



Gensler Exhibition: Winter
Obsessional Objects
February 2019 - June 2019

Producing a body of work can serve as a powerful source of reflection, memory and experimentation for artists. This concept is formulated in various ways for Jessica Phillips, Atticus Adams and Jae Ko, exhibited in Gensler's group show, *Obsessional Objects*. Each artist draws upon facets of their upbringing and journey through life through investigation of material to create anthropomorphic, sculpture-based work.

The reception features a compilation of ceramics by Houston-based artist, Jessica Phillips. Phillips's body of work deconstructs her passage from childhood to motherhood, serving as a continuous tool for personal growth and self-reflection. Pushing the boundaries of traditional ceramics, Phillips assigns emotional identities to her porcelain vessels beyond their implied use or purpose. Intentional groupings and eccentric silhouettes create humanlike and often familial relationships between her works.

Moving into the executive corridor, the viewer can follow the evolution of Phillips's work from sketch studies, to wall-based ceramics, to complete abstractions. The abstract porcelain on wood works present a sharp contrast between her soft wheel-thrown forms and stark graphic surfaces, illuminating the delicacy of human interactions, and furthermore emphasizing the tension between our physical separateness and our emotional connectedness. As her work becomes increasingly abstract, Phillips introduces lyrical text of significance such as "could/would" or "perfect/imperfect." Some of these words and phrases stem from concepts Phillips has obsessed over since she was a child, whereas many represent ideas she is navigating today.

Phillips, along with the remaining artist's within *Obsessional Objects* demonstrates a controlled color palette forcing the viewer to analyze her work without the distraction of color associations. Along the conference corridor are three sculptures by Atticus Adams, all minimal in color but rich in texture and form. Adams works with unconventional materials such as precious metals, aluminum, mesh and paint to bring life to wondrous forms, portraying his affinity for science and experimentation in art. Daughter of a stenographer, Jae Ko's iconic wrapped paper work is exhibited in the coffee corridor. Ko's childhood spent observing hand work with ink and paper informed her studies of art and calligraphy. Later in her career, her work shifted towards experimentation with paper, using techniques of rolling, cutting, gluing, soaking and dyeing, to manipulate the material into sinuous, life-like forms. Ko, much like Atticus and Phillips, creates work that is minimal and refined with an undeniably powerful presence.

Obsessional Objects was organized on behalf of Gensler by Kinzelman Art Consulting. All works on loan courtesy of Jessica Phillips and Cindy Lisica Gallery. For additional information about the exhibition, please contact Kinzelman Art Consulting at 713-533-9923, kimberly@kinzelmanart.com, or visit www.kinzelmanart.com.