

Joan Bontempo is a ceramic artist creating nontraditional works and expressive abstract sculpture in clay, and compositions combining clay forms with paintings and mixed media. She creates work that reimagines the traditional figures, pathways, structures or vessels - in stoneware and low-temperature Raku firing, mixed media and may have bits of glass, copper, gold enhancements, and found objects, or are in combination with altered canvases and acrylic.

Joan was born in Beaver, PA, a town outside of Pittsburgh. Recently retired after 16 years as professor of art at Hagerstown Community College, Hagerstown MD, she now lives and works in Knoxville, TN. She holds an MFA in ceramics from Wayne State University, Detroit MI, and a BFA from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN. She has taught ceramics and art history in colleges in WI, MI, MD and TN over many years.

Her work has been widely shown in regional and national juried exhibits, solo shows and invitationals. She is a past member of NOMA gallery, Frederick MD; resident artist /represented by Pivot Point Gallery, Knoxville TN; resident artist/represented by Lakeside Studio, International Artist's Program, Lakeside MI and by Marin Price Galleries, Chevy Chase MD.

Bontempo served as Program Consultant/Project Coordinator – Milwaukee County (Milwaukee WI) Percent for Art Public Art Program, 1998 - 2002, Board of Directors, Washington County Arts Council, (WCAC) Hagerstown MD, 2007 - 2014; the WCAC Community Arts Grant Review Panel – 2001-2018; Board of Directors, Hagerstown Community College Foundation, Hagerstown, MD, 2005, Scholarship Grant review; Chairman - Art Futures, non-profit artist awards program 1998- 2001, Milwaukee, WI; Board of Directors – Wisconsin Painters & Sculptors, 1998-2000; Board of Directors MARN – Milwaukee Artist Resource Network, Milwaukee WI; Consultant, The Bodice Project, Shepherdstown WV, 2016 – 2019.

Selected Museum, Gallery and University Exhibits:

- Phaze 2 Gallery, Shepherd University, Shepherdstown WV, solo exhibit, 2024
- RED gallery, Knoxville TN, 2024
- Dogwood Arts Gallery, Knoxville TN, 2024
- McCormick Place, Chicago IL, *The Bodice Project, Sculpture Exhibit for the AACR* (American Association for Cancer Research), National Conference, 2018
- NOMA Gallery, Frederick MD 2018-2019
- The Bridge Gallery, Shepherdstown WV, 2016 - 2019
- Marin-Price Galleries, Bethesda, MD 2010 - 2019
- Oglebay Institute; Stifel Fine Arts Center, Wheeling WV, National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Conference 2018
- Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, MD *Pyro Protagonists: A Generation of Influential Ceramic Artists*, invitational, 2017
- Artspace, Herndon, VA – *Golden Dome Anthology*, invitational
- Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN, anagama invitational
- Lubeznik Art Center, Michigan City, IN, International Ceramics, invitational

- Museum of Fine Art, Hagerstown MD, Cumberland Valley Art Exhibit, national juried exhibit
- Washington County Arts Council Gallery, Hagerstown, MD, invitational
- Frederick Layton Gallery, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
- Lakeside Studio International Artist program, Lakeside, MI
- UP Gallery, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, Solo exhibit
- Canton Art Institute, Canton, OH, 4th National Invitational
- Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI, juried exhibit
- Downey Museum of Art, Downey CA, national juried exhibit
- Navy Pier, Chicago, IL, "*New Art Forms Exposition*", represented by Lakeside Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Lill Street Gallery, Chicago, IL
- Nicholls State University, Thibodaux LA, invitational

PANELS/LECTURES/WORKSHOPS

- Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown MD, *From Gentileschi to SWOON?* Lecture on styles in visual arts from contemporary women artists. Presentation for the Singer Society 2018
- **NCECA – National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts**, National Conference, Kansas City, MO, 2002. Panel presentation "*Monumental Opportunities: Ceramic Art/Public Art*", with Public art panelists Jun Kaneko, David Middlebrook, Barbara Grygutis and John Roloff
- **Washington County Museum of Fine Arts**, Hagerstown MD, *Professional Artist Presentation*, Instructional, resume building, exhibit entrance, artwork presentation and slide review 2005, 2006
- **Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design**, Milwaukee WI, class lecture "Graduating into Public Art", 2002
- **Milwaukee Arts Board**, Fund allocation and Grant Selection panel, 2000, 2001
- **Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design**, Milwaukee WI, 2001, Consultant for Focus Group, *MIAD: Visibility in the Community*
- **Selection Committee**, Milwaukee Public Art Program, 2000, 2001
- **Visual Arts Milwaukee, Marquette University**, initial planning forum
- **Carroll College**, Waukesha, WI, 1998, artist lecture
- **University of Notre Dame**, National Symposium on the Ceramic Arts, 1993
- **St. Clair Community College**, Port Huron, MI, "Women in the Arts"
- **Oakland University**, Auburn Hills, MI. Statewide ceramic conference, artist lecture
- **Canton Art Institute**, Canton, OH, 1992, artist lecture
- **Lakeside Studio**, Lakeside, MI, Artist in Residence, International Artist Program,
 - 1991, 1989
- **Wayne State University**, Detroit, MI, 1991, artist lecture
- **Nicholls State University**, Thibodaux, LA, 1990, artist lecture
- **Museum of Arts and History**, Port Huron, MI 1990, artist lecture
- **St. Clair Community College**, Port Huron, MI, 1990, artist lecture
- **University of Notre Dame**, Notre Dame, IN, 1989, artist lecture

WORKS IN THE COLLECTION OF:

The Leader Foundation, Washington DC
The Audubon Society of Western Maryland
Carroll College, Waukesha WI
The Ogden Company, Milwaukee WI
Growth Design Corporation, Milwaukee, WI
Lakeside Studios, Lakeside, MI, permanent collection
J.L. Hudson Corporation, Grosse Pointe Farms, MI, Private Collection
Museum of Arts and History, Port Huron, MI, Permanent Collection,
St. Clair Community College, Port Huron, MI, Permanent Collection
Many Private Collections

REFERRED ARTICLES/PUBLICATIONS:

- *Fluent* magazine, http://issuu.com/mckgrp/docs/feb-mar-2013_fluent,
 - Cover and feature 2013,
 - Feature 2014
- *Herald Mail*, Hagerstown, MD, 2006, 2011, 2012
- *Shepherd Express Magazine*, Milwaukee WI, 2000
- *Hagerstown Magazine*, Hagerstown, MD, 2005, 2010, 2013
- *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*, Milwaukee WI, 1999
- <https://www.heraldmillmedia.com/story/lifestyle/2014/07/13/one-hot-show-at-the-museum/45504783/>
- <https://www.knoxalliance.com/no-bigger-than-a-breadbox-biennial-small-works-show-2/>