

# MORGAN LEHMAN

526 West 26th Street, 4th Floor, New York, New York 10001

## MATT MERKEL HESS

Born in 1978 in Cedar Rapids, IA  
Lives and works in New York, NY

## EDUCATION

2010 MFA, University of California, Los Angeles, CA  
2002 BA, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, KA

## SOLO AND TWO-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Loot*, Morgan Lehman Gallery, New York, NY  
2019 *American Stoneware*, Thomas Hunter Project Space, Hunter College, New York, NY  
2015 *Torsos and Buckets*, (two-person show with Amy Bessone), Salon 94 Freemans, New York, NY  
Peters Projects, Santa Fe, NM  
ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
Solo Booth, Fog Art Fair, San Francisco, CA  
2014 *MerkelWare Party*, Marine Projects, Santa Monica, CA  
*Things*, Volume Gallery, Chicago, IL  
*Water and Gasoline*, Burnet Gallery, Minneapolis, MN  
2013 *Oeuvreday*, James Harris Gallery, Seattle, WA  
*Hereafter*, Salon 94 Freemans, New York, NY  
*Anvils*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
2012 *.Sum* (with William J. O'Brien and Arlene Shechet), Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art,  
Overland Park, KA  
2011 *Bucketry*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
*MerkelWare*, Iko Iko, Los Angeles, CA  
2010 *Devils Tower-LA*, Las Cienegas Projects, Los Angeles, CA  
Project Space exhibition, 18<sup>th</sup> Street Arts Center, Santa Monica, CA  
Thesis Show, UCLA Wight Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
UCLA Room, Warner Graduate Studios, Los Angeles, CA

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2023 *Intersect Aspen*, Morgan Lehman Gallery, Aspen, CO  
*Eat Me!*, curated by Natalie Kates, Collar Works, Troy NY  
2022 *Modular Mosaic*, Underdonk, Brooklyn, NY  
2020 *Beyond Bounds 20/20: ENVISION*, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art (online)  
2019 *Cool Clay*, Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA  
*Optical Illusions in Contemporary Craft*, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, TA  
2018 *Housewarming*, Nicelle Beauchene, New York, NY  
*Between the Lines*, Steuben Gallery, Pratt Institute, NY  
*The Ashtray Show*, Fisher Parrish, New York, NY  
*Depth of Surface*, Honey Ramka, New York, NY  
*Enfant Savant Salade Sauvage*, Arturo Bandini, Los Angeles, CA  
*Systems at Play*, LVL3, Chicago, IL  
2017 *All the Small Things*, Steve Turner, Los Angeles, CA  
*By The River*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
2016 *Double Time*, Volume Gallery, Chicago, IL  
2015 *Vessels*, Blackstone Gallery, New York, NY  
*Where the Sand Worm Slumbers*, Charlie James Gallery, Los Angeles, CA  
2014 *Clay*, Marcelle Joseph Projects, London, England  
*Transmogrification of the Ordinary*, Angles Gallery, Los Angeles, CA

- 20 Years of ACME.*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
*Another Cats Show*, 356 Mission, Los Angeles, CA  
*More Materials*, Salon 94 Bowery, New York, NY  
*Corporeal Impulse*, Vincent Price Art Museum, Los Angeles, CA  
*Archive of Representation and Collections*, Favorite Goods, Los Angeles, CA  
*Ceramics: In and Out of Tradition*, Nan Rae Gallery, Woodbury University, Burbank, CA  
2013 *The Cat Show*, White Columns, New York, NY  
*Faux Real*, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA  
*Salon No. 10*, Marine Art Salon, Venice, CA  
*The White Album*, Louis B. James Gallery, New York, NY  
*A Thousand Hours*, Jane Deering Gallery, Santa Barbara, CA  
2012 *Americana*, Grey Area, New York, NY  
*The Planter Show*, ForYourArt Space, Los Angeles, CA  
*The Thing Itself*, Chapman University Art Gallery, Orange, CA  
*Venice Beach Biennial*, curated by Ali Subotnick, Venice, CA  
*Material: A Group Show Curated by Duro*, Salon 94 Freemans, New York, NY  
2011 *001*, Favorite Goods, Los Angeles, CA  
*Works of Paper*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
*Paul Clay*, Salon 94, New York, NY  
*Los Angeles Museum of Ceramic Art*, ACME., Los Angeles, CA  
2010 *Monster Drawing Rally*, Outpost for Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA  
*Haunted JMOCA*, Justin's Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, CA  
*(N)either Swords (N)or Ploughshares*, Cerritos College Gallery, Cerritos, CA  
*Wet Paint II*, Steve Turner Contemporary, Los Angeles, CA  
*Keramik*, Pacific Design Center, West Hollywood, CA

