

# **Ceramics**

## **Misty Gamble**

### ***June 6-12, 2021***

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Accomplished sculptor and educator, Misty Gamble will direct this one-week hands-on figurative sculpture workshop where participants will work together in a shared studio to create a self-referential once fired clay bust. Hollow building construction methodology will be discussed along with techniques that relate to internal supports for structural strength. In addition, participants will explore surface treatment and hair construction techniques. Once completed, the works can be prepared for bisque firing and shipped after the workshop is complete. Throughout the workshop, Gamble will lead participants through group discussions and lectures focused on proportions of the head, harmony and embellishment of form/surface, and content development, as the subject matter is self. Participants will learn approaches to both academic/idealized and expressive facial construction. Misty will simultaneously sculpt to demonstrate hand building techniques, balance, bone structure, and demonstrations on all facial features and planes of the head. For advanced students, Misty will demonstrate and guide students to incorporate fragments (such as hands or symbology or iconography) into the works.

In this workshop, we will create clay sketches or maquettes the very first day! Though we will go over basic anatomical construction and proportion of the entire head, including facial features and hair, the focus of the workshop will not be on anatomical 'correctness', but rather how gesture and metaphor can be used to develop content and meaning in the human form. Emphasis is placed on the use of the human figure as a self-referential vehicle to explore personal narrative. Discussions will take place on where ideas come from, how to cultivate the expression of particular themes in your work, and how to reference popular culture and visual metaphors to provide context and meaning. Participants will be guided in using the bust or torso to tell stories and both reflect and redefine their culture and experience. The head is typically perceived as the "center" of ourselves, controlling our identity, thoughts, emotions and actions. This "center" will operate as a platform to create a narrative. Slides of contemporary figurative ceramic work will be shown for inspiration.

Additionally, we will have discussions and one-on-one dialogue on trouble shooting with clay (i.e. slumping, caving in or cracking). If you've had a recurring technical problem, bring it up and we'll try to remedy it. Misty invites students of all levels to this class with the promise that at the end, beginners will say "I didn't know I could do that!" and more experienced students will develop skills and artistry beyond their imagining.

#### **MATERIALS LIST**

- \*Tools:
  - Pin tool
  - wire tool
  - fettling knife
  - small sponge
  - racking tools (optional)
  - wooden tools for sculpting
  - detailing loop tools (optional)
  - loop tools for sculpting (optional)
  - metal rib (triangular) with teeth for scoring.
- 1 Turning Wheel (either a banding wheel, lazy susan type turn wheel, or \$5 Home Depot turning wheel. The ceramic studio at Arrowmont has a second turning wheel for you to use)
- \*Drawing, sketching materials: for taking notes and making sketches
- **MUST BRING IDEAS!** Source material about self or project: drawings, photos, sketches, google images for project
- \*Flash drive (to protect and save data to and from Library computers)
- \*Padlock for your studio locker, if desired (For rent in the Supply Store for the week)

**All Items marked with an "\*" are available for purchase in the Supply Store**

**Clay must be purchased on campus during class from the Supply Store. No outside clay is allowed in the studios to lessen accidents in kilns. Only requested clay(s) from Instructors will be available for student purchases.**

**Students should consider bringing packaging materials (bubblewrap, newsprint, etc.) to transport pieces home.**

### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

In accordance to Arrowmont's COVID-19 policies, Arrowmont recommends that all students bring multiple face coverings in accordance to the CDC guidelines (2-ply, cloth face covering). Along with additional masks, students should consider bringing additional PPE that they may need personally, including but not limited to hand sanitizers and gloves. When asked to bring a respirator or N95 for class, please consider the best option for the supply in your area with health care workers in mind.

In addition to the new operating policies due to COVID-19, Arrowmont is providing additional information to students about materials and tools that will be provided in classrooms. If a student already owns the below items and can travel with them, the student can choose to bring these additional items. Arrowmont will provide these items to students but wants to ensure that all students feel comfortable while on campus as some of these items will be shared amongst a class and are not guaranteed to be one per student.

### **SUPPLIES**

- Scissors
- Wire tool
- Newspaper
- Small containers for slip
- Favorite pottery tools

If a student chooses to mail tools and supplies to Arrowmont prior to the class, the packages will be placed in the student's classroom.

Please label packages clearly, including student's name and class week.

Students can mail packages to:

Arrowmont  
C/O Student Name and Class Week  
556 Parkway  
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

### **MATERIALS FEES: \$80.00-\$160.00**

**Materials fees** will be charged for materials used in the studio and/or provided by instructors for use in the studio by the entire class. In order to keep these fees as low as possible, fees are assessed on an individual class basis and may vary from class to class depending on the amount of materials used and the number of students in the class. Materials fees are paid on the last day of class.

**Please be advised that above course description and materials list is written and approved by the instructor**

If you have any additional questions about this class, below is the contact info for your instructor:

(510) 520-8013  
mistygamble@yahoo.com  
www.mistygamble.com