# **KELCY CHASE FOLSOM** *hereafter*

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Alfred Ceramic Art Museum 2 Pine Street Alfred, NY 14802

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kelcychasefolsom.com

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## **ABOUT THE TURNER TEACHING FELLOWSHIP**

Kelcy Chase Folsom is the Ceramic Art Division, NYSCC at Alfred University, Turner Teaching Fellow, 2015-2018. The Robert Chapman Turner Teaching Fellow in Ceramic Art was created in 2005 as part of a gift from Dr. Marlin Miller Jr. (AU'54, HD '86) which established the Robert C. Turner Chair of Ceramic Art in honor of the late Robert C. Turner, Alfred MFA 1949. Robert Chapman Turner was an internationally regarded ceramic artist and a highly distinguished professor at Alfred University. The Turner Teaching Fellowship is a non-tenure, three-year position.

#### **RECIPENTS OF THE TURNER TEACHING FELLOWSHIP**

- 2015 2018 Kelcy Chase Folsom MFA 2012, University of Colorado Boulder
- 2012 2015 Ashley Lyon MFA 2011, Virginia Commonwealth University
- 2009 2012 Heather Mae Erickson MFA 2004, Cranbrook Academy of Art
- 2006 2009 Chris Miller MFA 2005, School of the Art Institute of Chicago

### **DIRECTOR'S NOTE** KELCY CHASE FOLSOM: HEREAFTER AND BEFORE

When considering Kelcy Chase Folsom, the artist, I first think of Chase the person. When we first met in 2015 he introduced himself as Chase. What does it mean to go by your middle name? The middle is between. So, does that signal flexibility, accessibility, a relaxing of formality, a signifying of individuality. It is an assertion. Most individuals do not go by their middle name. Did that fact catch my interest? Well, that and his vitality, his curiosity, his engaging intelligence and sense of humor. Chase radiates a forthrightness of being that is refreshing.

That fact is critical to his work as an artist. It is intrinsic to the man and fuels his art making process with originality and integrity. He writes that his romantic life is the substance of his work and notes that he is consumed by desire. A remarkable confession that is a meditation for him and a threshold for his audience. His work, as seen in his exhibition *hereafter*, generates from a very personal place of experience and longing. Yet, it is not cocooned in eccentricity and introspection. Chase is not obsessed or possessed. He is aware. He steps back and allows us to ponder the questions the work discloses. He tempers the inclination of the artist to resolve all questions his art poses and, thereby, opens the work to give on its own terms, as it challenges him personally and articulates for us a universal reveal of human emotion. There is a sense of consciousness embedded in the work that acknowledges the inevitability and the necessity of human desire as well as an awareness of its appeasement through art and poetry.

Material and process are at work here. Chase is a maker. His deep roots in ceramic material and practice have instilled an intuition that facilitates access to a wide range of possibilities. During a facebook live interview Chase said to me in answer to a question about materials: "I think a lot about how ceramic can be anything. You can make ceramics look like anything and that has always interested me. Things that aren't what they seem." One outcome of that insight is the giving to himself full permission to explore inter-disciplinary practice. Chase's method of bringing material and process to concept results in an immutable balance, while his adeptness at illusion continuously fosters mystery.

Chase points out: "These pots that stand in front of you are made of newspaper." They are not what you think at first. This fact confirms the observation that - in life we cannot always count on established assumption. Experience is continually inviting reassessment. Values are open to reevaluation.

Chase's exhibition, hereafter, is an installation that contains a body of work which is further entitled *Myths, Stories and Lies.* Chase's approach to his art via installation is, in his case, a salute to theater, where myths, stories and lies are common ground for truth. He compresses the time between dawn and dusk. He offers up illusions of physicality and tests the reality of gravity. As in theater, we are seduced into suspending disbelief.

Chase carves into his sculptures lyrics written by musical theater, genius Stephen Sondheim as an indirect way to provoke insight and meaning. Perhaps, it is that words must be cut into our material world or sung and not spoken directly in order to appease the sensitivities of the Muse and therefore be made resonate. Likewise, the thoughts and feelings housed in Kelcy Chase Folsom's work and, particularly, the eloquent, impassioned way they inform our own can only be made resonate by his art.

As the Director and Chief Curator of the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, I want to thank Kelcy Chase Folsom for his magnificent, provocative exhibition. A curator is like an editor working with a writer to arrive at a point of publication. When the writer or artist is as gifted as Chase, I believe it is best to simply get out of the way as much as possible. I was on occasion a sounding board and certainly an enthusiast using my position as museum director and curator to facilitate Chase's needs. It was a great pleasure to see the exhibition become a reality. The exhibition was a distinguished success and the process of getting there an especially important and memorable experience.

