

Lora Groton Rust
Biography and Artist Statement
February 2012

Lora is a studio potter and pottery instructor in the metro Atlanta, GA area. In addition to making and showing her work in her pottery studio and gallery in Avondale Estates, she participates in local and regional art sales and gallery exhibits. Sharing her love of working in clay, Lora teaches beginning and intermediate pottery classes at the Abernathy Arts Center and Callanwolde Fine Arts Center. Her work is primarily functional porcelain table and serve ware, fired to cone 6 oxidation as well as salt and soda fired when available. As a ceramic artist her goal is to bring a touch of lushness and elegance to the dinner table, vanity or anywhere in the home.

She attributes her passion for her craft to an abundance of ceramic art in her home growing up. An early admiration for the artistic elements of design, form, and functionality were incorporated into her family's everyday life. When expressing herself artistically, her methods were always tactile - sewing and needlepoint at an early age, and then clay in high school in Atlanta and at Newcomb College in New Orleans, LA. Not seeing clay as a particular vocation at the time, Lora moved on to the corporate world for 15 years, ultimately as a Human Resources Executive. Returning to clay in 2002, she took classes at the Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, where she later was accepted into a 2 year assistantship program.

The assistantship allowed her the opportunity to develop her own style, applying innovative techniques for surface textures and glazes. Her stylized technique is a process of striking and moving the clay with handmade wooden tools. No clay is added, removed or carved away. The designs and patterns found in Gothic Architecture mixed with the fluidity of the Art Nouveau period are strong influences for her work. Inspiration from fashion design helps capture a certain movement of the texture on the form. Her hope is to create forms with a lush and fluid texture that beg to be touched.

Lora G. Rust
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Education

1983 BA, French, Newcomb College of Tulane University, New Orleans, LA

Assistantships

2006 - 2008 Studio Assistant, 2 Year Assistantship Program, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta, GA

Experience

2009 - Present Ceramic Artist, Avondale Estates, GA – Owner, Lora Rust Ceramic Designs

2007 - Present Instructor, All-Level Wheel Course, Abernathy Arts Center, Sandy Springs, GA

2008 - Present Instructor, All-Level Wheel Course, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta, GA

2006 - 2008 Studio Assistant and Substitute Instructor, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta, GA

2005 - 2006 Studio Monitor, Callanwolde Fine Arts Center, Atlanta, GA

Selected Exhibitions & Workshops

- 2011 Georgia Clayworkers – Museum of Contemporary Art of GA, Atlanta, GA
Perspectives Georgia Pottery Invitational – Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation, Watkinsville, GA
Enhancing the Surface Workshop - Abernathy Arts Center, Sandy Springs, GA
Macon Arts, Fired Works – Regional Ceramics Exhibition and Sale, Macon, GA
National Juried Cup Show – Lux Center for the Arts, Lincoln, NE
Enhancing the Surface Workshop - Johns Creek Arts Center, Johns Creek, GA
GA Artists, A Juried Exhibit – Abernathy Arts Center, Sandy Springs, GA
Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Pottery Holiday Show and Christmas at Callanwolde, Atlanta, GA
- 2010 Perspectives Georgia Pottery Invitational – Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation, Watkinsville, GA
Macon Arts, Fired Works – Regional Ceramics Exhibition and Sale, Macon, GA
Abernathy Arts Center, Instructors' Show, Sandy Springs, GA
Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Pottery Holiday Show and Christmas at Callanwolde, Atlanta, GA
- 2009 Featured 3-D Artist, "Enhancing the Flow", Gallery at Macon Arts, Macon, GA
Perspectives – Pottery Line-Up Exhibition, Watkinsville, GA
Macon Arts, Fired Works – Regional Ceramics Exhibition and Sale, Macon, GA
Artist's Studio, Open House & Exit Show, "Down the Road: Callanwolde to Zonolite", Atlanta, GA
Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Pottery Show, Assistants and Instructors, Atlanta, GA
- 2008 & Previous Southworks 2008 Art Exhibition, Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation, Watkinsville, GA
National Juried Cup Show, Kent State University, OH
Abernathy Arts Center, Instructors' Show, Sandy Springs, GA
Callanwolde Fine Arts Center Pottery Show, Assistants and Instructors, Atlanta, GA
Mudfire Clayworks, Holiday Studio Sale, Decatur, GA

Publications

500 Plates, Lark Books

500 Vases, Lark Books

Collections

University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Representation

Gallery at Macon Arts, Macon, GA

Mudfire Clayworks, Decatur, GA