pay tribute to the extraordinary role ceramics can play in dealing with complex challenges of our contemporary society. This exhibition highlights the cutting-edge breadth of ceramics as a design discipline and an art practice in the expanded field of today's material culture.

An official partner event of the London Design Festival, the exhibition takes place in the highly atmospheric setting of the brick arches of the **Crypt Gallery** under the 19<sup>th</sup> Century St Pancras Church **18-22 September**. Showcased is an array of personal narratives that suggest new perspectives and ideas, as well as new ways of thinking and modes of action. Drawing on both their own experiences and discipline-based knowledge in their fields of practice, **the exhibiting Ceramics graduates from Central Saint Martin's 2019 BA and MA degree programmes** use the lens of ceramics to consider issues of identity, heritage culture, politics, sustainability, emotional expression, and human-object interaction.

By experimenting with the structural, physical and tactile properties of ceramics, the sixteen emerging artists and designers on show create works that invigorate traditional techniques, thereby expanding and trying to transform what is “given” in terms of contemporary craftsmanship. Here, innovative design thinking is applied across a variety of types of ceramics within different states of permanence ranging from wet raw clay to low bisque ware and high fired porcelain.

Viewers get the chance to interact with and learn directly from multi-dimensional forms of ceramic expression that are inspired by different cross-cultural backgrounds and signature storytelling styles. While some works seek to transform sensuality and personal immediacy into representation, others carry messages of awareness and mindfulness, endeavouring to disrupt normative patterns of thought and behaviour.

Through different techniques like agateware, slip-casting, throwing, turning, hand and slab building, as well as stop-frame clay animation, the cohort of creative practitioners demonstrates the capacity of ceramics to materialise relevant topics ranging from the personal level to society and the environment. A journey through cutting-edge tableware, product design, craft pottery and clay activism will not only show the realm of possibilities that the discipline of ceramics presents, but it will also provide a background for understanding ceramics as more than mere utility or decoration, but

instead also a tool for meaningful action - a beautiful and effective agent of change.

*Lasting Impressions* will feature a 'workshop maker space' where exhibiting artists will create and demonstrate their working processes. Visitors are invited to join the sessions on a drop-in basis.

The exhibition is curated by Merit Zimmermann and Maria Jané.

**Exhibition Location:** The Crypt Gallery  
Under St Pancras Road, Euston Road  
Entrance on Dukes Road, NW1 2BA

**Exhibition Opening Hours:**

Private View and Kings Cross Design District Late Night opening 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 5-9pm  
Thursday and Friday 19-20<sup>th</sup> Sept 1-7pm  
Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 12-6pm  
Sunday 22 September 12-4pm

Instagram: @LastingImpressions\_Ceramics  
#LastingImpressions\_Ceramics

**Artists on show:**

Nehal Aamir  
Ollie Akdeniz  
Ewelina Bartkowska  
Alison Bond  
Valeria Burgos  
Lorne Burrell  
Shane Chen  
Aimee Childs  
Clotilde Chirol  
Georgia Davis  
Karl Favell  
Minyuan Gao  
Merve Kasrat  
Kaisha McGregor  
Jo Pearl  
Leanne Vieira Commins

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