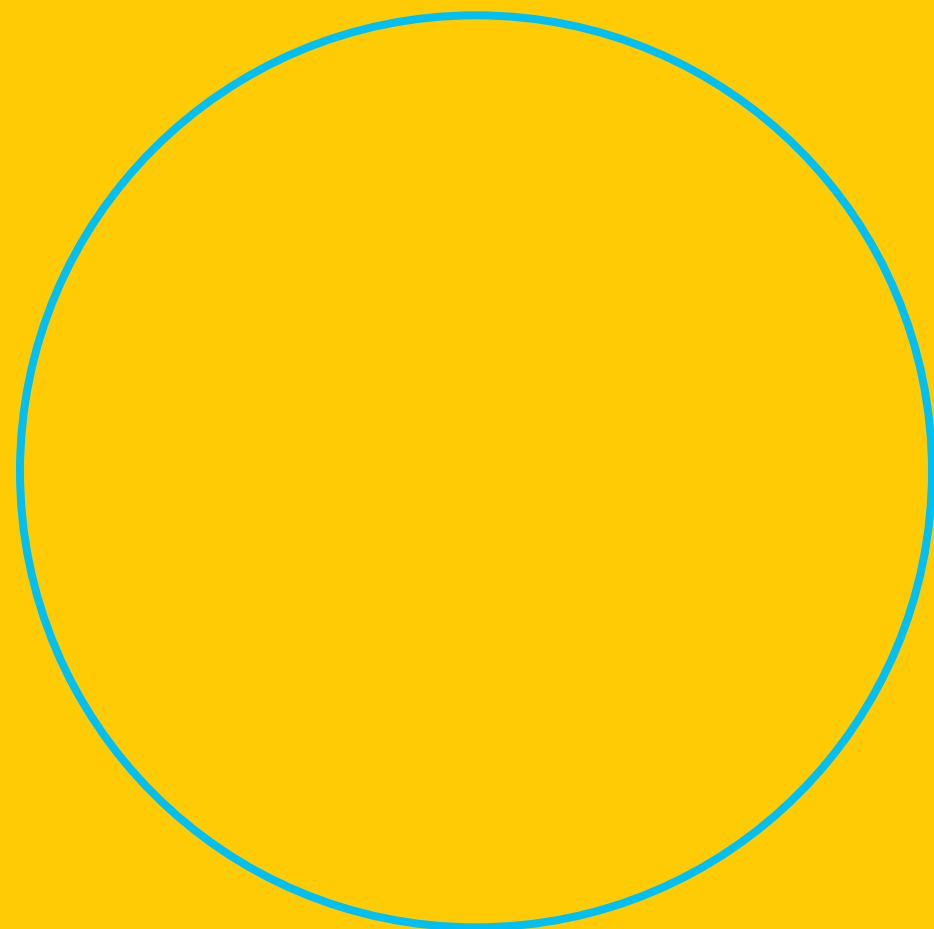


JUN KANEKO special project



JUN KANEKO special project

2004 - 2008



JUN KANEKO

sculptures
2004 - 2008

JUN KANEKO

changing boundaries & scale

Rarely does an artist have an industrial friendship that grants them the capacities to stretch their boundaries. The seeds of the Mission Clay project were actually planted in the mid-1990s, when Jun Kaneko worked at the Mission Clay Products factory in Fremont, California. For two years Kaneko and four assistants created a series of six 11' tall sculptures and eighteen sculptures measuring 8' tall.

Ten years later, a new project began when Jun approached Bryan Vansell about using his largest beehive kilns at his Pittsburg, Kansas factory to attempt something even more ambitious. In April, 2005, three semi trucks rolled out of Omaha, loaded with everything from wooden tools and paintbrushes to forklifts, industrial clay mixers, and forty-five tons of clay bound for the Mission Clay Products factory in Pittsburg, Kansas. The journey marked the beginning of a three-year project in large-scale ceramics.

