

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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de Menil Gallery at Groton School

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de Menil Gallery at Groton School presents

Head On, a solo exhibition of contemporary ceramic sculpture by Sergei Isupov

Groton, Mass. – Sergei Isupov's solo exhibition, *Head On*, will run through March 3, 2016 at the de Menil Gallery at Groton School in Groton. It features Isupov's ceramic sculpture, exploring the literal and metaphoric form of the human head. Selections from Isupov's recent work are combined with pieces from the span of his career, to illustrate a progression and continuance of ideas about the relationships between the head, face, and body. Through this exhibition Isupov wants viewers to contemplate the head and imagine the invisible body, continuing the story on their own and as their own.

Isupov's surrealist works pulse with life in an animated dialog between surface and form. The heads are painted with detailed imagery depicting emotional exchanges between men and women. It is easy to get drawn in by allusions to romance, or mysteries, and then our own imaginations finish the cycle by personal associations. "I chose the focus of this show to be the form of the head, both as a physical object and as the subject to convey human experience," Isupov says. "The subject matter I address on the surface through painted images draws from stories first experienced, then remembered, and finally told."

Public Lecture and Discussion with the Artist

The public is invited to an Artist's Lecture on Wednesday, January 27, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. at the de Menil Gallery. Isupov will share his exploration of the theme, *Head On*, followed by a discussion.

About the de Menil Gallery

The de Menil Gallery is a public gallery and cultural resource to the Town of Groton and the region. With approximately 900 square feet of exhibition space, the gallery offers a unique opportunity to artists to show their work in a broader context.

Located in the Dillon Art Center at Groton School, the de Menil Gallery is a mile and half south of Groton Center on Route 111. Gallery hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on weekdays (except Wednesdays) and 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on weekends (except school holidays). The de Menil Gallery is free and open to the public. For more information please call 978-448-7ART or Groton School at 978-448-3363.

About Sergei Isupov

Born in Stavropole, Russia, Isupov now divides his time between Cummington and Estonia. Isupov graduated from the Art Institute of Tallinn, Estonia in 1990 with a BA/MFA in Ceramics. In 1994 he immigrated to the United States. Isupov has a substantial international resume with work included in numerous collections and exhibitions, including the National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; Museum of Arts and Design, New York; Racine Art Museum, Racine, Wis.; and Museum of Fine Arts Boston.

His work is featured in numerous books, catalogs, and magazines including *Postmodern Ceramics*, *Sex Pots: Eroticism in Ceramics*, *The Ceramic Surface*; *Shy Boy*, *She Devil*, *Isis: The Art of Conceptual Craft*; and *Confrontational Ceramics*. He teaches workshops and lectures internationally at museums, universities, and art centers. Recent residencies include Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, Mont.; The International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary; and Guldagergaard, International Ceramic Research Center, Skælskør, Denmark.

In 2001 he was awarded the Louis Comfort Tiffany Biennial Award. He works in porcelain using traditional hand building and sculpting techniques, combining surface and form with narrative painting using stains and clear glaze. Sergei Isupov is represented by Ferrin Contemporary.
ferrincontemporary.com

HIGH RESOLUTION IMAGES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Contact Leslie Ferrin at info@ferrincontemporary.com



left: Sergei Isupov, "The Boxer," 2009, stoneware, stain, glaze, 26.5 x 24 x 17". Photo: John Polak
right: Sergei Isupov, "Head On," 2015, porcelain, slip, glaze, 13 x 11 x 13". Photo: John Polak



left: Sergei Isupov, "Kisses on Saturn," 2008, woodfired stoneware, 6.5 x 10 x 3.5".
middle: Sergei Isupov, "To Listen with Half an Ear" 2 of 6, vitreous china, 6 x 23 x 16".
right: Sergei Isupov, "Border Princess," 2015, porcelain, slip, glaze 5 x 5 x 3".