

Alumna guest curates longest-running exhibit of contemporary ceramics; includes work by fellow alumna
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“Denaturing Nature,” an exhibition by guest curator Virginia Scotchie, AU class of 1985, at the Scripps College (Claremont, CA) Ceramics Annual, opens Saturday, Jan. 26 and runs through Sunday, April 7, at the Ruth Chandler Williamson Gallery, Eleventh Street and Columbia Avenue. Included in the exhibit is work by Alexandra Hibbitt, AU class of 2001. Virginia, professor of art and head of ceramics at the University of South Carolina, will give a lecture at 4 p.m. opening day.

The Ceramic Annual highlights work from emerging artists as well as celebrated masters in the field of ceramics. The concept behind “Denaturing Nature” comes from the field of science. Virginia took the scientific term, denature, meaning to remove or diminish the original properties of a protein, and sought artists who alter objects via a variety of techniques.

Virginia’s work is exhibited widely throughout the United States and internationally, including at Alfred University; the Asheville Museum of Art, North Carolina; Kruithuis Museums & Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands; and the Yingee Ceramic Museum, Taipei, Taiwan. She has also lectured internationally on her work and been an Artist in Residence in Taiwan, Italy, Australia, and the Netherlands, and she is a recipient of awards including the Sydney Meyer Fund International Ceramics Premiere Award from the Shepparton Museum in Victoria, Australia.

During exhibitions, the gallery is open to the public free of charge, Wednesdays through Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.