FACULTY

Harris Deller, Professor

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Harris Deller received a B.A. in Art from California State University at Northridge and his Master of Fine Arts degree from Cranbrook Academy of Art. Deller's work is found in many public collections including those of Museum of Art and Design, the Everson Museum, and the San Francisco Museum of Art. In 2008, his work "Made in China" was featured in Ceramic Monthly. He has received fellowships from the Illinois Arts Council, Arts Midwest, and a Fulbright Fellowship.

Pattie Chalmers, Assistant Professor

Pattie Chalmers received a BFA in printmaking from the University of Manitoba in 1993 and an MFA in Ceramics from the University of Minnesota in 2001.

Chalmers taught at both the University of Minnesota and Ohio University and was a resident artist at Harbourfront Centre in Toronto, Canada prior to her appointment at SIUC.
The ceramic MFA specialization is 60 credit hours culminating with a thesis exhibition. MFA candidates are encouraged to explore materials and processes, and become engaged in critical dialogue. In addition, each candidate receives group and individualized faculty instruction. The candidate is expected to develop and engage in a personal research program that explores ideas and techniques leading to the development of personal expression and artistic identity.

The MFA program encourages a wide range of styles; functional pottery, sculpture, and mixed media work are all acceptable. The program is committed to a multicultural composition and equal gender representation. Past students have come from all 50 states and numerous countries to include: England, Japan, Korea, Ghana, Indonesia, Taiwan, China, and the Netherlands.

The ceramic studios, along with Glass, Metals, and Blacksmithing, are housed in the old University High School, located in the basement and first floor of Pulliam Hall Industrial Wing. Students are provided with a 200 sq. ft. private studio along with 24 hour, 365 day access to the facilities. There is a well-stocked, well ventilated community glaze room with a ball mill and spray booth. Students have access to several sand blasters, slab rollers, and extruders. There is a well ventilated clay-mixing room with a stoneware mixer, a porcelain mixer, and 2 pug mills. The indoor kiln room is equipped with 2 Bailey gas kilns, a 90-cubic-foot gas car kiln, a small gas reduction kiln, and 4 electric kilns. There is also an outdoor kiln area adjacent to ceramics studios with a raku kiln, a wood fired kiln and soda kiln.

The School’s Visiting Artist Program provides opportunities to expand aesthetic dialogue and is an integral part of graduate education. Recent visiting artists in ceramics have included:

- Randy Johnston
- Mark Pharis
- Jeff Oestreich
- Sandy Simon
- Janet Koplos
- David Furman
- Mark Burns
- Jack Thompson
- Richard Shaw
- Jim Budde
- John Gill
- Joyce Jablonsky
- Brad Schweiger
- Tyler Lotz

All grads accepted into the program are awarded a 25% assistantship that provides a tuition waiver and salary.

www.artanddesign.siuc.edu