

FERRIN  
CONTEMPORARY

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Sculptor Crystal Morey featured in *CRYSTAL MOREY: Venus on the Waves*,  
a solo show of ceramic sculpture  
at Ferrin Contemporary's gallery on the MASS MoCA campus in North Adams.  
September 21–November 2, 2019



Crystal Morey with *Siren: Sierra Nevada Red Fox and Oak*, 2019, hand sculpted porcelain, 16.25 x 6.5 x 6"  
See below for access to this and other images.

NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS, July 30, 2019 — Ferrin Contemporary is pleased to announce [\*CRYSTAL MOREY: Venus on the Waves\*](#), introducing a new series of porcelain sculpture that explores elements of art history and our connection to today's changing, natural world.

Leslie Ferrin, director Ferrin Contemporary, "We are pleased to present Crystal Morey's first solo exhibition on the East Coast and the opportunity it provides to share her artwork and learn about her process through a related series of talks and demonstrations. This new series, *Venus on the Waves*, captures the spirit of a new generation of pop surrealist, figurative artists who use history to inform their practice while adding a contemporary spin by introducing issues relevant to our time."

As a result of human consumption, climate change, and habitat loss, we are experiencing increased responsibility to care for the living creatures around us. Morey's delicate porcelain works highlight these precarious connections and our roles as advocates and protectors of our most vulnerable species. Her sculptures narrate the interdependence between humans, plants, and animals while cultivating empathy for our changing world.

Inspired by 18th century European painting, sculpture, and porcelain figurines, Morey's works in *Venus on the Waves* combine the decadent and ornate qualities of the Baroque with romanticism of nature. Her emphasis on historical female archetypes and their relationship to the natural world echoes the past while reflecting on today's environmental challenges.

Crystal Morey explains, "*Venus on the Waves*, is a new body of work that weaves the magic, narrative and power of art history with our contemporary environmental issues of today. Through hand sculpted porcelain creations, I am building a connection to the past though the vulnerable creatures and habitats of today."

Crystal Morey's ceramic works have been widely featured in publications and exhibitions both nationally and internationally. In 2018, her work was included in *Revive, Remix, Respond* at The Frick Pittsburgh, PA, in a group exhibition inspired by the Frick's collection which was co-curated by Dawn Brean and Leslie Ferrin. Her work has been featured in *New Age of Ceramics, 500 Figures in Clay, Juxtapoz, Hi-Fructose, American Art Collector, Hey Magazine, Palace Costas, Beautiful Bizarre, and Sculpture Review*. Morey received her BFA in Ceramic Sculpture from the California College of the Arts in 2006 and her MFA in Spatial Art from San Jose State University in 2015, followed by residencies at The LH Project, OR; Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts, ME; and the Penland School of Craft, NC. She currently lives and works in Oakland, California.

*CRYSTAL MOREY: Venus on the Waves*

September 21–November 2, 2019

Ferrin Contemporary

1315 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams, MA

Open 11 a.m.–5 p.m. Wednesday–Saturday

#### EVENT LISTING:

##### OPENING RECEPTION AND ARTIST TALK

Saturday, September 21st, 5–7 p.m. at Ferrin Contemporary

1315 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams, MA

Open to the public.

#### WORKSHOP LISTING:

Crystal Morey in *Figural Sculpture: Additive / Subtractive Processes in Porcelain*

September 20 – 22, 2019 at PROJECT ART in Cummington, MA

#### EXHIBITION LISTING:

*CRYSTAL MOREY: Venus on the Waves*

September 21–November 2, 2019 at Ferrin Contemporary

1315 MASS MoCA Way, North Adams

Opening Reception and Artist Talk: Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, 5–7 p.m.

*Venus on the Waves*, a solo exhibition by California-based artist Crystal Morey, introduces a new series of ceramic sculptures exploring 18<sup>th</sup> century female archetypes and their relationship to the present-day, changing, natural world.

For high-resolution images, visit our [press image archive](#).

Instagram @ferrincontemporary, @projectart01026

#### ABOUT FERRIN CONTEMPORARY

Ferrin Contemporary specializes in ceramic art circa 1950 to the present. For more than 30 years, private collectors, institutions, and the media have made it their preferred source for artwork by established and emerging artists whose primary medium is clay. Based in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, Ferrin Contemporary exhibits curated projects and solo shows in their year-round gallery space and through innovative partnerships with leading museums and galleries throughout the US and abroad. For more information, visit [ferrincontemporary.com](http://ferrincontemporary.com)