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2020 Harren, Natilee. "[We Are All Fluxus Artists Now: Making the Most of Mundane Tasks.](#)" The Chicago Blog, University of Chicago Press. May 12, 2020.
- 2017 Elderton, Louisa and Rebecca Morrill, "[Vitamin C: Clay and Ceramics](#)," Phaidon Press, 2017  
"The Ceramic Mundane," photographs by Luca Pizzaroni, Disegno #16, Autumn 2017
- 2014 Tschorn, Adam. "LAXART Gala Serves up Typing, Tattoos and Smashing Taboos," The Los Angeles Times, September 29, 2014.  
Gardner, Chris. "Glitzy LAXART Gala Draws Glamorous L.A. Crowd to Greystone," The Hollywood Reporter, September 28, 2014.  
Wagley, Catherine. "L.A. Salons Bring Together Art World Novices and Insiders." LA Weekly, July 31, 2014.  
Smith, Roberta. "Clash of the Items, At A Gallery Near You." The New York Times, July 25, 2014.  
Unzicker, Allyson. "[Corporeal Impulse: Contemporary Artists Working in Clay.](#)" Brooklyn Rail, April, 2014.  
Regan, Sheila. "Matthias Merkel Hess' 'Water & Gasoline' " Minneapolis City Pages, March 2014.
- 2013 Kangas, Matthew. "Oeuvreday at James Harris Gallery." Art Ltd., November 2013  
Myers, Andrew. "The Man of Clay." L.A. Confidential Magazine, October 2013.  
Suqi, Rima. "The Afterlife Can Now Be More Fun." The New York Times, June 20, 2013.  
Ollman, Leah. "Matthias Merkel Hess' sculptures at once earnest and sly." The Los Angeles Times, June 19, 2012.  
Muller, Mario. Matthias Merkel Hess at ACME. glasstire.com, June 13, 2013.  
Zara, Janelle. "Art for the Afterlife," Modern Painters, June 2013, p. 25.  
Donelan, Charles. "Light Touch: Ceramics and Photography on Display," Santa Barbara Independent, January 17, 2013.
- 2012 Ollman, Leah. "The Happy Medium," Art in America, December 2012, pgs 156-161.  
Harris, Gareth and Riah Pryor. "Domestic bliss meets DIY," The Art Newspaper, Frieze Art Fair Friday edition, October 12, 2012, page 2.

- Finkel, Jori. "Venice Beach gets a breezy biennial on the boardwalk," The Los Angeles Times, July 11, 2012
- Drohojowska-Philp, Hunter. "Biennial Goes to the Boardwalk," KCRW Art Talk, July 12, 2012
- Wagley, Catherine. "Venice Beach Biennial Preview: 'Art World' Artists Meet Boardwalk Vendors," LA Weekly, July 12, 2012
- Thorson, Alice. "Nerman Museum exhibit shows the power of ceramics," The Kansas City Star, June 16, 2012
- "Artist of the Week: Matthias Merkel Hess," lvl3.tumblr.com, April 2, 2012
- Artist Project, Slake, Issue #4 "Dirt", pg 208-11, April 2012
- Smith, Roberta. "Duro Olowu: Material," The New York Times, March 2, 2012
- Ollman, Leah. "Clay Keeps Breaking the Mold," Los Angeles Times, January 29, 2012.
- Shaw, Michael. "Matthias Merkel Hess: Come for the Merkel, Stay for the Bucketry," The Conversation: an Artist Podcast, notesonlooking.com, January 13, 2012
- 2011 Hodge, Brooke. "Seeing Things: Matthias Merkel Hess," Seeing Things blog, The New York Times T Magazine, December 8, 2011.
- Ollman, Leah, "Art Review: Aaron Morse and Matthias Merkel Hess at ACME," Los Angeles Times, December 8, 2011.
- Baum, Gary, Marissa Gluck and Alexis Johnson. "Arts & Power: On the Make," Angeleno Magazine, December 2011
- "Pin-Up Menagerie: A Collection of 69 Beautiful Things," Pin-Up Magazine, Issue 11, Fall/Winter 2011-2012, page 167.
- Hodge, Brooke, "Iko Iko Goes West," Seeing Things blog, New York Times T Magazine, August 18, 2011.
- Ollman, Leah, "Art review: 'Works of Paper' at ACME," Los Angeles Times, July 21, 2011.
- Smith, Roberta, "Art in Review: 'Paul Clay'," The New York Times, June 30, 2011.
- Kilston, Lyra. "Los Angeles Museum of Ceramic Art," artforum.com critics pick, January 20, 2011.
- Pagel, David. "Art Review: 'Los Angeles Museum of Ceramic Art' at ACME," Los Angeles Times, January 13, 2011.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

- California Community Foundation Emerging Artist Grant, 2014
- 18th Street Arts Center Project Room Award, 2010
- Elaine Krown Klein Award, University of California, Los Angeles, 2009
- Hoyt Scholarship, University of California, Los Angeles, 2009
- Fine Arts Affiliates Scholarship, California State University, Long Beach, 2006
- Art Department Scholarship, Pasadena City College, Pasadena, CA, 2005

### **PUBLIC COLLECTIONS**

- Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California
- [Hallmark Art Collection](#), Kansas City, Missouri
- [The Museum of Fine Arts](#), Houston, Texas
- [Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art](#), Overland Park, Kansas