Wayne Higby The Wayne Higby Director and Chief Curator Alfred Ceramic Art Museum Alfred University



# CLAY IS NOT THE THING, Love is the thing

In the middle of hereafter, Kelcy Chase Folsom's solo exhibition at Alfred University's Ceramic Museum, one is confronted by multiple yearnings. Sandwiched between Dawn, a synthetic sunrise projection, and Dusk, a sculpture of conjoined toilets, is daylight: a quiet pathway of large clay vessel-like sculptures. Or so it seems. As in prior works, Folsom slyly marshals something as quotidian as newspaper into almostfamiliar forms, but with a high degree of embedded affect. In his Myths, Stories & Lies, the technical language of the daily news is reconstituted as malleable material shaping body-sized vessel hybrids, which are then supported by a very different kind of language: romantic snippets from Stephen Sondheim musicals, carved like teenage lovers into furniture, a baseball bat, a ladder and other household objects. This assortment of objects, supports and words slowly reveal themselves to be less muted and more majestic. Actually, Folsom's vessel hybrids are belting out the standards, but I can't hear a thing. Perhaps I am too dense, too ashamed of unabashed love... or perhaps Folsom wants me, like him, rudderless in this wordy fog of sentiment. Either way, I realize simultaneously the unflinching power of love, the gravitas of song, and why musicals are so damn important to gay men.

Folsom's work leans into sentimentality like a big squishy hug, but also acknowledges the darker edges of love: loneliness, obsession and betrayal. In this way, his sculptures are slippery like musicals. They address materiality with humorous irreverence while hewing close to stoic forms (Roman amphorae, a sunset, a wise owl, weathervanes, spears and swords) and vice versa. His work shares affinities with the AIDS-era object pairs of Felix Gonzalez-Torres and the affective copies of Robert Gober, and like them, Folsom pursues ideas and emotions first before settling on a particular medium. While many materials will do, Folsom's history with ceramics is a special one that sings backup vocals in almost every work. Clay's power of transformation is elemental in Folsom's practice. Just as the slick wet yuck of raw clay finds ways of becoming rigid, self-supporting sculpture or gleaming, precious vessel, so, too, do the mundane ephemera of a heart-struck bachelor's life elevate themselves as exquisite objects of contemplation. But in *hereafter*, clay is not the thing—love is the thing.

#### ALCHEMY: TRANSMUTATIONS OF LOVE

Bit by bit, Putting it together... Piece by Piece— Only way to make a work of art. Every moment makes a contribution, Every little detail plays a part. Having just a vision's no solution, Everything depends on execution: Putting it together— That's what counts!

> "Chromolume #7/Putting It Together", Sunday in the Park with George, Stephen Sondheim



Fig I - "Solvtio Perfecta", illustration in Donum Dei: Ortus diviciarum sapiencie Dei, 17th century. Image: Wikimedia Commons

A manufactured sunset, flashpoints of newsmaking history as black diamonds, magically warped bathroom fixtures, and spindly appendages mysteriously supporting precarious weighty vessels—Folsom's work in hereafter traces an alchemical vein. Whereas those medieval chemists are most known for laboring to convert base metals into gold, they also toiled esoterically on formulas for immortality, hermetic wisdom, ultimate gnosis and perfection of the human body and soul. (Fig. 1)Their art was a fusion of science, mystery, philosophy and witchcraft, but utmost, their work was grounded in belief of the transformative. Like them, Folsom chases after the spiritual connections to material transformation: the magic inherent in coercing one material to appear as another, the ability of the discreet artwork to substantiate an emotional act. Not seeking riches, his is a practice of crafting love spells.

The collection of *Myths*, *Stories* & *Lies*, upon first glance, appear to be large concrete vessels,

Fig 2 - Heart-Shaped Bowling Ball, 2016 porcelain, crystal push pins, Pepto Bismol 17'' x 11'' x 1''

amphora of varying size that confront us with a bodily scale. Constituted by pulverized newspapers, the vessels carry the remnants of the everyday. Papery form that was once vibrant with the black and white triumphs and miseries of world events, is now a uniform gray mass. With surfaces as striated as granite or cast concrete, these amphora harken to gravestones and carry an elegiac tone. However, melancholy quickly gives way to absurdity and awe as these forms teeter miraculously on an assortment of flimsy supports: a cane, a broken high chair, a baseball bat, a tiny footstool, a laundry hamper and a folding rack. The graveyard and the home—such queer pairings scope across Folsom's practice. He replaces the alchemist's lab with the domestic sphere as site of transformation. He subs the bain*marie* for another condensing agent: heartache.

Folsom's work here possesses a strong connection to that of Robert Gober, whose poetic sculptures are built from exquisite distortions of material in service of sly trompe l'oeil representation. Gober addresses the mundane artifacts of everyday living—sinks, wallpaper, candles, clothing,



furniture—with the home as a site of both panic and elation. Gober's wonky faucetless sinks, such as *Untitled* (1985) and misplaced drains force us to consider not only the movement of water and its unseen apparatuses, but also to question our relationships to functional forms and their embedded systems of use.

