

BENEATH AN EYELID LIES A MOON
new works by Jacob Foran
Sep 1 - Oct 1, 2016

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With this series, I am expanding upon my vocabulary of images that provoke the imagination. Through the head and bust, I am engaging with iconography of children and babies. The sculptures record a new period within my larger body of figural work based on my exploration of psychological spaces. With closed eyes and subtle smiles, their softly modeled faces symbolize inner thought and they convey a calm state of being.

I am interested in sculpting the child form for its symbolic, connotative value and close proximity to the non-physical world (as is the case in representations of the child figure in Buddhism, where we return to this state also during the end of life). In this specific work, the child is not a signifier of sentimentality or nostalgia but rather an abstract reference to early, transitory life stages where the creative mind and imagination have far-reaching potential.

The archaic ceramic forms become canvases for transformative layers of glaze, which pushes understandings of the material properties of these objects into limbo. The surfaces are meant to create a perceptual threshold between implied inner and outer worlds. They become simultaneously ancient and futuristic. The obvious reflectivity and morphing islands of light and color are ever changing in space and time. The results are aqueous, embodying properties of water or liquid mercury. They create an abstract linkage between the human head and fluid.

I continue my attempts at pushing the boundaries of ceramic medium, figural sculpture, as well as my own creative practice. These sculptures are titled with numeric names similar to systems of cataloging foreign objects such as asteroids and meteorites (rather than figurative titles), with the intention of emphasizing both the conceptual and aesthetic references to outer space that the works embody. The surfaces of these sculptures were formulated at the European Ceramic Work Center in The Netherlands, where I spent a three-month research period during summer of 2014.

~Jacob Foran, 2015



Title: X4V
Dim: 14.13.10in
Year: 2015

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Title:D1Z
Dim:23.19.19
Year: 2015

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Title: XH1
Dim: 20.16.16
Year: 2015

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Title: XH301
Dim: 23.19.19
Year: 2015

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Title: XB2S
Dim: 22.20.12
Year: 2015

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Title: KT07
Dim: 19.19.11
Year: 2015

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Title: DP1
Dim: 15.13.8
Year: 2015



Title:PTX1
Dim: 12.10.6
Year: 2015



Title: A12
Dim:10.8.7
Year: 2015