Jun and his team would live in Pittsburg the majority of the next two years, working at the sewer pipe factory, building thirty-six 9 1/2' dangos, four 8 1/2' heads, and four 13' dangos, the largest of which were built in place in 40' diameter kilns with 19' high ceilings and 12' high doors. They fabricated from morning to late afternoon, daily, during the summer of 2005, and then the pieces dried in their respective facilities under computerized humidity and temperature supervision for a full year. The six-week long first (bisque) firing proceeded in the fall of 2006, during which Jun prepared for the glazing process. He glazed the sculptures over a period of seven months before the final (glaze) firing for a second six-week period.

After forty-five years of experience in the medium, the Mission Clay project is Jun's largest sculptural undertaking and resulted in his largest fired single objects, the second being his prior series in Fremont. Regardless of the extensive tests and experiments, the glaze firing is a trial for the heart of any artist who decides to realize a work in ceramics. Any pieces not meeting Jun's approval would have been destroyed.

With much anticipation, they opened the kilns in September 2007 to reveal a success, and all involved breathed a collective sigh of relief. In early October, Kaneko's team loaded the sculptures onto four semi trucks bound for Omaha. The sculptures were placed in a warehouse, where they await installation. Four heads traveled to New York City in June of 2008 for display on Park Avenue, and have since been returned to Omaha.

All proceeds from the sale of these sculptures will benefit the KANEKO programming and endowment.

The KANEKO is indebted to the diligent focus of Japanese photographer Takashi Hatakeyama, who traveled from Osaka to the project site numerous times for extended periods to document the unprecedented process of creating this series of work. Thanks also to the Pittsburg community and the employees of Mission Clay Products for their hospitality.