Folsom's approach might be a bit more tongue-in-cheek, but he also finds solace and seduction in the recreation of the familiar. Little Bit of Me, Little Bit of You (2012) and Where Have You Been (2013) initially appear to be giant striped printed-texture wallpapers, until one realizes the designs are hi-resolution scans of lint roller sheets taken from the artist's home and body, as well as that of his ex-boyfriend. Elevating the lowly in another work, To Pry Them Apart (2014), features two toilet plungers made of cast-glass and steel armature that appear to be sucking face. Folsom has often used the playful, sloppy aesthetic of papier mâché to index a more innocent time of childhood making, unhindered by the affliction of love. His Darkest Hour (Fig 4) series of pinwheels in pastel pink shades appear to be made scrappily, but composed in cast solid aluminum their cheerful nature gives way to a brooding heaviness. Similarly subversive, his series of weapons Impossible Power (2014) look like they would only be useful in defending a kid's blanket fort. That they are made of cast metallike their dangerous progenitors-only adds poignancy to their confused state of queer weaponry. Threatened with loneliness or heartache, how does one defend onse self? Perhaps the best defense is not to shoot or slay, but to simply preserve Cupid's Last Arrow (2014) as an reminder of how futile our desperate efforts can be in the face of fate, of how hopeless it all can be.



Fig 3 - *Cupid's Last Arrow*, 2014 ceramic (cast papier-maché), glaze, hardware 30'' × 17'' × 13''



Fig 4 - The Darkest Hour (South Wind), 2014 porcelain, powder-coated aluminium windmill 13'' × 60'' × 13''

#### A LITTLE LOVE LANGUAGE

"Now that we're alone May I tell you I've been feeling rather strange Either something's in the air Or else a change is happening in me I think I know the cause I hope I know the cause From everything I've heard, There's only One cause it can be Love, I hear, makes you smile a lot Also Love, I hear, Leaves you weak Love, I hear, makes you blush and turns you ashen You try to speak with passion, and squeak. . I hear Love, they say, makes you pine away But you pine away, with an idiotic grin I pine, I blush, I squeak, I squawk Today I woke too weak to walk What's love I hear, I feel. I fear, I'm in. [sighs] See what I mean [hums] I hum a lot too I'm dazed, I'm pale, I'm sick, I'm sore I've never felt so well before What's love I hear...''

> "Love, I Hear", from Something Happened on the Way to the Forum, Stephen Sondheim

Chock-full of pomp, gaiety, shrill excitement, dramatic thrall, and a feverish kind of happiness, musical theater is something I have avoided like the plague. I was an art-punk loner, and musicals always seemed to attract a certain kind of person, and outwardly gay person, a flamer. This distancing has long chafed at my own sense of guilt or shame: of being queer but not proud, of being scared to stand out too much in this straight world. Kelcy Chase Folsom's recent body of work forces me to give the musical genre another listen. Flamboyant, loud, annoying, petulant, proud—musicals give cover to a certain tone, aesthetic and way of being that thrives on emotional vulnerability and exaggerated personality. Such outward expressions of emotion are traditionally downcast by masculinity, and therein musical theater becomes a home for femme boys, gender-benders, queers and those who are just too big for the straight life.

Lyrics, songs, expressions and sayings-language

is rendered materially in Folsom's hands, and he liberates fully the bravado, levity and emotional affect from such words in his work. As seen in his titles, language is also one of Folsom's most critical tools. Intermittently saccharine or irreverent, his titles are stand-ins for an absent material, namely, the love story behind the work. And like the title of a standout song, they are just as often a barb/ poke/jest/plee to an unnamed addressee...they pull on our heartstrings, they make us pine.

A previous work, Just What Have I Done To Deserve This (2011), is comprised of the entire lyrics to the Petshop Boys song of the same title. Written in liquid paint and peeled off, the lyrics become skinlike tendrils, which Folsom drapes over an archway, reminiscent of the mandatory photo prop at high school proms. In Folsom's hilarious "easy" series from 2016, the titles' meaning is slippery across varied forms: scribbled on a ceramic dildo (Fig. 5), cheaply embroidered on a hand towel, sandblasted on a gravy boat. Does "easy" refer to simplicity and boredom, as the word spelled out in paperclips or



Fig 5 - Untitled (instant), 2016 porcelain, glaze, Sharpie marker 7.5'' × 3'' × 3''



Fig 6 - Just What Have I Done To Deserve This, 2011 ceramic, steel, lyrics from the Pet Shop Boys song "What Have I Done To Deserve This" spelled out in interior latex paint 9" × 5' × 1.5' monotonously rughooked suggests? Or does "easy" take on an unspecified sexual dimension as either a jealous barb at a loose lover or a laughing pride in one's own sluttiness? Folsom keeps us wondering, but the multiplicity and vagueness point at love's own fickle and obsessive nature, as Sondheim so perfectly captures in "Love, I Hear."

While not new in his practice, the inclusion of text is his most direct and bold in *hereafter*. The exhibition opens with two small twin works, *Heart-Shaped Bowling Ball* (2016), made of porcelain sheets held up with crystal push pins and soaked in Pepto Bismol. At once funny and lonesome, the work is medicine for the heartache and winsomeness you are about to endure.

