

LEFEBVRE & FILS

CONTEMPORARY ART CERAMICS

presents

José SIERRA
Sarisariñama

May 28 - June 29, 2019

Opening Tuesday 28th May

from 6 to 8pm



Galerie Lefebvre & Fils
24, rue du bac - 75007 Paris
www.lefebvreelfils.fr

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Sarisariñama

May 28 - June 29, 2019

In this series of artworks, Artist-in-residence José Sierra creates an intense cohesion of emotive colors and organic and geometrical forms whose visual language is readily familiar and intelligible and yet, mysterious. Named for the sacred plateau-mountain of Sarisariñama, and its immense sink-hole whose unique habitat is believed to house an evil spirit that devours human flesh, the body of work reveals how the intense and dramatic landscapes of his native Venezuela inform his work. Similarly, the images and memories of coffee mills, intensely colored mountains, as well as pre-Colombian art and architecture of the Andean region of Venezuela all form an important part of Jose Sierra's visual inspirations.

Where the geology of Sarisariñama devours the human form, here the forms reveal the merging of geological and anatomical forms and vibrant and earthy colors reflective of emotional states, producing a narrative between form and color. By altering wheel-thrown stoneware and porcelain, the work fuses organic and geometrical forms that reflects a harmonious play of sculpture and abstract painting. Using abstraction as a vehicle of expression to give free reign to the dialog between the form and the abstraction so that can coexist in the same form.

Sierras vibrant and earthy color palette includes an orange of caution and dark green orifices remind us of impenetrable wilderness and lands of lost dreams of conquest, where the underestimated power of nature can consume you.



JS#14 - Untitled, 2019
Glazed ceramic - Signed and dated
21 x 37 cm
8.2 x 14.5 in.
Unique

Galerie Lefebvre & Fils
24, rue du bac - 75007 Paris
www.lefebvre-et-fils.fr

Visual on the front page
JS#23 - Untitled, 2019
Glazed ceramic - Signed and dated
63,5 x 67,5 cm
25 x 26.5 in.
Unique

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RECENT EXHIBITIONS

2019

The Residency Program. Lefebvre et Fils Gallery. Paris, FR.
NCECA. Eutectic Gallery Exhibit. Minneapolis, MN.

2018

Group Show. Patricia Sweetow Gallery. San Francisco, CA.
NCECA. Eutectic Gallery Exhibit. Pittsburg, PA.
Solo Show. Eutectic Gallery. Portland, OR.
Solo Show. Abel Contemporary. Paoli, WI.
Above the Surface. Lillstreet Gallery Invitational. Chicago, IL.

2017

La Mesa. Santa Fe Clay NCECA Exhibit. Portland, OR.
Solo show. Eutectic Gallery. Portland, OR.
Two-person show: José Sierra and John Gill. Santa Fe Clay. Santa Fe, NM.

2016

Red Star Studios Belger Crane Yard Holiday Show. Red Star Belger Crane Yard, Kansas City, MO.
37th Annual Contemporary Crafts. Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum. Mesa, AZ. (Juror's Award)
Beyond the Brick Yard. Archie Bray Foundation. Helena, MT.
C-File Pop-up Show. C-File online.
Southern Mississippi Ceramics National. University of Southern Mississippi. Hattiesburg, MS.
La Mesa. Santa Fe Clay NCECA Exhibit. Kansas City, KS.
International Cup Show. Clay Studio of Missoula. Missoula, MT.
Hundreds of Cups! Santa Fe, Clay. Santa Fe, NM.

2015

Wrappable. Lux Center for the Arts. Lincoln, NE.
12th Annual Ceramics Invitational. Artisan Gallery. Paoli, WI.
La Mesa. Santa Fe Clay NCECA Exhibit. Providence, RI.
Teacup show. Artisan Gallery. Paoli, WI.

PERMANENT COLLECTIONS

Boise Art Museum. Boise, ID.
NCECA Collection.
University of Southern Indiana. Evansville, IN.
Las Cruces Museum of Art. Las Cruces, NM.
Robert Wright Gallery. College of Lake County. Grayslake, IL.
University Art Collection. California State Polytechnic University. Pomona, CA.
Kamm Teapot Foundation. Sparta, NC.
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art. Overland Park, KS.
San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts. San Angelo, TX.
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Iowa City, IA.
Central College. Pella, IA.
Wichita Center for the Arts. Wichita, KS.



