

ANAT SHIFTAN

b. 1955, Israel

Anat Shiftan is a ceramic artist based in New York. She uses artistic and decorative motifs found throughout Western art history—floral centerpieces and arranged still life vignettes—to explore her relationship to nature both as a human being and as an artist. In her own words, "When I make my floral piles, I explore the ambivalent condition of our relation with nature. As I attempt to look at nature I realize it is not there for me to view. Nature as an authentic, unpredictable, and uninterrupted phenomenon is not present in our world. Our 'nature' is stylized and cultured. Further, nature as a cultural concept is placed in contrast to the mechanized world, yet nature is in fact mechanical and predictable ... Nature embodies the texture of sexuality, life and death, of power and subversion, and is very similar to complex political and social phenomena."

Shiftan earned an MFA from Cranbrook Academy of Art and Design in 1986 and is a Professor Emerita in the Ceramics Department at SUNY New Paltz, where she held a teaching position from 2003 to 2023. She has a degree in English Literature and Philosophy from Hebrew University and an MA in Ceramics from Eastern Michigan University. From 1986 to 1999, she was an instructor, production manager, senior designer, and director of education at the historic Pewabic Pottery in Detroit, MI. Her work has been exhibited extensively; she collaboratively organized Contemporary Issues in Clay: A British Perspective in 2006 and Why Clay in 2008 as well as Beyond Hand Made in 2008. Shiftan has twice received the Michigan Grant for Individual Artists. In 2023, she had a retrospective exhibition, Life & Still at the Zillman Art Museum in Bangor, ME.



1980 BA, English Literature and Philosophy, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

1986 MFA, Cranbrook Academy of Art and Design, Bloomfield Hills, MI

1984 MA, Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI

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EDUCATION

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SELE	CTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS
2024	Beit Binyamini, Tel Aviv, Israel (Upcoming)
2023	Life & Still, Zillman Art Museum, Bangor, ME
2020	Portchester Clay Art Center, Portchester, NY
	Peka Gallery for Architecture and Experimental Art, Technion – Israel Institute of
	Technology and Town Planning, Haifa, Israel
	University of Maine Museum of Art, Bangor, ME
2015	Anat Shiftan: Nature Reconsidered, Thomas Hunter Project Space, New York, NY
2014	Le Jardin: The Ceramics of Anat Shiftan, Vessels Gallery, Boston, MA
2012	Anat Shiftan, Vessels Gallery, Boston, MA
2010	Anat Shiftan: Recent Work, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia PA
	Stilled Life, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
2008	Anat Shiftan: Recent Works of Still Life, Pewabic Pottery, Detroit, MI
	Anat Shiftan: Digital Art, WAW Peekskill Extension Center Gallery, Peekskill, NY
2006	Contemporary Issues in Clay: A British Perspective, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
	Lydia Zabetsky Gallery, Bezalel Academy of Art and Design
	Clay Art Center, Port Chester, NY
2004	Ceramics and Digital Drawings, Fine Arts Gallery, Mott Community College, Flint, MI
2003	Color Perception in Time: A Video of Digital Drawings, Union Media Gallery, University of
	Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
1988	Willis Gallery, Detroit, MI
1987	Artist Association, Ann Arbor, MI

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Design Miami/ Basel with Hostler Burrows, Basel, Switzerland
- 2018 Garden Feast of Paradise, NCECA, Pittsburgh, PA

Garden Feast of Paradise, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
Small Favors, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
The Salon Art + Design with Hostler Burrows, New York, NY
Intimately Unfamiliar, Dorsky Museum, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY

Small Favors: Think Inside the Box, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

Winter Antiques Show with Hostler Burrows, New York, NY

Our Flag: Design Stands Together, R & Company, New York, NY

2016 Design Miami/ with Hostler Burrows, Miami, FL

Salon of Art + Design with Hostler Burrows, New York, NY

Expo Chicago with Hostler Burrows, Chicago, IL

Hot Pots, Port Chester Clay Art Center, Port Chester, NY

2014 Floral panels by Nancy Lorenz and floral porcelains by Anat Shiftan, Old Westbury Gardens/Nassau County Museum, Old Westbury, NY