While the words are somewhat discreet, I find myself spinning around an object swirl of musical lyrics carved into the dumpy household things that ironically prop up the newspaper pulp vessels of the Myths, Stories & Lies. This is a strange place to find Stephen Sondheim. Or is it? Text is not only carved into the supports, it constitutes the metaphoric crutch of Folsom's romantic persuasions. At the size of his body and looming, Forever Never Urn is supported by such a wishy-washy utterance carved forlornly around the chunky base of a petite footstool. A rotund vessel from, Unknowning, perches perkily atop a beat-up wicker laundry hamper whose flap goofily warbles: "I'm changing/ You're changing". The lyrical source is a conversation about shifting notions of beauty between a mother and her artist son, from the song "Beautiful", of Sunday in the Park with George by Stephen Sondheim. Here, Folsom seems to eschew its high-brow context—"Of course we're all changing!" As it populates Folsom's work, Sondheim's language reifies Folsom's emotionally and romantically-loaded context, but the artist also twists it into a darker, more complex rumination on self-gratification.

#### TIME AND TOGETHERNESS

All of *hereafter* is nestled within the span of a single day, passing from sunrise to sunset, from dawn to dusk. Time, whether ephemeral or impossibly long, is a foundational component of Folsom's oeuvre. Time is waiting; time is desire; time is desperate; time is together.

Sunrise opens the show with a view of the mechanical ways we create and recreate the fleeting and sentimental. *Dream On*, a landscaper's stand, holds a precise arrangement of plexi-glass sheets and flashlight to cast a small sunrise on the adjacent wall.

Passing through the day, across the gallery, I near sunset, a more imaginative experience. Behind a swath of gauzy cotton curtains dyed the palest pink, there is a toilet, the seat of which is stretched out in extraordinary proportion. In the nearby gallery stairwell, another divergent toilet stretches horizontally, becoming a prime bench. Seemingly porcelain, but actually composed of maple wood and automobile enamel, these commodes appear to lampoon the sanctity of the restroom. Time-for relaxation, for togetherness-coalesces in these Hot Seats. Folsom's queer toilets are elongated, drawn out to accommodate a leisurely recline or provide space for one's friends and lovers to join one another in happy defecation. I find myself wondering if the sleaziness of the urinal trough at the gay bathhouse has been transmutated into this wacky domestic form? Folsom asks the viewer to consider the time we spend so intimately with these grotesque porcelain objects-why aren't they more contemplative or communal forms?

I am reminded of a work of Folsom's from several years ago that will stick with me forever. Using a *New Yorker* article by Daniel Mendelsohn titled "The American Boy" as his substrate, Folsom paints seven process scenes of *How to Make Prune Juice (for Two)*. The deeply maudlin work that charismatically forecasts a life of growing old together, seems a progenitor of the *Hot Seat* series. It is the ultimate wish fulfillment:



Fig 7 - How To Make Prune Juice (for two), 2013 acrylic and gouache on top of The New Yorker article "The American Boy" by Daniel Mendelsohn 7.5 "  $\times$  10.75" each

boys making healthy laxatives, pooping together and living happily ever after. A lovely queer domesticity that also seems so impossibly out of reach.

Another gay forefather of Folsom's is the late Felix Gonzalez Torres, an ambitious young artist whose entire body of work focused on the AIDS epidemic and its impact on gay lives and relationships. In a seminal work, *Untitled (Perfect Lovers)* (1991) two clocks placed side-by-side are turned to the exact same hour. In another, *Untitled* (1991) a photograph shows two pillows that hold the memory of two heads in their wrinkles and folds. Bodies are present in these absences, and their relationship or togetherness as represented in these objects speaks to the silence and invisibility faced by most gay couples, as well as the historic refusal to recognize such affectionate bonds.

Closing the show, I arrive at dusk, or Vela, an assortment of framed newspaper clippings, smeared and splattered in charcoal and folded intricately to mimic nighttime constellations. With headlines focused on the Obama presidency and the death of Princess Diana, the artist offers cultural milestones as a way of marking time. These newspaper works look outward, but they represent a familiar theme of loss. Like Robert Gober's Newspaper (1992), stacks of hand-printed newspapers, neatly bound for delivery and unrecognizably different from the actual, Vela calls to mind the immediacy of headlines, which fade so instantly from memory, despite the historic or emotional weight of such bold words. Lady Diana, who was a gay icon before her tragic death, was credited with adding a touch of modern humanity to the British royal family. Similarly, President Barack



