



**COLLEGE OF
PERFORMING & VISUAL ARTS**

SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY

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Ancient Ceramic Form Meets Contemporary Vision Through the Work of Sam Chung

Written by Tracy Solimeno

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: SUU's Department of Art & Design welcomes ceramic artist, Sam Chung, as an Art Insights speaker on Thursday, January 25, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. located in Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA). His ceramic pottery incorporates design, aesthetics, and function to translate natural motifs into works of art. Admission is free and open to the public.

For Chung, the historical framework of a piece provides a visual and cultural source of inspiration. His vessels incorporate stylized shapes, line work, and unique glazes. Chung utilizes both wheel-thrown and hand-formed elements to create organic vessels with a touch of historical fantasy. While pieces are functional, their clean, abstract design becomes the dominating element.

Chung received his Master of Fine Arts from Arizona State University and a Bachelor of Art from St. Olaf College. He has taught at Northern Michigan University and Arizona State University. His work has been featured at Greenwich House Pottery-Jane Harstook Gallery, Lawrence Arts Center, AKAR, Plinth Gallery, and Lacoste Gallery as well as numerous group exhibitions both nationally and internationally.

Sam Chung said, "I am interested in the way that pots have the unique ability to serve a multitude of roles and functions. They can create nostalgia, reference history or places, bring attention to more tactile or ergonomic concerns, and of course, serve a utilitarian role." Chung's most recent work features clouds, a symbol depicted in traditional Korean art. He said, "I am interested in the way in which clouds represent a phenomenon that is constantly in flux. Their nature to morph and adapt is similar to the way in which I relate to my own floating sense of identity. These cultural references are intended to serve as an anchor to point towards my own ethnic lineage, but also question my perception of belonging within or outside of it."

Susan Harris, Professor of Art at Southern Utah University, said, "Chung's unique, beautifully crafted and conceived art work, which references cloud imagery and pottery forms, originates from traditional Korean art and design. Because of this, his vessels are sculptural in form and are of interest to both ceramic vessel makers and ceramic sculpture students."

Art Insights is hosted during the fall and spring semesters by SUU's Art & Design faculty. Students and community members meet to partake in presentations and discussions by visiting artists and art educators from around the nation who share their work and insights.

Come enjoy the transitory beauty of clouds through Sam Chung's designs and contemporary ceramics. For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva.

About the College of Performing and Visual Arts

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited programs in Art & Design, Music, and Dance. The College also offers programs in Theatre Arts, graduate programs in Arts Administration and Music, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies. The College offers 26 academic programs, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Arts in Arts Administration, Master of Music Education and Master of Music in Music Technology graduate degrees. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 600 majors in the College. The College presents over 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA), Utah Shakespeare Festival and SUU's Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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Who: Sam Chung, Art Insights, Department of Art & Design, Southern Utah University

When: Thursday, January 25, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Where: Southern Utah Museum of Art, 13 S 300 W, Cedar City, Utah

Tickets: Free admission, General Public invited to attend

Info: For more information, please visit www.suu.edu/pva.

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