

**RUSSELL BILES**

b. 1959, lives in Greenville, SC

**EDUCATION**

1977- 1981 United States Navy  
 1986 December 1986: Bachelor of Visual Arts Sculpture, Winthrop College  
 1984 June 1984: Associate Degree in Fine Arts, Central Piedmont Community College  
 1972 Eagle Scout

**SELECT EXHIBITIONS**

2024 "Our America/Whose America?", Ferrin Contemporary Activation at The Wickham House, The Valentine Museum, Richmond, VA

2023 "Just Cause", Mesa Art Center, Mesa, AZ  
 "Are We There Yet", Ferrin Contemporary, North Adams, MA

2022 "Our America/Whose America", Ferrin Contemporary, North Adams, MA

2019 Solo exhibition, District Clay, Washington, D.C.  
 Traveling "About Face: Contemporary Ceramic Sculpture" Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, AL

2018 "Veiled", District Clay Gallery, DC.  
 "Making a Difference, Social and Political Activism in Clay", The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA  
 "US", Clay Art Center, Portchester, NY  
 "Beyond Function: Contemporary Ceramics from the Donald Clark Collection", Springfield Museum, Springfield, MA

2017 "SC Fellows", 701 Contemporary, Columbia, SC  
 Echt Gallery, Chicago, IL

2016 "The Faces of Politics: In/Tolerance, Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA

2014 "Humor", Chautauqua Institution, Strohl Art Center, Chautauqua, NY  
 "Humor in Craft", Grand Rapids, MI

2014 "Mock Bite" Southwest School of Art, San Antonio, TX

2012 "American China" solo exhibition, Echt Gallery, Chicago, IL  
 "E Pluribus Unum" Quasimodo Project, UNC, Center City Campus, during DNC, Charlotte, NC  
 "Humor in Craft" Society for Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA  
 "Fairytales, Fantasy, and Fear", Mint Museum, Charlotte, NC  
 "Cynical Realism" 2 person show, Purdue University, Indiana, Fort Wayne, IN

2011 "Fresh Figurines", Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, MA

2010 SC6: Six South Carolina Innovators in Clay, Columbia Museum of Art, Columbia, SC  
 "DIS/ Arming Domesticity" The Duke Gallery CAC, Wallingford, PA

2009 "Southeastern Ceramics" McMaster's Gallery, USC, Columbia, SC  
 Solo Exhibition, Sumter Gallery of Art, Sumter, SC  
 "Permanently Mad" Museum of Art and Design, New York, NY

2008 "Confrontational Clay" Westchester Arts Exchange, White Plains, NY  
 "Voices" Society Contemporary Craft, Pittsburgh, PA  
 "A Human Impulse: Figuration From the Diane and Sandy Besser Collection", Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

- 2007 "Red State Blues" College of Charleston, Charleston, SC  
 "Domestic Deities: The Figurine in Art" Garth Clark Gallery, New York, NY  
 07 "Gatorland" solo exhibition, Center of the Earth Gallery, Charlotte, NC
- 2006 "Life Insight, The Human Experience" Kentucky Museum, Bowling Green, KY  
 "I Love the 'Burbs," Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY
- 2005 "Korea is Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2005", China  
 "Nouvelle Nuptials, New Vision in Wedding Traditions", San Francisco Museum of Craft and Design, San Francisco, CA
- 2004 "Corporal Identity, Body Language: 9th Triennial for Form and Content", Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY and Klingspor Museum, Frankfurt, Germany

## PROJECTS & RESIDENCIES

Summer 2017 Residency Ferrin Contemporary, Cummington, MA

The Box Turtle Project: The development of The Box Turtle Project, a teaching experience for school children using cast box turtle shells. Provides an opportunity to personally decorate a box turtle shell and learn about nature.

## SELECT PUBLICATIONS

"In the galleries: 'Sea of Change' exhibition sets the voyage on a different course", Mark Jenkins, Washington Post, December 26th, 2019

"Vote", by John Thornton, movie about Vote

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIQwaArq1Ms>)

The Faces of Politics In/Tolerance catalog, Bruce D. Hoffman, curator.

Off The Grid Greenville, Russell Biles, Artist, Online Feature,

<https://www.offthegridgreenville.com/lifestyle-post/2017/9/27/russell-biles-artist?rq=russell%20biles>.