Anat Shiftan, Jenny Kemp, Noah Post, and Suzy Sureck: Tracery, Gallery PS 209, Stone Ridge, NY

2013 Naturally, Clay Art Center, Schacht Gallery, Saratoga, NY

Dorsky Museum, SUNY New Paltz, New Paltz, NY

Art Shanghai, Shanghai, China

Small Favors VIII, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

Roos Art Exhibition, Bowls and Platters, WSW

Tending toward the Untamed: Artists Respond to the Wild Garden, Glyndor Gallery, Wave Hill, The Bronx, NY

Blue and White, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

Faculty of Wayne State Ceramic Program: 1990–2012, Detroit, MI

Small Favors VII, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

Watersed Kiln God Show, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore, MD

2011 Ceramics Material and Material Culture, Queens College, Queens, NY

eARTh, Westchester Art Center, NY

Jingdezhen Contemporary International Exhibition, The Ist Kaolin Cup China International Ceramic Art Contest and Exhibition, Jingdezhen, China

Mercurial Objects: Luxuriant Obsession, Schuck Art Gallery, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Small Favors VI, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

The Gift of Art, Vessels Gallery, Boston, MA

Teaching Artists, Peekskill Clay Studios, Peekskill, NY

2010 Visual Translations, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

Small Favors V, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA

Re-Objectification, Leslie Ferrin Gallery, Pittsfield, MA

The Things Themselves, Pelham Art Center, Pelham, NY

eARTh, Rockland Center for the Arts, Rockland, NY

	The 4th Annual Jingdezhen Contemporary International Ceramics Exhibition, Great China
	Museum, Jingdezhen, China
2009	University of Alaska, Anchorage, AK
	Jingdezhen Contemporary International Ceramics Exhibition, Jingdezhen, China
	2009 Sanbao International Printmaking Exhibition, Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute, University
	of Jingdezhen, China
	Made in Clay, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
	Small Favors IV, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
2009	International Printmaking Exhibition, Sanbao, China
2008	Tercet, Anelie Gandellman Fine Art, Larchmont, NY
	All Fired Up, Clay Art Center, Port Chester, NY
	Buckham Gallery, Flint, MI
	Made in Clay, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
	Small Favors II, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	Beyond Hand Made, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia PA
	Why Clay, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
	Clay, Sensation: The 5th Biennale for Israeli Ceramics, Eretz-Israel Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel
2007	Craft Forms, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA
	Mastery in Clay, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	Visual Israeliness, The Open University of Israel, Ra'anana, Israel
	Small Favors, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	Art and Soul: Discovering the Artist Within, Art Center of the Capital Region, Troy, NY
	Made in Clay, Greenwich House Pottery, New York, NY
	Ceramic Abstraction: Exploration and Evidence in Contemporary Ceramics, Creative Arts
	Workshop, New Haven, CT
	Cups Coming Together, The Clay Art Center, Port Chester, NY
2006	Craft Forms 2006, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA
	The Fourth Biennale for Israeli Ceramics, Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel
	Mastery in Clay, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	Ceramic Regional: Down to Earth, The Art Center of the Capital Region, Troy, NY
	Two Dimensions / Three Dimensions, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	10 x 10 x 10, Ellenville, NY
	Jersey Shore Clay National, M.T. Burton Gallery, Surf City, NJ
	Small Favors, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, PA
	Second Nature, Dorsky Museum, State University of New York, New Paltz, NY
2005	Artist in Residence: The XII International Raku Symposium, Pleminitas, Zagreb, Croatia
	Five Israeli and Five American Ceramic Artists, Toby Rosenberg Gallery, Portland, ME
	The Third Biennale for Israeli Ceramics, Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel
	Tile Matter and Motif. Baltimore Clay Works, Baltimore, MD

