SHAUN HAYES

March, 2025

Shaun Hayes is a ceramic artist whose work serves as both a critique and a celebration of material culture. It challenges us to reevaluate our relationship with objects and the environment, reminding us that ultimately material hierarchy holds no sway. In the end both plastics and ceramics refuse to break down and return to the earth, serving as enduring reminders of our disposable habits. Through repetition, rearrangement, and a tonal colour palette, my sculptures take on a fantastical and comical quality. However, beneath the surface lies a poignant commentary on the tensions of growing up in a society driven by consumption and excess. Micro plastics infiltrate our bodies and ecosystems, leaving an indelible mark on our health and environment.

Hayes received a Bachelor of Arts (Visual), with Honours majoring in Ceramics from the Australian National University School of Art in 2013. He is currently living and producing work in Ngario Country, (Captains Flat) NSW Australia. Most recently he was the winner of the 2024 Muswellbrook Art prize and in October 2023 he was selected for 'Temperature' - an international ceramic art exchange exhibition in Jingdezhen China as part of the Taoxichuan Autumn Art Fair.

Education

2013	Bachelor of Visual Arts (Honours) majoring in ceramics	The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT
2012	Bachelor of Visual Arts, majoring in ceramics	The Australian National University, Canberra, ACT

Solo exhibitions

2023	Single-Use	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
2021	Trashed	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
2019	I Guess this is Growing Up	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
2015	Guilty Pleasures	Australian National Capital Artists Gallery, Canberra, ACT

Two person exhibitions

2018	Introducing, with Jackson Farley	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW

Group exhibitions

2024	Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Represented by Stanley Street Gallery	Carriageworks, Redfern, NSW
	Musselbrook Art Prize Exhibition	Musselbrook, NSW
2023	Taoxichuan International Autumn Art Fair	Jingdezhen, China

	Temperature — International Ceramics Art Exchange Exhibition	Jingdezhen, China
	Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Represented by Stanley Street Gallery	Carriageworks, Redfern, NSW
	Dust Collectors	Tuggeranong Arts Centre, Tuggeranong, ACT
	Melbourne Design Fair, Represented by Stanley Street Gallery	South Warf, VIC
2021	#Group#Show	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
2020	Art in Isolation	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
	Waverley Small Sculpture Prize	Waverley, Sydney
	Séance - Fade to Black	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
2019	3 Sculptors: 3 Spaces	Strathnairn Woolshed Gallery, Canberra, ACT
2018	Beasties	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
	Lifeblood	Grace Cossington Smith Gallery, NSW
	Sydney Contemporary Art Fair, Stanley Street Gallery	Carriageworks, Redfern, NSW
2017	Ceramic Revisions II	May Space, Waterloo, NSW
	Form, Surface, Structure: Sculpture	Kerrie Lowe Gallery, Newtown, NSW
	Counter Culture	Project Art Space, Wollongong, NSW
	The White Room	Stanley Street Gallery, Darlinghurst, NSW
2016	Habitual Ritual	Australian National Capital Artists Gallery, ACT
2014	Emerging Contemporaries	Craft and Design Centre Canberra, ACT
	EASS Exhibition	Strathnairn Homestead and Gallery, ACT
2013	Graduating Exhibition	ANU School of Art, ACT
	Gumbo	ANU School of Art Foyer Gallery, ACT
	EASS Exhibition	Watson Arts Centre
2012	Graduating Exhibition	ANU School of Art, ACT
	Change of State	The Front, Canberra, ACT
2010	Get Naked	Photo Access Space, ANU School of Art, ACT
2008	Higher School Certificate Body of Work	Goulburn Regional Art Gallery

Awards and achievements

2024	WINNER, Muswellbrook Prize (Ceramics)	Muswellbrook, NSW
2020	Woollahra Small Sculpture Prize	Woollahra, Sydney
2013	Subscription Award	Art Monthly Australia
	Group Exhibition Award	Strathnairn Arts Association
	Materials Award	Clay Works Potters Supply

	Exhibition Award	Craft ACT: Craft and Design Centre
2012	Material Supplies Award	Walkers Ceramic
	Group Exhibition Award	Watson Arts Centre

Residencies & Workshops

2023	Toaxichuan International art exchange	Jingdezhen, China
2013	Artist in Residence	Strathnairn Arts Association
2011	Pottery Workshop	Jingdezhen, China

Collections

Work acquired by Woollahra Municipal Council, December 2021

Reviews and publicity

Art Guide Australia, September/ October issue 2023

Art Almanac, October issue 2021

Artist Profile Magazine issue 41, Discovery, November 2017
BMA magazine Canberra, Artist Profile, November 2016
A. Harding, Aust View, Artist Profile, 25 February 2015
S. Pryor, Canberra's Arts Diary, Canberra Times, 28 February 2015
S. Pryor, Capital Life: July 12, the Sydney Morning Herald, 9 July 2014

Web reviews

https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6249459/three-sculptors-on-space-and-reality/ The Canberra Times review by Sasha Grishin, July 1st 2019
https://stephenrrandall.wordpress.com/tag/shaun-hayes/ ANCA Gallery review by Stephen Randall, March 1st, 2015
http://anca.net.au/portfolio/guilty-pleasures/ Guilty Pleasures, ANCA Gallery, 25th February- 15h March 2015
https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6071384/capital-life-february-28/ The Canberra Times review by Sally Pryor, February 26th, 2015
https://www.musingaboutmud.com/2013/08/25/emerging-artist-shaun-hayes/ Musing About Mud by Carole Epp, August 25th 2013