

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*c3:initiative announces:*

### ***Social Objects***

March 23 - April 14, 2017

Opening Reception: Thursday, March 23, 5:00 - 9:00 pm



**Thursday, March 23rd.** In partnership with the Socially Engaged Craft Collective (SECC), c3:initiative invites you to join us for *Social Objects*, an exhibition highlighting the intersection of socially engaged art and the ceramic medium. The opening reception will feature a variety of clay-based interactive projects, performances, and games that focus on collaboration with communities in Portland. *Social Objects* runs concurrently with the 2017 National Conference on Education in the Ceramic Arts (NCECA), from March 23 - April 14.

This exhibition includes works from 14 members of the SECC who represent a wide range of practices and approaches. Works include Holly Hanessian's Touch Sensorium, an installation work which invites visitors to explore tactile sensations through clay, Forrest Sincoff Gard's Waffle Toss, a participatory pay-to-play game involving ceramic waffles and a foam toaster,

Amanda Leigh Evans' *From and To Dust*, a long-term collaborative urn project exploring death and dying with individuals in the greater Portland area, and M.C. Baumstark's *Menstrual Cup Project*, a fun, de-stigmatizing performance with cocktails and souvenir ceramic menstrual cups to casually approach menstruation and its cultural connotations.

Other works will move beyond c3's physical location such as Nicole Seisler's *Studio Souvenirs*, a series of pressed porcelain blocks that record specific moments in the artist's visit to Portland, Jeni Hansen Gard and Lauren Karle's *Weaving Dialogues*, a tea and conversation project that invites strangers to share an intimate conversation though a guided question left behind from the previous conversation, Anna Metcalfe's *Upstream*, a cup exchange project exploring the Willamette River Watershed, and Nicole Gugliotti's *10690 Wild Flowers*, honors the story of each person accessing abortion services in Oregon (10,690 individuals last year) and raises money for those who are denied access.

The exhibited artists include Mary Callahan Baumstark, Henry Crissman, Amanda Leigh Evans, Nicole Gugliotti, Holly Hanessian, Jeni Hansen Gard & Lauren Karle, Anna Metcalfe, Cheyenne Rudolph, Nicole Seisler, Forrest Sincoff Gard, Michael Strand, Juliette Walker, and Summer Zickefoose.

## **ABOUT SECC**

The Socially Engaged Craft Collective (SECC) is an expanding network of artists who create a wide range of socially engaged art projects that are rooted in the history of craft objects and materials. The SECC aims to promote artists and to expose other artists, educators, and those who are interested to the wide spectrum of socially engaged craft. In addition to highlighting artists and their artwork, the SECC hosts an online platform (<https://sociallyengagedcraftcollective.org/>) that is an open resource of knowledge, news, and professional opportunities.

## **ABOUT c3:initiative**

c3:initiative is a nonprofit art organization dedicated to process-based exploration. Based in Portland, Oregon, c3 connects creators and communities through three distinct residency programs, a project incubator, and integrative public programming. c3 is committed to creating community partnerships, facilitating artistic exchange, and developing educational opportunities by cultivating dialogue amongst various makerships.

For additional inquiries, please contact:

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