



KUNSTRAUM RICHARD SORGE

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Strich & Faden - Heimat, Volkskunst und Travestie



Garth Johnson (USA)

Bio

Garth Johnson is a Eureka, CA based writer, artist and educator with a raging craft problem. His website, Extreme Craft is a "compendium of art masquerading as craft, craft masquerading as art and craft raising its middle finger". He is the co-host of the upcoming DVD "Reconstruct" and editor of the upcoming book, "1000 Ideas for Creative Reuse." documenting creative projects made out of reused materials.

Garth Johnson received his BFA from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, and his MFA from Alfred University. Johnson uses plates, commercially available blanks and collector's plates (think Franklin Mint), as foils for his computer-generated ceramic decals. A pop-culture junkie, his plates serve as a vehicle for commentary on contemporary society. Garth Johnson is currently a designer at Perkins+Will architects in Atlanta, as well as an adjunct faculty member at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia.

Artist Statement

My family has a huge problem with craft. My mother and father participated in just about every craft fad that I can remember. Wire art, macramé, and decoupage in the 70's, and stained glass in the 80's. My mother is an insane quilter, my Aunt Barbara a glass painter. One great-grandfather was a blacksmith, another collected and carved gemstones. I was born and raised on a farm in Nebraska, attended art school at the University of Nebraska, then got my MFA in ceramics at Alfred University. Craft has dogged me all my life. I love it, I hate it, I write about it because it seems totally alive to me. Craft hard!

Solo Exhibitions

2008 "Garth Johnson: Plates", The Clay Studio, Philadelphia, USA

Group Exhibitions

2008 "Raised in Craftivity", Wignall Museum of Contemporary Art, Rancho Cucamonga, USA
2007 "Handymen and Girly Boys: Masculinity, Craft, Culture", curated by Maria Elena Buszek, Sherry Leedy Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri, USA
2006 „The New Utilitarian“, Lewis and Clark College, Hoffman Gallery, Portland, Oregon; USA

Online

www.extremecraft.typepad.com