Portrait of Louis Lefebvre
© Paul Jacob Bashour

About Louis Lefebvre

Born in Paris.

Louis Lefebvre left to study in Cambridge, England.

On his return, he began working at Christie's in the European Ceramics department, followed by the Asian Ceramics department.

During the 1980s, Louis Lefebvre started working with his father in his role as a respected expert in Ancient Ceramics. He specialized in historical and large decorative pieces, and later Modern and Contemporary ceramics.

In 2009, Louis Lefebvre chose to re-focus the family gallery, created in 1880. He put in place the gallery's first exhibition of new ceramics. Since, the gallery has explored contemporary ceramics and accompanied artists such as Roger Herman, Eric Croes and Cammie Staros in their interrogation of the medium with a leitmotiv and passion to show the real permanence and renewal of Ceramics as a medium in contemporary art.

Presentation of the Residency Project Interview with Louis Lefebvre

“The residency grew from a desire precious to my family; that is to know and promote a know-how passed down many generations, enabling the creation of complex and unique art works.”

In 2015, you opened the “The Residency” in Versailles for artists specialized in ceramics. What is involved in this initiative?

En 2006, I had the chance to acquire a house in Versailles classified for its historical heritage, once the music room of the princess Elisabeth, sister of Louis XVI.

“The Residency” grew from a desire precious to my family; that is to know and promote a know-how passed down many generations, enabling the creation of complex and unique art works.”

The residency is kitted out with two kilns to make production as easy as possible for artists.

The duration of the residencies vary between 6 weeks and 3 months. Part of the package is that your gallery is the stage for a solo show at the end of the residency. Are all the pieces are exhibited being shown exclusive?

On average, the residency lasts two months for each invited artist. Each exhibited work is unique and unseen. There are no multiple editions.

Each residency is an opportunity to share, experiment and live a human adventure. The resulting solo show is the fruit of work that comes from a strong link between the artist and the gallery.

Not all the artists in “The Residency” are artists of the gallery. How do you choose which artists benefit from the residency?

It would be impossible to establish an admissions process to participate in “The Residency”.

I am particularly susceptible to the production of a number of artists from the West Coast of America. I find their outlook, when it comes to techniques and the work produced, of a very high level. There is a really unique style that comes from Los Angeles.

I trust my eye and my aesthetic sensitivity. I owe many artistic encounters to Roger Herman, a professor friend at UCLA and ceramist artist, and to Danny First, an Israeli philanthropist friend.

“The Residency” has existed for two years, could you tell us your first impressions of how it’s gone so far, and your goals for the future?

I had given myself two years to make the project viable. I’ve achieved this, as well as doubling the turnover for the gallery.

The solo shows have been a great success, enabling me to confirm my role as a gallery owner by placing the artists’ pieces. I also advise and accompany them in introductions to great collectors and museums. Such as Anabel Juarez, a Mexican artist, or Eric Croes, a Belgian artist, who have works in the collections of the Museum of Sèvres.

In addition, the gallery offers the residency artists a high quality of visibility through the participation in innovative international fairs, for example in AAAH Paris Internationale.

This project, dedicated to the red arts, which started with the artist Ulrika Strömbäck continues today with many more artists. “The Residency” has a booked-up program until 2020, which demonstrates that the gallery has opened a new chapter and that the story continues.

Program The Residency 2019

Max MASLANSKY
Nick WEDDELL
Katarzyna PRZEWANKSA
Derek WEISBERG
Trisha BAGA

THE RESIDENCY



Available pictures for Press



JS#23 - *Untitled*, 2019
Glazed ceramic - Signed and dated
63,5 x 67,5 cm
25 x 26.5 in.
Unique



JS#14 - *Untitled*, 2019
Glazed ceramic - Signed and dated
21 x 37 cm
8.2 x 14.5 in.
Unique



JS#22 - *Untitled*, 2019
Glazed ceramic - Signed and dated
59 x 35 cm
23.2 x 13.7 in.
Unique

Practical Informations



José SIERRA
Sarisariñama

Solo Show
May 28 - June 29, 2019
Opening Tuesday 28th June
from 6 to 8pm

Coming

Max MASLANSKY & Nick WEDDELL
July 4-27, 2019



Galerie Lefebvre & fils
24, rue du Bac
75007 Paris

From Tuesday to Saturday
from 11am to 1pm and from 2pm to 7pm
And on Mondays by appointment

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www.lefebvreelfils.fr