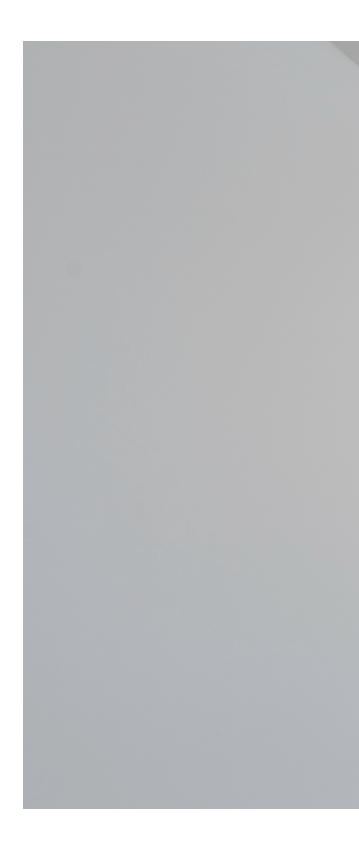
Obama ushered in a new liberal era of American culture, with expansions of healthcare, civil rights protections and gay marriage. Chimerically hidden in each work is a glinty speck of black diamond. The toughest form of natural diamond, "black" or "carbanado" diamonds are believed to come from interstellar asteroid or meteorite impact collisions. Connecting these rare human gems to the celestial stars, Folsom preserves their legacies in the space of deep dusk. And while the growing darkness, the end of the day, is somber, it also just marks a time to rest. Tomorrow will cycle round and the news will again be new.

For Folsom, the sun will always rise and set on someone. And love will be complicated love. Searching for it, Folsom has been fooling us with materials, transforming the quotidian into powerful reminders of object relations, and chasing love down rabbit holes for quite some time. Folsom fearlessly turns a ceramic practice away from clay, re-centering materiality by relational proximity to his subject at hand. He transforms the seeming "nothingness" of everyday stuff into transcendent and sublime monuments of his romantic quest.

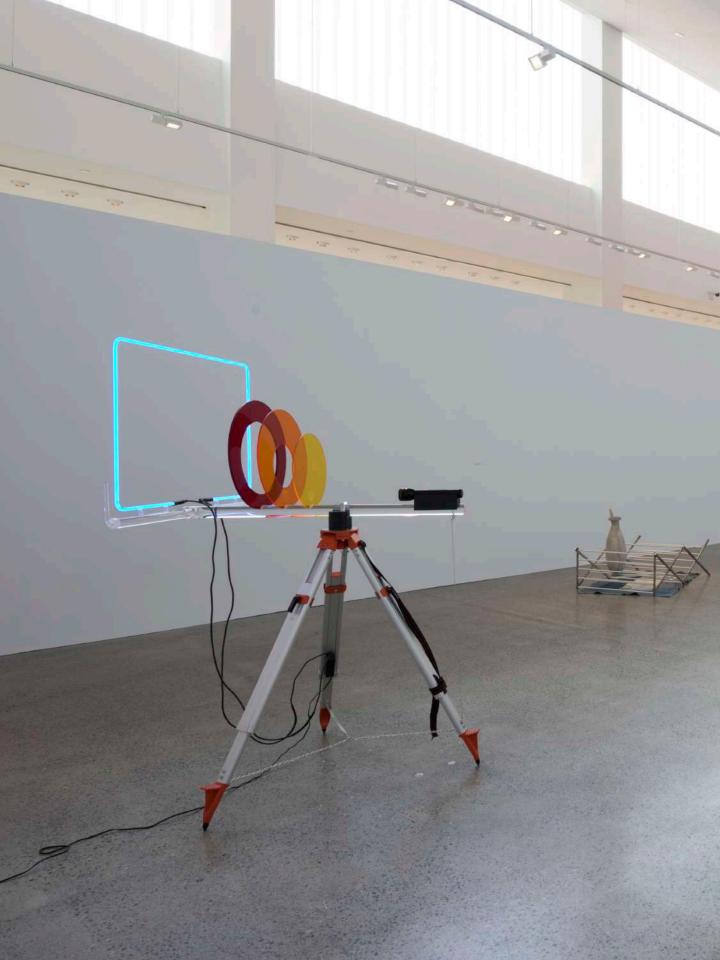
#### WRITER BIO

Aaron McIntosh is a fourth generation quiltmaker, crossdisciplinary artist and critical craft writer. He has exhibited work widely throughout the United States and his critical writing has appeared in the Brooklyn Rail, Hyperallergic, and the Journal of Modern Craft. McIntosh currently lives and works in Richmond, VA, where he is Assistant Professor and Fiber Area Head in VCU's Department of Craft/Material Studies.