COMPLETED WORKS



Untitled
13.5'h x 5.5'w



Untitled
13.5'h x 5.5'w



Untitled
13.5'h x 5.5'w



HEADS







Untitled
8.5'h x 70w x 77d





52ND & PARK AVE. INSTALLATION
NEW YORK CITY 2008



DANGOS



Untitled
9.5'h x 2.5'w

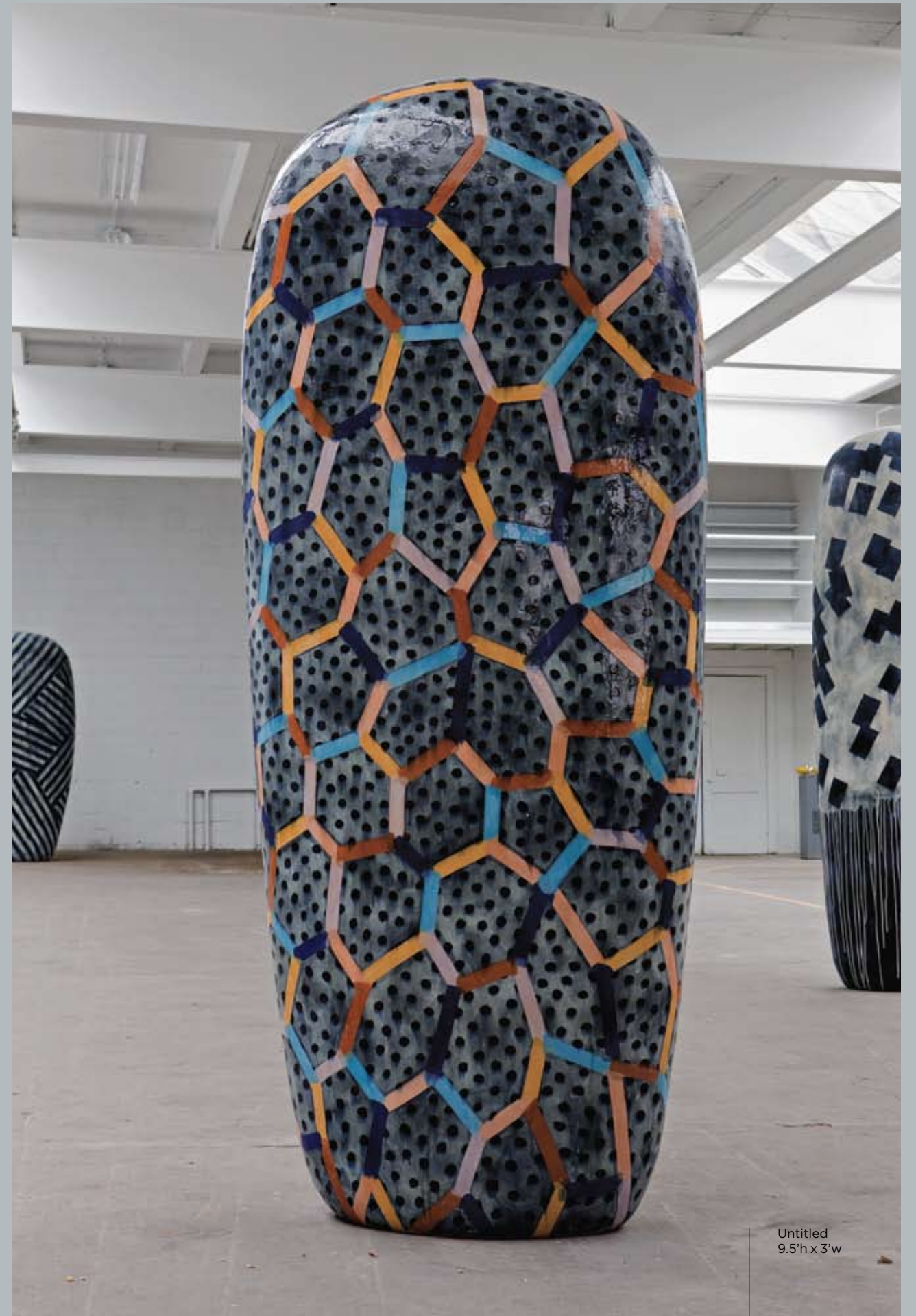


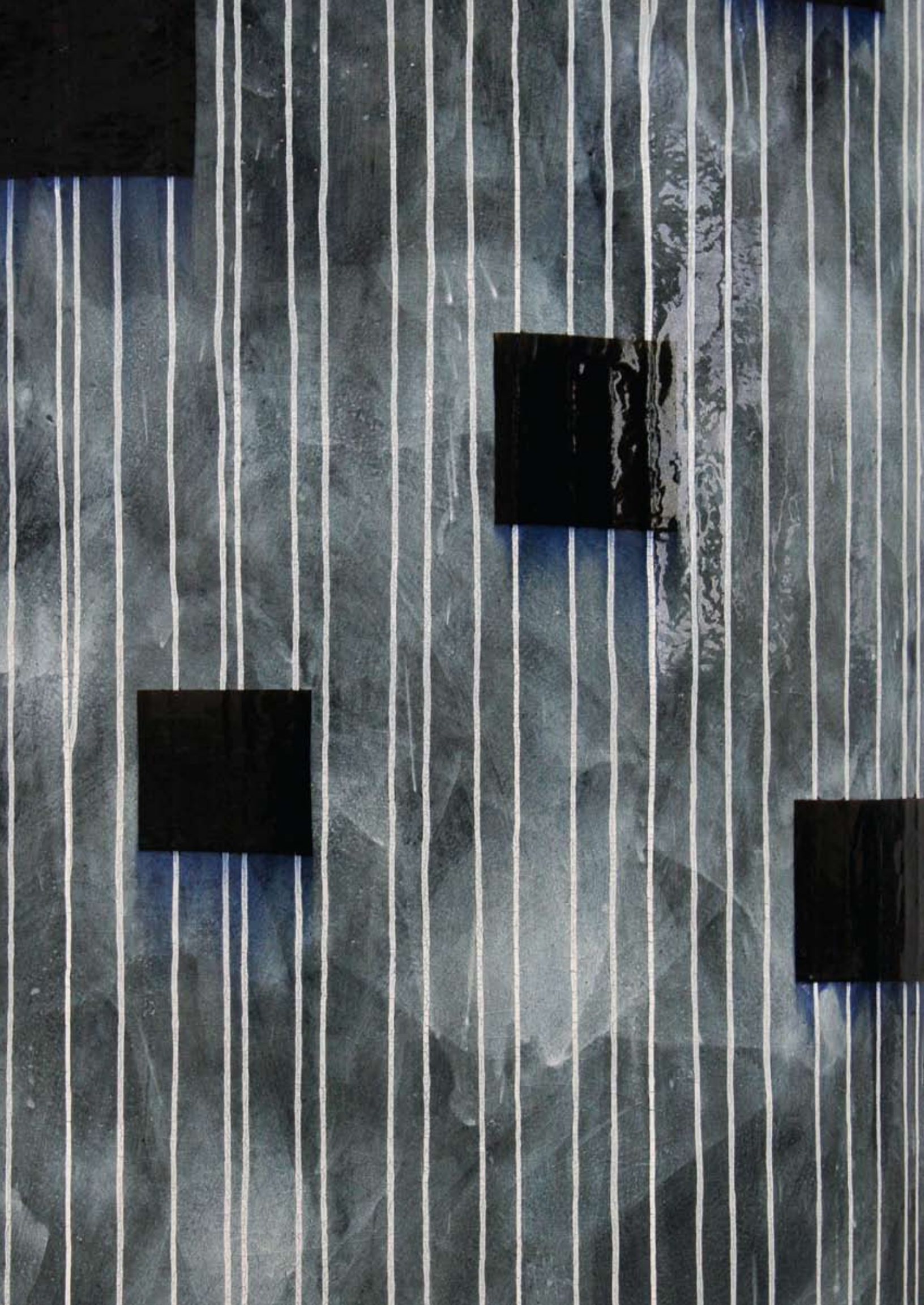


Untitled
9.5'h x 4'w



Untitled
13.5'h x 5.5'w

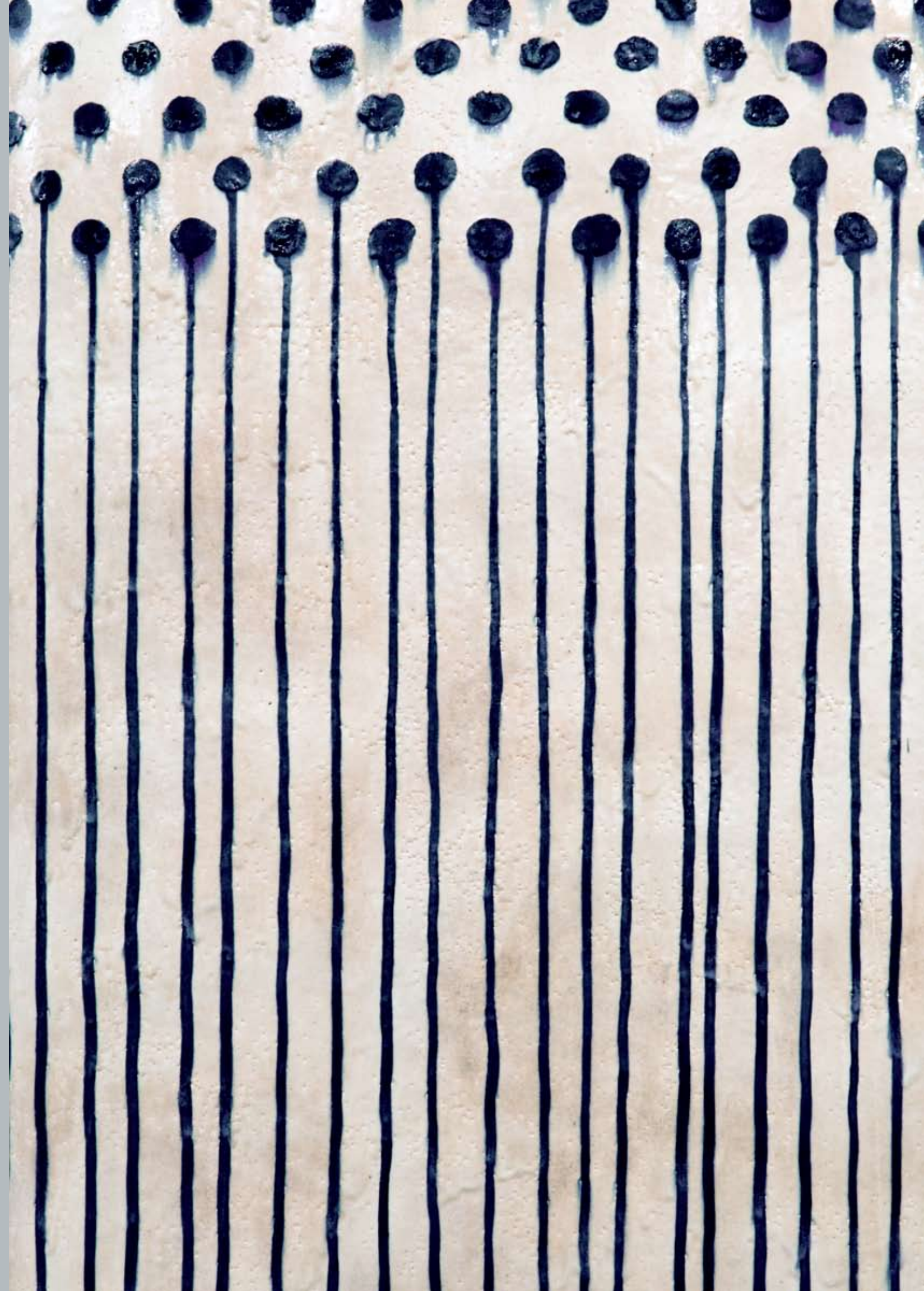




Untitled
9.5'h x 2.5'w



Untitled
9.5'h x 2.5'w





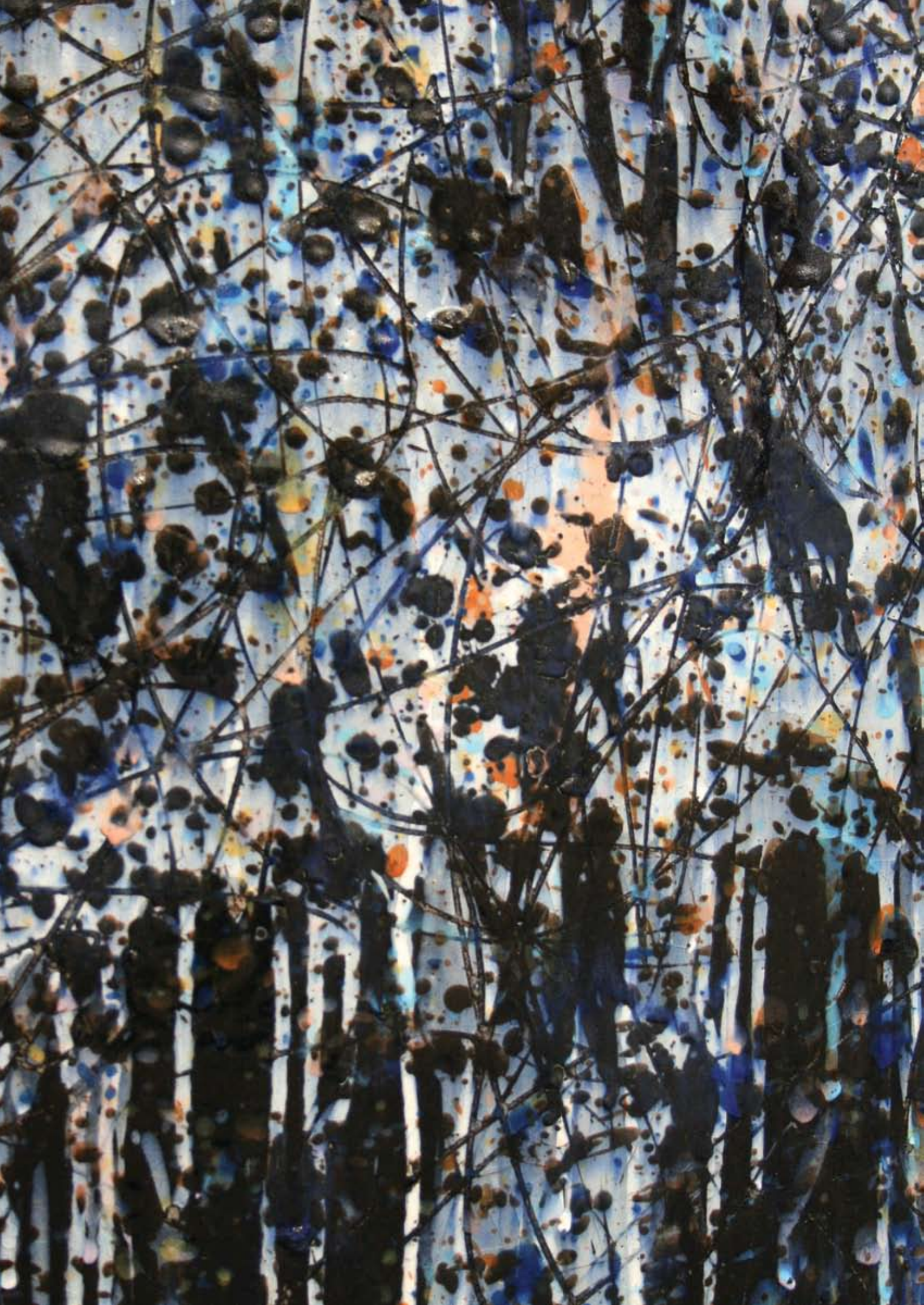
Untitled
9.5'h x 2.5'w



Untitled
9.5'h x 3'w



Untitled
9.5'h x 2.5'w



Untitled
9.5'h x 3'w



Untitled
9.5'h x 4'w





Untitled
9.5'h x 4'w



Untitled
9.5'h x 3'w



I want my sculptures
to shake the air around them.
To stand just like
