

Dryden Wells



Dryden Wells is a ceramicist and sculptor based in St. Louis, whose work is inspired by the process of creation. With years of experience as an instructor, fabricator, and technician of metals, ceramics, and wood, Wells' sense of curiosity and discovery guides his artistic practice. Drawing inspiration from "the act of construction, deconstruction and reconstruction," Wells creates work with polish, playfulness, and a commitment to craft.

"I am captivated by the union of craft, problem solving, ingenuity and creation when working with clay. While ideas associated with oppositions and dichotomies has and continues to be a driving force in my work, I find that the subtleties and surprises of the creative process have the most influence. Both in my thrown forms and sculpture, I am interested in the act of construction, deconstruction, reconstruction. I believe that it is this process of making that creates an understanding of the object and resulting evolution of the artwork." -Artist Statement



Education

- 2008 MFA, Ceramics, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
- 2004 BFA, Ceramics, Missouri State University, Springfield, MO

Selected Exhibitions

- 2021 Art Macao: International Art Biennale, The Venetian, Macao
Perkinson Art Gallery, Kirkland Fine Arts Center, Milikin University, Decatur, IL
10th Namwon International Ceramic Art Invitational, Namwon Chunhyang Art Hall, Namwon, South Korea
- 2020 Yunomi Invitational, Clayakar, Iowa City, IA
17th Biennial Teapot Exhibition, Craft Alliance of Art + Design, St. Louis, MO
Americano Invitational, Clayakar, Iowa City, IA
- 2019 Yunomi Invitational, Clayakar, Iowa City, IA
Biennial Faculty Exhibition, Craft Alliance of Art + Design, St. Louis, MO
- 2018 NCECA, Artist Image Resource, Pittsburgh, PA
- 2017 Contemporary Ceramics, Dairy Barn Arts Center, Athens, OH
State of the Art National Biennial Invitational, Giertz Gallery, Parkland College, Champaign, IL