

## Curriculum Vitae Synopsis

My path has consistently gravitated towards and found redemption in "object making," whether in Architecture School at Tulane where my attraction for physical form was explored in the sanctioned realm of cardboard models, or in the sun drenched playground for architects in the Arizona desert known as Arcosanti, a place where the medium of silt, clay and concrete are the primary means of expression. Playing in the dirt, I seemed to find my medium of choice and let my activities range from the scale of ceramic houses, as demonstrated by Nader Khalili at CalEarth in Southern California, to the hand held clay creations afforded and indulged upon at Paolo Soleri's ceramic studio at the edge of the Sonoran Desert. I later found a nurturing environment for these tendencies while earning my MFA at RISD and achieved breakthroughs working with clay and earthen mixtures, leading to my current body of work. Over the past decade I have primarily worked developing sculptural relief panel wall assemblages via the commission process.

## Education

- 1998 **Rhode Island School of Design**, Providence, Rhode Island.  
Master of Fine Arts, Ceramics.
- 1988 **Tulane School of Architecture**, New Orleans, Louisiana.  
Bachelor of Architecture, five year accredited program.
- 1987 **Architecture Program in Greece**  
Sponsored by University of North Carolina & Tulane University.
- 1986 **Architecture: Southern France & Spain**  
Sponsored by Syracuse University.
- 1986 **Urban Design/Seville: The City and the Expo Internacional del '92**  
Sponsored by Universidad de Seville & Junta de la Andalucia.
- 1982 **Architecture**-Cornell University Summer Program in Architecture.

## Selected Exhibitions & Awards

- 2017 **Homeward Bound**, Juried Triennial  
Taubman Museum of Art, Roanoke, Virginia
- 2015 **Virginia Earth: Ceramic Arts**  
Portsmouth Art & Cultural Center, Portsmouth, Virginia.
- 2011 **The Vase and Beyond: The Sidney Swidler Collection of Ceramics**  
Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, California.
- 2009 **In Between You and the Elements: Works by Chris Gryder**  
Perspective Gallery, Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- 2009 **Architectonic Logic: Silt-Cast Stoneware by Chris Gryder**  
Eleanor D. Wilson Museum, Hollins University, Roanoke, Virginia.
- 2008 **Christopher Gryder, Current Work**  
Smoyer Gallery, Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia.
- 2007 **Gryder, Glover, Trinkle - Three Artists**  
Flood Fine Art Center, Asheville, North Carolina.
- 2005 **Outrageous Home**  
Hunterdon Museum of Art, Clinton, New Jersey.
- 2003 **9-11: Artists Respond**  
Museum of Arts and Design, New York, New York.
- 2002 **First Place Award Ceramics**  
Saint Louis Art Fair, Clayton, Missouri.



**Selected Exhibitions & Awards (continued)**

- 2002 New Talent in Crafts II  
Racine Art Museum, Racine, Wisconsin.
- 2001 Award of Excellence, Ceramics  
Ann Arbor Street Art Fair, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2000 Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show  
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- 1999 Kunstler Aus 3 Landern/An Exhibition of 3 Artists  
Galerie Gisela Hahn, Schwabisch Hall, Germany.
- 1999 Smithsonian Craft Show  
Sponsored by the Smithsonian Women's Committee, Washington, DC.
- 1999 Ceramics '99: The Biennial North American Clay Show  
The Guilford Handcraft Center, Guilford, Connecticut.
- 1998 Craft Forms '98  
Wayne Art Center, Wayne, Pennsylvania.
- 1998 Au Kurant: The Juried Invitational Exhibit of Emerging Artists  
Sponsored by SOFA Chicago and Absolut, Chicago, Illinois.
- 1998 RISD Graduate Thesis Exhibition  
Museum of Art-Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island.
- 1997 RISD Graduate Studies Award of Excellence  
\$2,000 Granted.

