

Robert C. Strasser

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Profile

An inventive and innovative artist whose creative work bridges visual and musical arts and spans traditional and modern styles and techniques, and whose professional experience includes design, instruction, and performance in various private, academic and extracurricular settings. Has maintained a private studio practice specializing in ceramics and including various other visual, musical and written media since 1988.

- Specialties include hand drums, slipware, and biodiversity mosaics and sculptures.
- Interests in cultural geography, history and biological diversity which inform his creative expression and teaching activities.
- Professional teaching history including workshops, demonstrations to the public in parks , visiting artist in public and private settings in the Eastern US and internationally in Japan and South America.
- A continuous studio practice dating back over 30 years, with participation in juried and invitational exhibitions in the United States and internationally in the ancient kiln centers of Tokoname and Shigaraki, Japan.
- Proficiency on the potters wheel and with various hand building techniques, including extensive experience with wood firing.
- Original formatted digital presentations as well as various hands-on and demonstration-based methods to facilitate creative growth in students.
- Work held in various private and public and private collections including Earlham College, Shigaraki Prefectural Ceramic Cultural Park, Hood College, and Catoctin Forest Alliance.

Education

1988 - BA Biology, Earlham College, Richmond, Indiana
College and Departmental Honors, Phi Beta Kappa

1998 - MS Environmental Biology, Hood College, Frederick, Maryland

Employment History

2012 -2023 Self directed resident artist - Griffin Arts Center, Frederick, MD

1988 - 2017 Self employed artist and sole proprietor at Earth Expressions.

2005 - 2009 Research Associate in Biology Department at Hood College.

1994 - 1996 Middle School Teacher, The Banner School, Frederick, Maryland.

1994 - 2003 Property Manager at Catoctin Quaker Camp, Thurmont, Maryland.

Experience

1988 - present - Directed annual studio sale of recent work. Various locations, Frederick, MD

2023 - Class Instructor - Washington Street Studios, Bolivar, WV

2016 - Workshop Instructor - Contained - Rehoboth Art League, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware

2011-16 - Visiting Artist and Ceramics Instructor - Sandy Spring Friends School, Sandy Spring, Maryland

2012-16 - Instructor, Common Ground on the Hill - Traditions Weeks 1 and 2, Westminster, Maryland

2015 - Visiting Artist, South Carroll High School - Carroll County Public Schools, Maryland

2011-15 Visiting Artist and Instructor, Sandy Spring Friends School, Sandy Spring, Maryland

2014 - Earth Oven Building - Workshop Leader - Common Market, Frederick, Maryland

2011 - Artist in Residence - Catoctin Mountain Park - The Catoctin Forest Alliance, Thurmont, Maryland

2010 - Ceramics Instructor - Frederick Pottery School, Frederick, Maryland

2007 - Drummer, Levalora Dance Troupe - Ellicott City, Maryland

2005 - Visiting Artist - Florida Keys Community College, Key West, Florida

2004 - Workshop Participant - Landscape in Watercolor - Ann Lindsay, Maho Bay, US Virgin Islands

2002 - Studio Artist Residency - Shigaraki Ceramic Culture Park (SCCP), Shigaraki, Shiga Prefecture, Japan

2002 - Mud Pi International Ceramics Workshop - Florida Keys Community College, Key West, Florida

2002 - Visiting Artist - Shigaraki Public Schools, Shiga Prefecture, Japan

2000 - International Workcamp of Ceramic Arts in Tokoname (IWCAT) - Tokoname, Aichi Prefecture, Japan

1999 - Volunteer Instructor - Juvenile Diabetes Foundation Camping Programs, Santiago, Chile, SA

1998 - Visiting Artist on the topic of Hand Percussion, Juniata College, Huntington, Pennsylvania

1997-8 - Workshop Instructor - Ceramic Drum Making. Hood College and Long Island Crafts Guild.

Selected Exhibition History

2023 - Spheres - Group Exhibition Participant & Curator, Evolve Shepherdstown, Shepherdstown, WV

2022 - Naturogenesis - Thematic Solo Exhibition, Evolve Shepherdstown, Shepherdstown, WV

2021 - Luminaire - An Exhibition of Light, Invitational, Griffin Art Center, Frederick, MD

2019 - The Box Show - Annual Fundraising Exhibit - The Artist Gallery, Frederick, MD

2018 - Soulful Cup - Invitational, Rivers Studio and Gallery, Harpers Ferry, WV

2016 - Edges: Group Invitational Exhibition - The ArtistAngle Gallery, Frederick, Maryland

2013 - 2015 - Instructors Exhibition - Common Ground on the Hill, Westminster, Maryland

2014 - Less Is More: Juried Work in all Media - Mitchell Gallery, Saint John's College, Annapolis, Maryland

2014 - A Paper Eclectic: New Work in Mixed Media and Paper - Griffin Arts Center, Frederick, Maryland

2013 - Resident Artists Exhibition - Griffin Arts Center, Frederick, Maryland

2012 - Strictly Functional National Juried Exhibition - Market House Crafts Center, Lancaster, Pennsylvania

2008 - Regional Juried Exhibit - Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, Frederick, Maryland

2007 - Frederick Potters Guild - Annual Fall Exhibit, Frederick, Maryland

2005 - Fire Works: Juried Exhibit- Washington County Arts Council Gallery, Hagerstown, Maryland

2004 - Spring Juried Vase Exhibition - Earth and Fire Gallery, Vienna, Virginia

2003 - Regional Juried Exhibition - Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, Frederick, Maryland

2002 - Summer Group Exhibition - Gallery Okuda International, Washington, DC

2002 - 7 PM: International Group Exhibit - The Cube Gallery, Shigaraki, Japan

2001 - The Energy of Fire: International Group Exhibition - White Street Gallery, Key West, Florida

2000 - IWCAT International Group Exhibition - Tokoname, Aichi, Japan

1999 - Earth and Fire: Regional Invitational Exhibit - Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, Frederick, Maryland

1993 - Animal, Vegetable, Mineral - National Juried Exhibition, Tempe, Arizona

Publications and Awards

Create and Activate Now Award - Frederick Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. 2022.

Second Place Winner - MY VISION OF THE FUTURE - Artworks of the Contemporary Artists, Nadia Russ, curator. NeoPopRealism Press, New York, New York. 2020.

PLATES PLATTERS & BOWLS - Ceramic Art Select Series, Sherman Hall, Editor. The American Ceramic Society, 2016.

Wet Slip Inlay, Ceramics Monthly, September 2013.

2003 Jurors Merit Award - Regional Juried Exhibition - Delaplaine Visual Arts Center, Frederick, Maryland