2004 Works by Art Faculty from SUNY Purchase and New Paltz, Dutchess Community College Art

Gallery, Poughkeepsie, NY

- 2003 Regional Drawing Exhibition, Elaine L. Jacob Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2002 Center Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 1999 Pewabic Pottery, Detroit, MI
 - University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- 1992 Habatat / Shaw, Southfield, MI
- 1991 Kresge Art Museum Biennial Exhibition, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI Pewabic Pottery, Detroit, MI
- 1990 Great Lakes Gallery, Chicago, IL
 - Ten Year Anniversary Show, Detroit Focus Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 1988 Chicago Fire 2: Contemporary Ceramics, Navy Pier, Chicago, IL
- 1987 Eastern Michigan University, Ypsilanti, MI
 - Detroit Focus Gallery, Detroit, MI
 - Eye Media, Ann Arbor, MI
 - All But Oil, Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI
 - Outside, Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI
- 1986 Contemporary Ceramics, Saginaw Art Museum, Saginaw, MI
 - Pewabic Pottery, Detroit, MI
 - Michigan Gallery, Detroit, MI
 - Lill Street Gallery, Chicago, IL
 - Clay USA, Radford University, Radford, VA

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AWARDS

- 2004–2017 Research and Creative Projects Award, SUNY New Paltz
- 2009–2010 UUP Professional development Award, SUNY New Paltz
- 2006 UUP/SUNY, Dr. Nuala McGann Drescher Award
- 2006 UUP Professional Development Award, SUNY New Paltz
- 2004–2005 UUP Professional Development Award, SUNY New Paltz
- 1990 Michigan Council For The Arts, Grant for Individual Artist
- 1988 Michigan Council For The Arts, Grant for Individual Artist
- 1987 Arts Foundation of Michigan Award
- 1986 Cranbrook Academy of Art, Tuition Grant

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2016 Laster, Paul. "18 Things We Want from Design Miami," WhiteHot Magazine, December
- 2014 Thoughts on Authenticity & Interpretation: Volume 42, No. 2, Studio Potter
- 2012 Tending Towards the Untamed, Artists Respond to the Wild Garden, Glyndor Gallery, Wave Hill, NY
- 2011 The 1st. Kaolin Cup, China International Ceramic Art Contest and Exhibition

- Ceramics Art and Perception, Issue #83: On Earth, pp. 70–73
- Printers and Potters: Creative Exchange, 2nd. China Sanbao International Printmaking Exhibition, p. 20
- Mercurial Objects, Schick Art Gallery, Skidmore College, pp. 21, 23, 28
- 2010 International Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition, Jingdezhen China International Fair Ceramics Art and Perception: On Earth, Issue #83
- 2009 Printers and Potters: Creative Exchange, West Meets East @ Sanbao, International Contemporary Ceramic exhibition, Jingdezhen China International Fair
- The Fifth Ceramics Biennale, Eretz Israel, Museum, Tel Aviv: Design, Art, Design PP. Hagai Segev.
 - Angelica Pozo, 500 Tiles, An Inspiring Collection of International Works, Lark Books, New York, NY
 - Ceramics Technical, Porcelain Still Lifes
 - "Enjoying the Still Life," Ceramics Monthly, Volume 56, No. 7
- 2007 Elik Mishori, Visual Israeliness, catalogue, Exhibition in the Framework of the 23rd Annual Conference of The Association for Israel Studies, The Dorothy Rothschild Open University Campus, Raanana June July 2007. The Open University of Israel, Dept. of Literature, Language and Arts
 - American Craft, February/March issue
- 2006–2007 Knafo, David. Catalogue, Territory and Identity- Between Ceramics and Architecture,
 The Fourth Biennial for Israeli Ceramics, Eretz Israel, Museum, Tel Aviv: Design,
 Art, Design pp. 214–215
- 2006 Pozo, Angelica. Hand Made Tiles, A Lark Ceramics Book, A Division of Sterling Publishing Co. Inc. New York, NY, p. 36
- 2004-2005 Cecula, Marek, The Third Biennial for Israeli Ceramics, Eretz Israel, Museum Tel Aviv: Design, Art, Design, p. 93
- 2004 Walt, Irene, Sera, Grace, Monogram, Art in the Stations, The Detroit People Mover Detroit: Art in the stations. Art In The Stations. pp. 14, 15, 72
 - Clay Times, Volume 10 #5
 - "One Person Art Exhibition," Flint Journal, March 22
- 1991 Detroit Free Press, February 22
- 1987 Detroit Free Press, January 27
 - Birmingham Eccentric, July 23
 - Detroit Free Press, July 28
 - Detroit Metropolitan, July
- 1986 Detroit Free Press, January 5