**Selected Public/Semi-Public Commissions**

- 2009 Virginia Tech University - A series of three ceramic relief panel wall assemblages, each measuring approximately 12 ft x 7 ft x 2 in. Created for one of the primary entry sequences for the Squires Student Center, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- 2009 Florida State University - A series of three ceramic relief panel wall assemblages, the main piece measuring 48 ft x 10 ft x 2 in. Created for the triple story atrium of the Holly Academic Center, Florida State University-Panama City Campus. The commission was won as a result of a national competition.
- 2009 Kaiser Permanente - A series of two ceramic relief panel wall assemblages, each measuring approximately 4 ft x 7 ft x 2 in. Created for a lobby within a hospital in San Diego, California.
- 2008 Tamalpais - A series of two ceramic relief panel wall assemblages, each measuring approximately 3 ft x 7 ft x 2 in. Created for the lobby of the Tamalpais Senior Housing Complex, Marin County, California.
- 2007 Heart Valve Institute - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 4 ft x 3 ft x 2 in. Created for the Heart Valve Institute, Richmond, Indiana.
- 2007 Siegfried - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 3 ft x 6 ft x 2 in. Created for the lobby of Siegfried Accounting in Tysons Corner, Virginia.
- 2007 Townsend - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 4 ft x 5 ft x 2 in. Created for the lobby of the law firm of Townsend & Associates, Denver, Colorado.
- 2006 River Cree Resort - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 5 ft x 25 ft x 2 in. Created for the lobby of the Marriott Hotel at River Cree, Edmonton, Canada.

### Selected Public/Semi-Public Commissions (continued)

- 2006 Childrens Hospital - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 4 ft x 12 ft x 2 in. Created for a reception area of the Childrens Hospital, St. Louis, Missouri.
- 2004 Jeppesen - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 4 ft x 8ft x 2 in. Created for the lobby of the aeronautical company of Jeppesen Sanderson, Denver, Colorado.
- 2004 St. Joseph Hospital - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 3 ft x 30 ft x 2 in. Created for a reception area of St. Joseph Hospital, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2002 Pfizer Pharmaceuticals - A ceramic relief panel wall assemblage measuring 8 ft x 14 ft x 2 in. Created for the main lobby of Pfizer Pharmaceuticals research facility, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

### Collections

- Perry and Marty Granoff, Providence, Rhode Island.
- Museum of Arts and Design, New York, New York.
- Crocker Museum of Art, Sacramento, California.
- Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida.
- Virginia Tech University, Blacksburg, Virginia.
- Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

### Professional Experience

- 1998 Howard Ben-Tre - I worked as an apprentice/assistant to the renowned artist Howard Ben-Tre. His primary medium is large scale cast glass and he has a strong focus on outdoor public art. My tasks included grinding/carving glass, carving models, making sand molds, and casting glass.
- 1991-1996 Arcosanti/Paolo Soleri - I worked as an apprentice/assistant to the world renowned architect Paolo Soleri. Soleri worked with Frank Lloyd Wright at Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona, and soon thereafter rose to prominence as a leading architect and theorist, tackling the massive issues of intelligent urban design in light of a planet with finite resources. He embarked on the herculean task of building a prototype city which would begin to test his urban design theories, referred to as 'Arcology.' Arcosanti is the name of this prototypical urban design project and it has been continually in the process of being built in the high Sonoran desert of Arizona since 1970. It is here that I really began to 'get my hands dirty,' tying re-bar, pouring concrete, carving silt, and ultimately developing new and unique techniques for forming modest yet vital ceramic work.
- 1993 Nader Kahlili - I worked as an apprentice/assistant to the world renowned architect Nader Kahlili. Kahlili was well known within the sustainable architecture community for his inovative earthen construction techniques as displayed at his school and research project, CalEarth, in southern California. I developed a construction workshop at Arcosanti in conjunction with Khalili, incorporating his unique 'ceramic house' building technique. Essentially an adobe dome structure is fired as a kiln, creating a monolithic ceramic building. We built two adobe dome sturctures, the largest with a diameter of 10 ft. A stimulating combination of architecture and pottery.
- 1989-1990 Stanley Tigerman - I worked as an entry level architect to the renowned architect Stanley Tigerman. Tigerman was well known among architecture academics as an excellent teacher with a critical architecture practice based in Chicago. I primarily worked on projects in the preliminary design phase, including a proposal for a technology museum bordering Lake Michigan and a design showroom for Kohler.