

SUNMI JUNG

ARTIST STATEMENT / BIO

Jung graduated with a BFA from Concordia University, Montreal QC; then onto Graduate Studies in Ceramics, University of Ohio; completed an MFA in Ceramics, Louisiana State University, USA.

Her work has been exhibited in numerous solo and group shows including: Burlington Art Centre, Burlington ON; Muse Gallery, Toronto; Lafreniere and Pai Gallery, Ottawa; Carnegie Gallery, Dundas ON; SOFA, Chicago; Cheongju International Craft Biennale, South Korea; Korean Artist Invitational, Toronto; J.B. Aird Gallery, Toronto; Icheon Korea Ceramics Biennale, Korea; International Ceramics Competition, Lincoln Center CA, USA; New Gallery & Canadian Sculpture Centre, Toronto – garnering awards. She was also a recipient of Ontario Arts Council Grants. Jung's practice is based in Toronto.

“The fundamental idea for my art comes from a journey. My voyage on this journey to recover my identity as a woman, as I travel from East to West. In the past, I felt quite uncertain of my existence as a girl. I am now even more confused as I move into the other side of my own clan. My psychological and emotional state of uncertainty and anxiety are expressed in my sculptures. I often combine the form of human and animal or other shapes as a metaphorical exploration.

I felt awkward in the shackles of social bondage. I was obliged to adopt the identity imposed on me. I was even more puzzled by my social identity because of my lack of understanding of my existence as a simple human. This society itself constantly transforms and disguises through time. It therefore demands that I change my role through the different identities of daughter, sister, and woman.

If I am unable to free myself from these social restraints, and if I cannot see myself clearly, without context, I must come to celebrate my existence within the floating identities. There is a trace of innocence and freedom within this state of the reality in a dream.

My art is music. My art is moaning sound generated from encountering others running after their lives. Just as I do in our maze called Earth. I play different notes as I portray different roles. Someday, hopefully, this music will become my own identity that I have created for myself.”

SELECTED EXHIBITION HISTORY

SOLO SHOWS

2011	Court Yard Installation, Burlington Art Center, Burlington, Ontario
2010	Muse Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
2009	Lafreniere and Pai gallery, Ottawa, Ontario
2006	Canadian Sculpture Centre, Toronto, Ontario
2005	New Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
2004	Carnegie Gallery, Dundas, Ontario
2003	A.W.O.L Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
2003	Circa Gallery, Toronto, Ontario
1995	Court Yard Installation, Burlington Art Center, Ontario
1993	Mississauga Art Gallery, Ontario
1993	Homer Watson Gallery, Ontario
1991	Ashton's Gallery, Toronto, Ontario

GROUP SHOWS

2023	Own the Light, Group Show, Muse Gallery, Toronto, ON
2023	Muse Gallery, Toronto Member show, Sculptors Society of Canada, Better Living Centre, Toronto
2014	Coast to Coast to Coast. Burlington Art Centre
2012	Mix of 10', Sculptors Society of Canada, Toronto
2011	'Diversity, 3 sculptors show' DoSan Gallery, Toronto
2009	John B Aired Gallery, Sculptors Society of Canada '16th Annual SOFA in Chicago', USA
2009	'6th Cheongju International Craft Biennale Competition', South Korea Korean Artist invitational exhibition, Toronto, ON 'Mix X', Canadian Sculpture Center, Toronto, ON
2008	'15th Annual SOFA in Chicago', Chicago, USA Canadian Sculpture Centre, 'Sculpture 80th Anniversary Exhibition', Toronto McDonald's heritage house, 'Mixture of color', Thornhill, ON
2007	Ontario Craft '07, a biennale juried exhibition, Toronto, ON Lafreniere and Pai gallery Ceramic Sculpture Today', Ottawa, Ontario Lennox Contemporary Gallery 'without boundary', Toronto, Ontario Int'l ceramics competition, 'Feats of Clay xx', Lincoln Arts Center, Lincoln, CA Canadian Sculpture Center, East meets West', Toronto, Ontario Muse Gallery, 'Heart to Art', Toronto, Ontario Icheon, Korea Ceramics Biennale, 2007, Korea Canadian Sculpture Center, Toronto, ON
2006	John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON Canadian Sculpture Centre, 'East meets West', Toronto, ON
2005	Junction Arts Festival, Toronto, ON Canadian Sculpture Centre, Toronto, ON
2004	Circle Art Gallery, Tobermory, ON Canadian Sculpture Center, Toronto, ON

	Etobicoke Civic Center, Toronto, ON
	Toronto Art Expo, Metro Toronto Convention Center, Toronto, ON
2003	The Craft Gallery, Toronto, ON
	Scarborough Civic Center, Toronto, ON
2002	John B Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON
	Toronto Sculpture Center, Toronto, ON
2001	Neilson Art Center, Toronto, ON
	Mississauga Living Art Center, Mississauga, ON
	Gallery at Korean Consulate, Toronto, ON
2000	Columbus Art Center, Toronto, ON
	Ukrainian Art Gallery, Toronto, ON
1991	The Craft Gallery, Toronto, ON
	Ufundi Gallery, Ottawa, ON
1990	Roth Art Gallery, London, ON

NOTEWORTHY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

EDUCATION

1987-89 Louisiana State University, MFA, Louisiana, USA

1982-86 Concordia University, BFA, Quebec, CANADA

AWARDS

2010	Ontario Arts Council Project Grant for Individual
2009	Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Grant
2009	Honourable Mention, 'Cheongju International Craft Biennale Competition' Korea
2007	Merit Award, Purchase Award, 'Feats of Clay', Lincoln, California, USA
2007	Honourable Mention, Korean Ceramic Exposition Biennale, Icheon, Korea
2007	Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada for the travelling show
2005	Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Grant (Mid career)
2005	Canada Arts Council Grant for Individual
2004	Ontario Arts Council Grant for Individual
2003	Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Grant
2002	Ontario Arts Council Grant for Individual
2000	Ontario Arts Council Grant for Millennium Group Exhibition
1991	Ontario Arts Council Exhibition Grant

PUBLICATIONS

2014	'500 Figures in Clay' Volume 2
2007	Ceramics Monthly Magazine, 'Featured Artist', January issue, Ohio, USA
2006	'Korea Central Daily' September, Toronto, Ontario

2005 'Korea Central Daily', December, Toronto, Ontario
2004 'Dundas Star News', January, Dundas Publicity, Ontario
2004 'Vie des ART' Art magazine, 2003-2004 winter, Quebec
2004 'Hamilton Spectator', January, Hamilton, Ontario
2003 'Toronto Star', December, Toronto, Ontario
1995 'Fusion Magazine', fall, Ontario
1993 'Ontario Craft', fall, Ontario
1993 'American Craft', winter, USA
199 'Mississauga News' July, Mississauga, Ontario
1992 'Art and Perception', fall, Australia
1990 'Ontario Craft', summer, Ontario