they should be there
in that space and at that time.
The the form and visual impact
of these sculptures
is most important to me.



PERSONAL

1942 Born in Nagoya, Japan

EDUCATION

1971 Claremont Graduate School, Claremont, CA, studied under Paul Soldner
1966 University of California, Berkeley, CA, studied under Peter Voulkos
1964 Chouinard Art Institute, Los Angeles, CA
California Institute of Art, Los Angeles, CA
Studied ceramics at Jerry Rothman's studio, Paramount, CA

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

1979-86 Cranbrook Academy of Art
1973-75 Rhode Island School of Design
1974 Scripps College
1972-73 University of New Hampshire

FOUNDATIONS

2000 Founder, KANEKO: Open Space for Your Mind, Omaha, NE
1985 Co-Founder, Bemis Center for Contemporary Art, Omaha, NE

GRANTS AND HONORS

2008 Honorary Doctorate, Massachusetts College of Art & Design, Boston, MA
2006 Honorary Doctorate, University of Nebraska at Omaha
2005 Honorary Doctorate, Royal College of Art, London
1996 Fellow of the American Craft Council
1994 Honorary Member of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts
1994 Nebraska Arts Council Fellowship
1985 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship
1979 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship
1967 Archie Bray Foundation Fellowship

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Aichi-Prefecture Museum of Ceramics, Nagoya, Japan
American Crafts Museum, New York, NY
Arabia Museum, Helsinki, Finland
Arizona State University Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
Arkansas Arts Center, Little Rock, AR
Banff Centre of Fine Arts, Walter Phillips Gallery, Banff, Alberta, Canada
Boise Art Museum, Boise, ID
California State University, Sacramento, CA
Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY
Cranbrook Academy of Art Museum, Bloomfield Hills, MI
Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI
European Ceramic Work Center, s'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (DeYoung), San Francisco, CA
Flint Institute of Arts, Flint, MI
Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Arts, Toronto, Canada
Gifu-Ken Museum, Gifu, Japan
Hawaii State Foundation on Culture & the Arts, Honolulu, HI
Honolulu Academy of Art, Honolulu, HI