www.aaronmcintosh.com

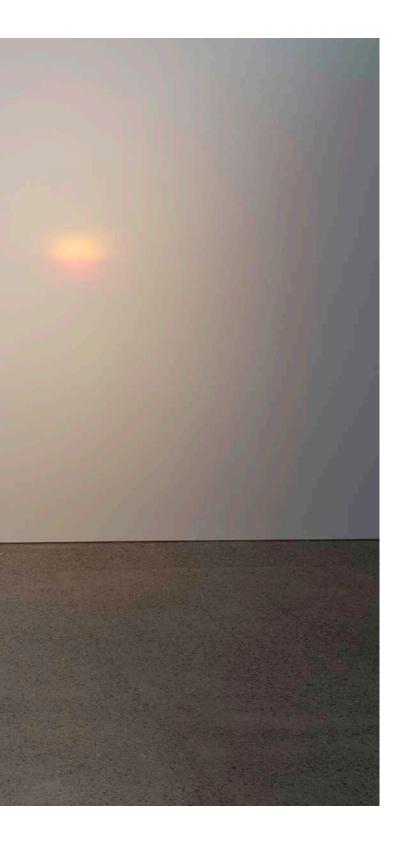


# Kelcy Chase Folsom hereafter













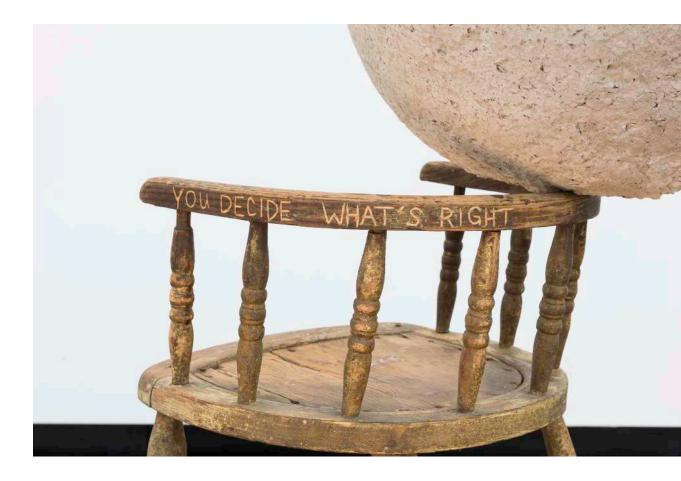


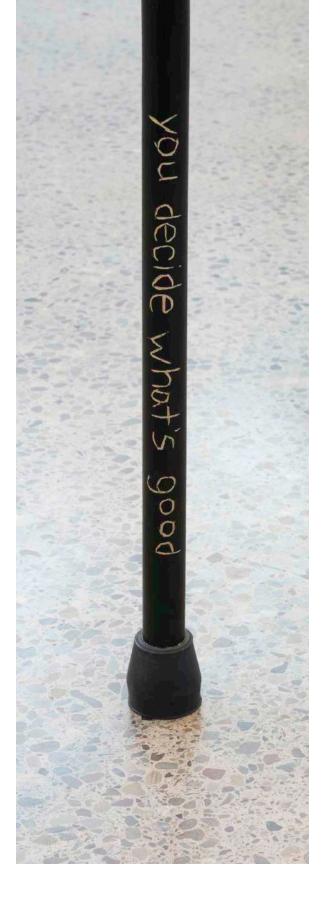




























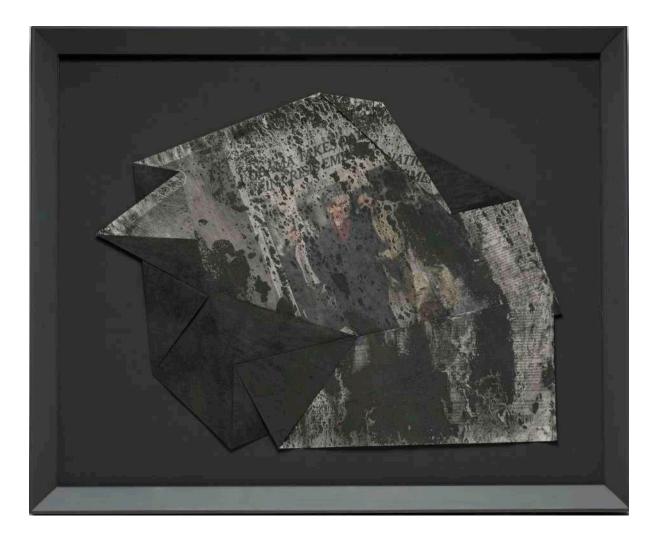


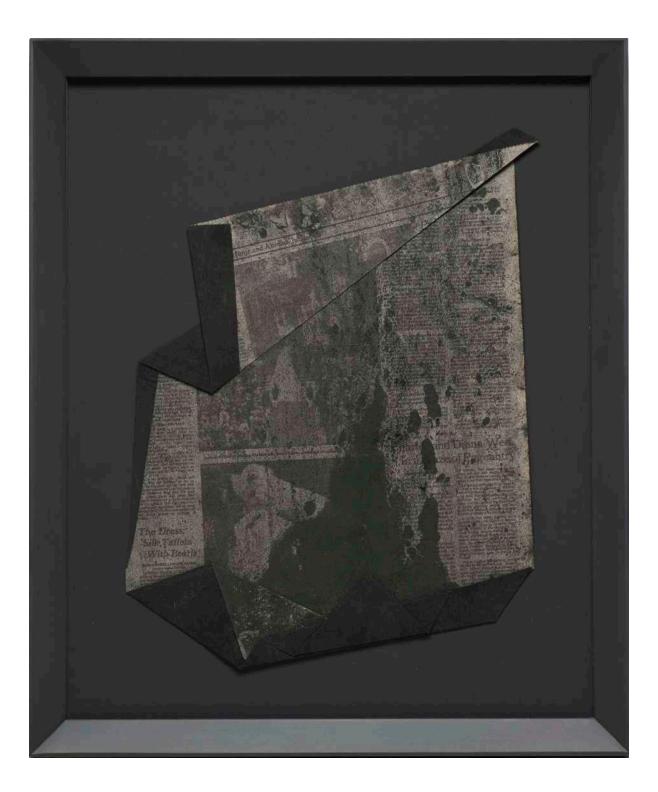


























## 5

Hot Seat (toilet bench 1), 2017 wood, filler, auto paint 60'' × 31'' × 18''

### 18 - 19

Dream On, 2017 surveyors tripod, Plexiglas, painted mahogany, flashlight, neon, extension cord, hardware dimensions variable

### 24- 25

Divisions (no one is alone) from the series Myths, Stories, and Lies, 2017 newspaper, clothing rack, quilted and embroidered blue jeans  $51'' \times 19'' \times 18''$ 

## 26 - 27

Trust (you decide what's right, you decide what's good) from the series Myths, Stories, and Lies, 2017

newspaper, carved baby's chair, hardware dimensions variable

## 28 - 29

Trust (you decide what's right, you decide what's good) from the series Myths, Stories, and Lies, 2017

newspaper, carved cane, hardware dimensions variable

## 31

Forever Never Urn from the series Myths, Stories, and Lies, 2017 newspaper, carved foot stool, rug  $6' \times 2' \times 2'$ 

## 32

Unknowing (I'm changing, you're changing) from the series Myths, Stories, and Lies, 2017 newspaper, carved clothes hamper, hardware  $6' \times 24'' \times 16''$ 

## 40

Hot Seat (toilet bench 2), 2017 wood, filler, auto paint 60'' × 31'' × 29''

## 42 - 47

Vela, 2017

folded original newspapers (Barack Obama first and second inauguration, Princess Diana marriage and death), charcoal, black diamonds, hardware, framed dimensions variable

## 52 - 53

Together (someone is on your side, someone else is not) from the series Myths, Stories, and Lies, 2017 newspaper, carved chair, carved baseball bat, hardware

72''×14''× 23''

# **EXHIBITION STATEMENT**

*hereafter* is a grouping of sculptures divided into the three parts that make up a single day dawn, daylight, and dusk. Within that time that we are awake before sleep, we are often sharing time with each other. We grow to comprehend what is true regardless of denial or acceptance. We negotiate everything including the seemingly insignificant. Willfully and with trepidation, our decisions begin to create systems of how and what we believe.

