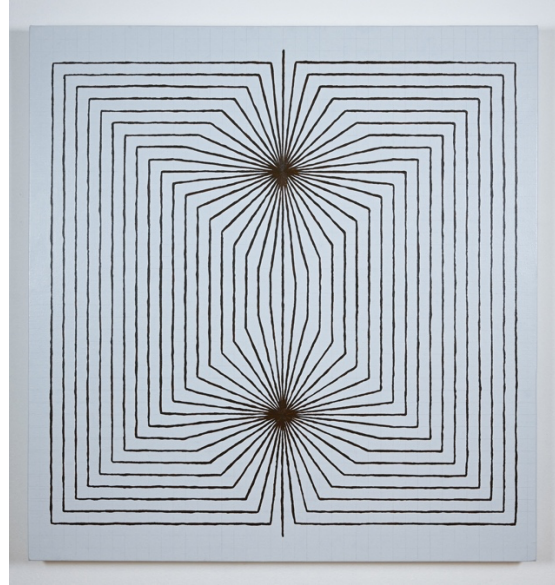


ARTIST BIOS:

Tetsuya Yamada (b. 1968 Tokyo Japan, based in Minneapolis MN) was born in postwar Tokyo where he began studying traditional Japanese ceramics. He subsequently received his MFA from Alfred University in 1997 and is currently Professor in the Department of Art at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Through his ceramic-centered multimedia work, Yamada examines nature to explore fundamental truths about human nature. In 2024 the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, mounted the mid-career survey exhibition with accompanying catalogue *TETSUYA YAMADA: LISTENING*. Other recent exhibitions include *Shallow River* at Midway Contemporary Art in Minneapolis in 2022 and *Coping* at HAIR+NAILS Minneapolis in 2021. Yamada has participated in numerous residency programs, including Kohler Arts/Industry in 2002 and 2009, the Fabric Workshop and Museum, Philadelphia in 2004, and the European Ceramic Work Center in Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands in 2010. He is a recipient of a 2023 Guggenheim Fellowship, the 2001 Tiffany Award, the 2005 McKnight Fellowship for Ceramic Artists administered by The Northern Clay Center, the 2014 and 2019 McKnight Artist Fellowships for Visual Artists administered by the Minneapolis College of Art and Design, and the Grand Prize (the highest prize) at the Gyeonggi International Ceramix Biennale in South Korea in 2011.

[Tetsuya Yamada: Listening at Walker Art Center](#)

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Christina Ballantyne (b. 1990, Houston, TX) is a Los Angeles-based artist working in painting and sculpture. She received her MFA in painting and drawing from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2021 where she was recipient of the Helen Frankenthaler award. Solo and two-person exhibitions include Julius Caesar (Chicago, IL), Hair & Nails (Minneapolis, MN), Sulk (Chicago, IL), and Martha's Contemporary (Austin, TX). Group exhibitions include Felix Art Fair (Los Angeles), Make Room LA (Los Angeles, CA), Andrew Raefacz (Chicago, IL), and Research House for Asian Art (Chicago, IL).

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Erin Smith (b. 1980 St. Paul MN, based in Santa Barbara CA) was raised in St. Paul, Minnesota. She received her BFA in Product Design from Parsons School of Design in 2003 and an MFA in ceramics from NYS College of Ceramics at Alfred University in 2021. Between degrees, Erin worked as a designer in Berlin, Germany, at Target Corporation in Minneapolis, and ran several small businesses while honing in on ceramics. Erin was a 2018 Next Step Fund Grant recipient from the Mcknight Foundation. Exhibitions include Soap Factory, Minneapolis, MN; Concordia University, St. Paul, MN; HAIR+NAILS, Minneapolis, MN; Rochester Art Center, Rochester, MN; Cooler Gallery, Brooklyn, NY; The Center for Contemporary Crafts, Houston, TX; and Mayten's, Ontario, Canada. Residencies include Sculpture Space, Long Island City, NY, and Arts/Industry Residency at John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI.

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