Ceramics Monthly, pg. 16, JJA 2016.

Crafting a Continuum: Rethinking Contemporary Craft, pg 10 edited Peter Held, Heather Sealy Lineberry, UNC Press, 2013.

Provocative Clay catalog, John Michael Kohler Arts Center.

Ceramics and the Human Figure, pgs. 18-19, 95, Edith Garcia, 2012.

Humor in Craft, pgs. 8, 30; Brigitte Martin, Schiffer 2012 (Book of the year Nomminee)

Ceramic Sculptures, Studio Series, pg 166, Lark, 2011.

Masters: Earthenware, pgs. 82 - 89 Lark Books, Curated by Matthias Ostermann, Jan. 2010

500 Ceramic Sculptures, pgs. 202, 274 Lark Books, 2009

Mad Book Museum of Art and Design, Collections Handbook pgs. 34-35 2008

Judith S. Schwartz, Ph.D., Confrontational Clay 2008

Judith S. Schwartz, Ph. D., The Ceramicist as a Social Critic, pgs. 66-69 Clay in Art International, publisher- Kostas Tarkasis.

A Human Impulse, Arizona State University Art Museum, pgs. 42-43.

Gary Ferraro, Cultural Anthropology: An Applied Perspective Wadsworth Publishing Company April 05.

Suzanne J. E. Tourtillot, The Figure in Clay, Lark Books.

Matthias Ostermann, The Ceramic Narrative, University of Pennsylvania Press due to be published 2005.

500 Figures in Clay: Artists Celebrate the Human Form, Lark Books.

Paul Mathieu, Sex Pots Eroticism in Ceramics Pg. 92.

Hollis Walker American Craft Contemporary Figurative Sculpture, pg. 98-99 (review).  
 Judith S. Schwartz, Ph. D., Kerameeiki Techni, International Ceramic Art Review, "The Next Generation of Ceramic Artist in America", pg. 31-36, Aug. 2002.  
 National Examiner "JonBenet Lives On – In Ceramic!", pg. 12, Dec. 25, 2001.  
 The National Enquirer How Tacky Can You Get? Pg. 36 Nov. 13, 2001.  
 The Studio Potter Politics and Clay pg. 89, June 2001.  
 Mark Bureson, The Ceramic Glaze Handbook, Lark Books, pgs. 92,93,98.  
 Ellyn Bache, Biles enjoys rattling senses with his ceramic creations, Greenville News, Aug. 9, 2000.  
 Leon Nigrosh, Erotica in Ceramic Art: Sexual, Sensual & Suggestive, Ceramics Art and Perception #38 (review).  
 Gallery, American Craft, June, July 99.  
 Kevin T. Hogan, Ten-Cent Art (and Other Oddities), Mountain Xpress Oct. 7-13, 1998.  
 Up Front, Ceramics Monthly, June 94, May 97, Dec. 2006.  
 Jeffrey Day, Emotions Take Form in Clay, The State, July 1995.  
 David Windhorst, Artist Deserving Wider Recognition, Ceramist Rusty Biles, Edge Magazine, Oct. 2993.

#### PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Museum of Arts and Design, New York, NY  
 Mint Museum of Craft and Design, Charlotte, NC  
 Arizona State University Art Museum, Tempe, AZ  
 de Young/ Legion of Honor, Fine Arts Museums, San Francisco, CA  
 Caldwell Arts Council, Caldwell County, Lenoir, NC  
 Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, SC  
 Racine Art Museum, Racine, WI  
 Winthrop University, Rockhill, SC  
 Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA

#### RECENT ACQUISITIONS

American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona CA, 2020 (Nuts)  
 Crocker Museum, 2021 (Greed)  
 Mint Museum, 2021 (Ms. Billie Holiday 1915)  
 Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, MA (Seven Deadly Sins series)  
 Mint Museum of Craft and Design, Charlotte, NC (Passion of Andy series)

#### AWARDS

2010 South Carolina Art's Commission's Craft Fellowship  
 2000 South Carolina Arts Commission's Visual Art Fellowship  
 1994 Juror's Choice Award, "The Red Clay Survey", Huntsville Museum of Art, Huntsville, AL