I first heard the word hereafter in a dialogue line from the cult classic movie *Steel Magnolias* that my twin sister and I used to watch compulsively as children. The meaning of the word hereafter has changed for me over the years. It moved from a distinctly quotable moment in a movie -properly executed with a thick southern accent that I used to have -to a word that asks me to ponder the future and death. The moment there is desire there is suffering. How do we find solace in the consequence of desire? Every movement and every decision is calculating the hereafter.

Daylight is a group of works titled, Myths, Stories, and Lies, which are inspired by the fact that we often see what we want to see verses what is actually there. This work questions how we negotiate the fragile, incomprehensible distinction between the internal and external world. Each sculpture is an assemblage of vessels made of cast newspaper atop a variety of found, domestic objects - a ladder, footstool, and drying rack. These found objects are symbols of routine, pleasure, and assistance, while the vessels are ghostly depictions that provoke a renegotiation of visual evidence perhaps leading by allusion to reveal - a history of love.

Carefully carved into the found objects are the lyrics of musical theater composer Stephen Sondheim. I use these lyrics both as homage to Sondheim and as reveals of what I find to be absolute truths. *Company, Into the Woods* and, my favorite, *Sunday in the Park with George,* provide words that linger about untethered to the stories from which they came. They are now embedded into a different kind of theatre. Each word resides here in the moment as a testament of a past coveted for the future. The cliché of carving your initials into a tree - an often first love, romantic gesture - unconsciously recognizes mortality by making a carved mark a permanent scarring

Dawn and dusk are the bookends. They are the liminal spaces that fuse the beginning and the end of a day. They seem almost identical conceptually – time for reflection and celebration. However, the presence and absence of full light and color make them distinctive. That phenomenological fact influences mood and the decisions that comes to reside in the moment. In this exhibition, these two spaces are surreal, one containing a machine that creates a sunrise and the other an elongated toilet that is a bench. These are objects posing questions about reality, vulnerability, and togetherness suggesting that in the fogginess that must come before clarity, we see a parallel or a mirror that reflects our lived, emotional reality.

