



SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS
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**SUU's ART INSIGHTS TO HOST
CERAMIC ARTIST AURORE CHABOT
SEPTEMBER 25, 2014**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: Aurore Chabot's sculptures explore the changing nature of life with shifting textures and unique shapes that blend with vibrant colors. Aurore's work feeds off the architecture of her imagination that adds dimension to life as they cast wonder and fire into others. As a featured artist of the fall exhibition, ***50 from 6: Contemporary Ceramic Art from Six Rocky Mountain States, Art Insights*** will showcase Aurore's mesmerizing ceramic work and she will share her process with students. The free presentation will take place in the **Sharwan Smith Center Ballroom** (please note the new venue) with in SUU's Hunter Conference Center on **Thursday, September 25th, 2014, at 7pm.**

Aurore will also be presenting a hands-on participatory workshop that will explore and demonstrate various techniques. This unique experience will be held on **Thursday and Friday, September 25th and 26th from 9:00am to 4:00pm** (including a one hour intermission). The workshops are **located in SUU's Centrum Arena Building, in room CN203. Admission is free and the general public is invited to attend.**

Aurore Chabot is "constantly striving to discover and expose the inner workings of her mind or subconscious as she manipulates clay into forms." Aurore traverses and transforms the hues and tones that are deep in her mind, so that they are manifestations of thoughts and feelings in her work. As each piece is formed, it builds into more meaning for her and the personal connections made by its viewers. She states: "My goal is to create sculptures that are distinct in form, yet ambiguous in origin and meaning, as often are our dreams, the elusive stories from our subconscious. I view my creative process as an ongoing journey of discernment and revelation."

Driven by architecture, geometric shapes and organic systems to form her hybrid sculptures, her work is a window and a doorway through deeper, complex meditations of life. Aurore adds a psychological dimension to each 'living' piece as she compares her process to the experience of human life. The composition of the leather hard, bark-like texture is like skin. She also echoes sleep when the piece has

gone into the fire of the kiln, that “one can never be sure what kind of metamorphoses takes place there.” Her most recent exploration and research are the contemporary Mexican cemeteries which exemplify the coexistence of the past and present. That tension allows her to see the stories, shapes, colors and textures ‘breathing’ into and out of her work. She exclaims that “this is the kind of breathing energy I strive to bring to my own work in which the layers of fragments and combinations of forms serve as metaphor for passage of time, experience, and memory.”

Aurore Chabot is a Professor of Ceramic Art and has been an artist and educator at the University of Arizona since 1988. She has completed two major national public art commissions, received two NEA individual artists grants, been invited to numerous visiting artist engagements, and her work has been included in over 100 national and international exhibitions and numerous books and periodicals. Included in many public and private collections, her work was included in an international invitational exhibition at the Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Museum in Taiwan where one of her sculptures was purchased for their collection. She completed a fall 2011 sabbatical leave during which she traveled to numerous museum collections to research Tibetan Buddhist art and iconography. Through contemplation and study of material collected, she is currently translating her observations and responses into works of art on paper and in clay.

Sponsored by **The Friends of the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery**, *50 from 6: Contemporary Ceramic art from Six Rocky Mountain States* runs **September 25 through November 8** at the Gallery in the Braithwaite Building on the SUU campus. Exhibition hours are Tue-Sat, noon-7pm and the show is free and open to the public.

Art Insights is a weekly program hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU’s Art and Design faculty. Students and community members meet to experience presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights and attend gallery openings. Admission is free, and the general public is invited to attend.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Southern Utah University’s College of Performing and Visual Arts is home to nationally-accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts, and Dance. The College offers 17 degrees, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science, professional Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre, and Arts Administration Master of Arts and Master of Fine Arts. It houses the Center for Shakespeare Studies, which offers a degree minor. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff teach and mentor over 550 arts majors. Over 1100 students enroll each year in more than 195 arts classes. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions annually. Its affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespeare

Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.

FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: SUU's *ART INSIGHTS* PRESENTS AURORE CHABOT, CERAMICIST

- WHAT:** Aurore Chabot, ceramic artist, will discuss her career in an Art Insights presentation and offers workshops for local artists and students that explore her processes and techniques of sculpting ceramic art
- WHO:** Art Insights, Southern Utah University, Department of Art and Design
- PRESENTATION:** Thursday, September 25th, 2014, 7pm, Sharwan Smith Center Ballroom
- WORKSHOP:** Thursday, September 25th, 2014 and Friday, September 26th, 2014
9:00am-noon and 1–4pm
SUU's Centrum Arena Building, room CN203
- INFORMATION:** Visit: www.suu.edu/pva/arts
- PRICES:** Free Admission and the General Public is encouraged to attend.