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS *continued*

Ichon World Ceramic Center, Seoul, Korea
Japan Foundation, Tokyo, Japan
Joslyn Art Museum, Omaha, NE
Lauritzen Gardens, Omaha, NE
Longhouse Reserve, East Hampton, NY
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL
Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, AL
Museum Het Kruithuis, s'Hertogenbosch, Netherlands
Museum of Ceramic Art, Hyogo, Japan
Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE
Nagoya City Museum, Nagoya, Japan
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, MO
Northern Arizona State University, Flagstaff, AZ
Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA
Olympic Museum of Ceramic Sculpture, Athens, Greece
Palm Springs Art Museum, Palm Springs, CA
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA
Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
Portland Art Museum, Portland, OR
Queensland Art Gallery, South Brisbane, Queensland, Australia
Scripps College, Claremont, CA
Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE
Shigaraki Ceramic Museum, Shigaraki, Japan
Smithsonian National Museum of American Art, Washington, DC
Takamatsu City of Art, Takamatsu, Japan
The Contemporary Museum at First Hawaiian Center, Honolulu, HI
The Contemporary Museum, Honolulu, HI
The Marer Collection at Scripps College, Claremont, CA
The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama, Japan
The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota, Duluth
Tyler Museum of Art, Tyler, TX
University of Florida, Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art, Gainesville, FL
University of Iowa Museum of Art, Iowa City, IA
University of Wyoming Art Museum, Laramie, WY
Victoria & Albert Museum, London, England
Weber State University, Ogden, UT
Yamaguchi Museum, Yamaguchi, Japan

PUBLIC COMMISSONS

2008 Kaneko on Park Avenue (06/08-11/08), New Your City Parks Public Art Program,
New York City, NY
2007 Temple Har Shalom, Park City, UT
Mid-America Center, Council Bluffs, IA
Four Seasons Resort Maui, Wailea, HI
2006 Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
University of Nebraska Foundation, Dr. C.C. & Mabel Criss Library, Univ. of Nebraska
Omaha, NE
Bartle Hall/Convention Center, Kansas City, MO
University of Connecticut, Burton Family Complex, Storrs, CT

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS *continued*

- 2005 City of Omaha, Hilton Omaha (Project 2), Omaha, NE
Grand Hyatt Hotel, Rippongi Tower (Project 2), Tokyo, Japan
- 2004 City of Omaha, Hilton Omaha (Project 1), Omaha, NE
- 2003 San Francisco International Airport, San Francisco, CA
San Jose Repertory Theater Plaza, San Jose, CA
Western Asset Plaza, Pasadena, CA
- 2002 Grand Hyatt Hotel, Rippongi Tower (Project 1), Tokyo, Japan
- 2001 University of Washington Medical Center, Seattle, WA
- 2000 Beaverton City Library, Beaverton, OR
Manchester Community Technical College, Manchester, CT
- 1999 Mount Mercy College, Busse Center, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 1998 Waikiki Aquarium, Honolulu, HI
- 1997 University of Connecticut, Biology and Physics Building, Storrs, CT
New McCormick Center, Chicago, IL
- 1996 Aichi-Prefecture, Sannomaru Multiple Use Building, Nagoya, Japan
- 1995 North Carolina State University, Graduate Engineering Center, Raleigh, NC
Yamashita Hospital (Project 2), Ichinomiya, Japan
The University of Texas at San Antonio, College of Business, San Antonio, TX
- 1994 Maishima Sports Arena, Osaka, Japan
Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, UT
- 1993 Yamashita Hospital (Project 1), Ichinomiya, Japan
Aquarium Station, Massachusetts Transportation Bureau, Boston, MA
University of Akron, Polsky Building, Akron, OH
- 1991 Doubletree Alana Hotel, Honolulu, HI
- 1990 Arizona State University Plaza-West Campus, Phoenix, AZ
Phoenix Airport, Terminal Four, Phoenix, AZ
- 1985 Detroit People Mover, Detroit, MI

OPERA PRODUCTION DESIGN

- 2008 *Madama Butterfly*, Madison Opera, Madison, WA
Madama Butterfly, Atlanta Opera, Atlanta, GA
Fidelio, Opera Company of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, PA
- 2007 *Madama Butterfly*, Hawaii Opera Theater, Maui, HI
Madama Butterfly, Hawaii Opera Theater, Honolulu, HI
- 2006 *Madama Butterfly*, Dayton Opera, Dayton, OH
Madama Butterfly, Opera Omaha, Omaha, NE

For unabridged resume and more information, please visit junkaneko.com