- Kelcy Chase Folsom

# **ARTIST STATEMENT**

My romantic life, at once tender and desperate, is the substance of my work. More specifically, I am interested in the ways that I project and receive desire (as Roland Barthes said, "I am devoured by desire, the impulse to be happy"), and negotiate my own relative experiences within it. This endless exchange between lovers – the absences, the expectations, the gravities, the intimacies, and the small catastrophes – is the realm into which I want to invite inquiry.

## BIO

Kelcy Chase Folsom received a Master of Fine Arts degree in ceramics from the University of Colorado Boulder and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in ceramics from Georgia State University. He has taught at Maryland Institute College of Art, The Corcoran College of Art and Design, University of the Arts, and The George Washington University. He has participated in residencies at The Clay Studio, Zentrum für Keramik-Berlin, and the Hambidge Center, among others. He has shown his work in over forty exhibitions nation-wide.

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

B. Atlanta, GA, 1983

### EDUCATION

2012Master of Fine Arts- Ceramics, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO2007Bachelor of Fine Arts - Ceramics, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA,

### **RESIDENCIES & FELLOWSHIPS**

2018	Hudson Valley Center for Contemporary Art, Teaching Artist—in—Resident, Peekskill, NY
2015-2018	Robert Chapman Turner Teaching Fellowship, New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, Alfred, NY
2013-2015	The Clay Studio, Resident Artist, Philadelphia, PA
2011	Zentrum für Keramik – Berlin, Artist-in-Residence, Berlin, Germany
2010	Hambidge Center, Artist-in-Residence, Rabun Gap, GA

PA

#### **SELECT SOLO EXHIBITIONS**

2017	hereafter, Alfred Ceramic Art Museum, Alfred, NY
2016	Anything Can Be A Pond, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia,
	Hard, Kitchen Table Gallery, Philadelphia, PA
2014	Forever In a Way, Dateline Gallery, Denver, CO
2009	Conversion, WHITEspace Gallery, Atlanta, GA

### SELECT GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018	Queering Spaces, Curated by Sara Ferguson et al, Fosdick Nelson Gallery, Alfred, NY
	Exposure, Curated by Rachel Eng, GBBN, Pittsburgh, PA
2016	Planning the Improbable, Sketching the Impossible, Walker Street Gallery, Curated by Mitch Shiles, Boston, MA
	Now and Then, CIE Exhibition, NCECA Conference, Curated by Casey Whittier, Kansas City Museum, Kansas City, MO
2015	Still Life: The Potential of the Picturesque, NCECA CIE Exhibition, Krause Gallery, Providence, RI
2014	All of the Above, Below, and In Between, Curated by Ashley Jonas, The Blue House, Dayton, OH
	Roving Room, Curated by Cori Williams and Kelly Kaczynski, Habersham Mills, Demorest, GA
	Immersive Spaces, Curated by Joe Page, NCECA CIE Exhibition, Milwaukee, WI
	The Clay Studio 40th Anniversary Exhibition, Curated by Garth Johnson and Naomi Cleary, NCECA
	Conference, Milwaukee, WI
2013	Hello/Goodbye,The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	Biennial of the Americas, First Draft, Curated by Cortney Stell, McNichols Space, Civic Center, Denver, CO
2012	MindPool, Curated by Kara Duncan, NEXT Gallery, Denver, CO
	LADYBOY Presents: Do Not Disturb, NCECA Conference, Seattle, WA
	Findings, Illiterate Gallery, Denver, CO
2011	LADYBOY Presents: ROOM SERVICE, NCECA Conference, Tampa, FL
	MA)chi(N)e(MADE), Vertigo Art Space, Denver, CO
2010	LAUNCH: The Works of Kelcy Chase Folsom and Kaye Thomas, The Signature Shop Gallery, Atlanta, GA

### **PUBLICATIONS & PRESS**

2017	Ceramics and Globalization, Neil Ewins, Bloomsbury Publishing, London
	American Craft Inquiry, "Who, What, Where, and When", Volume 1, Issue 1, Present Tense
2014	Philadelphia Inquirer, "Galleries: A Long Forgotten Artist, 1960's Anarchy, and Clay", Edith Newhall
2013	Daily Serving: An International Publication for Contemporary Art, "The Distance Between Two Lovers: An Interview with Chase
	Folsom'', Carmen Winant

#### **HONORS & AWARDS**

2016	American Craft Council Conference Fellowship, Omaha, NE
	Bernstein Fund Grant, Alfred University, Alfred, NY
2013	Biennial of the Americas Project Grant, Denver, CO
2012	Neuman Family Gift, Graduate School, University of Colorado Boulder, Boulder, CO
2010	AT&T Georgia Pioneers Volunteer Scholarship
	WonderRoot Artist Profile for November, Atlanta, GA

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

- 2015 2018 New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University, Alfred, NY
- 2015 2017 University of the Arts, Philadelphia, PA
- 2014 2015 Corcoran College of Art and Design, Washington, DC
  - Maryland Institute College of Art, Baltimore, MD
    - The George Washington University, Washington, DC

