

# Malcolm Mobutu Smith

*“Smith looks to see things in each movement within the creative process that set up new possibilities. So, in essence, making and looking occur at the same time.”*

Laura O'Donnell

## ***Professional Profile***

Committed to the education of fine arts students in the twenty-first century using a unique combination of education experiences and dedication to the exploring the creative potential of higher education.

- Holds a Masters Fine Arts Degree and Bachelors Fine Arts Degree in Ceramics.
- Experienced in use of the computer technology for both creative activity and pedagogical strategies.
- Dedicated to enthusiastic and dynamic teaching as a means of creating and nurturing a lifelong love of knowledge, problem generation and problem solving through the creative experience.

## ***Education***

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1994 – 1996	New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University Alfred NY Master's of Fine Arts (Ceramics)
1991 – 1994	Penn State University State College PA Bachelor's of Fine Arts (Ceramics)
1988 – 1990	Kansas City Art Institute Kansas City MO

## ***Teaching Experience***

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2007 -	Associate Professor of Ceramic Art, Indiana University Area head for ceramics Instructor for all levels of undergraduate and graduate ceramics including MFA and BFA seminars, Ceramic Tech Primary instructor for BFA program
2001 –2007	Assistant Professor of Ceramic Art, Indiana University Instructor for all levels of graduate and undergraduate ceramic studies, Including MFA and BFA seminars, Ceramic Tech, and Intro.—Adv.
1996 – 2001	Assistant Professor of Ceramic Art, Western Kentucky University Instructor for all levels of undergraduate ceramics Instructor for all levels of undergraduate drawing Instructor for Art Appreciation, undergraduate general education

*“Both Mobutu and his works sit between cultures, artistic and aesthetic paradigms, and between visual and spoken languages.”*

Dr. B. Stephen Carpenter II  
Professor of Art Education

## ***Professional Activity***

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2012	Workshop and Lecture, Central Michigan University, MI
2010	Workshop and lecture, Vincennes University IN Workshop and lecture, Kent State University OH
2009	Artist lecture Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art Overland Park KS Artist lecture SoFA Gallery Rendering and Meaning exhibition Bloomington IN
2008	Panelist/ Organizer, New Frontiers Grant <i>“Infinite Speed, zero error, total Memory”</i> IU Artist Lecture, IU Kokomo, Kokomo IN
2007	Lecture, Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO Lecture, Purdue University Art History Student Association, W. Lafayette

## Malcolm Mobutu Smith

		IN
	2006	Workshop and lecture, Parkland College, Champaign IL Workshop and lecture, Syracuse University, Syracuse NY Workshop and lecture, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI
	2005	Workshop and lecture (three days), University North Carolina Pembroke, Pembroke NC
	2004	Workshop and lecture (two days), University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Whitewater WI Artist-in-Residence, Robert M. MacNamara Foundation, Westport ME Watershed Artist and Mentors, participant/mentor, Newcastle ME
	2001	Visiting Artist, Centre College, Danville KY Visiting Artist, Lansing Public Library, Lansing MI Ceramics workshop China tour lecture Lecture and workshop on graffiti art
<i>“This artistic dialogue, where one element of a pot is in counterpoint to another, is characteristic of Smith’s work. Piece after piece sets up opposing elements—high and low art, past and present, function and decoration, China and Africa, two dimensions and three—and brings them into relation with each other.”</i>	2000	Lecturer (China tour), Bowling Green Arts League, Bowling Green KY Visiting Artist, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids MI Ceramics workshop, week-long residency Lecture and workshop, Jingdezhen, Xian and Chen Lu, China Logo design for Kentucky Clay Network
	1999	Visiting Artist workshop and lecture(three days), Indiana University, Bloomington IN Visiting Artist, Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock PA Ceramics workshop and lecture w/ Dr. Stephen Carpenter
<i>—Leora Baude, Indiana University Research and Creative Activity, Volume XXVII No. 2 (Spring 2005)</i>	1998	Visiting Artist, Manchester Craftsman Guild, Pittsburgh PA Ceramics workshop and lecture w/ Dr. Stephen Carpenter Visiting Artist, Old Dominion University, Norfolk VA Visiting Artist, Conestoga High School, Berwyn PA Visiting Artist (drawing), T/E Junior High School, Berwyn PA Poster and Flyer Design for poet Tessie Adams, (guest lecturer, Woman’s Studies Program), Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green KY
	1997	Visiting Artist workshop and lecture, Centre College, Danville KY Artist-in-Residence, Watershed Center for Ceramic Art, Wasscasset ME Pottery production as fundraiser in support of Watershed
	1996	Visiting Artist, Chester Springs Studio, Chester Springs PA Visiting Artist, Conestoga High School, Berwyn PA
	1995	Studio Assistant, John and Andrea Gill, Alfred NY Assisted in production of the artists’ works
	1994	Gallery Assistant, Helen Drutt Gallery, Philadelphia PA Facilitated transport and installation of Drutt’s display at SOFA in Chicago IL
	1989	Panelist/Speaker “Student Dilemmas for the 90s,” NCECA, Kansas City MO Invited undergraduate representative Construction, Cross draft wood kiln, Chester Springs Studios, Chester Springs PA
	1988	Studio/Workshop Assistant, Peters Valley Craft Center, Peters Valley NJ Support for all summer ceramics workshops Production throwing work for Korean carved pottery workshop Exhibited in Peters Valley Gallery

### *Exhibitions*

#### **One Person**

## Malcolm Mobutu Smith

<p>“I wanted to be able to do this stuff [graffiti]. It was huge. It was amazing—thick lines and forms and colors. It was always about this fine, crisp edge—that final tight ‘outline.’ Smith feels graffiti carries the same energy, the same magical understanding of forms and their relationships, and the same quality of exaggeration, as African sculpture, to which he feels a kinship.”</p> <p>—Dr. Luoana M. Lackey, Ceramics Monthly</p>	2013	<i>Malcolm Mobutu Mobutu: Improvisations-</i> Evansville Museum of Art – Evansville IN (with catalog)
	2011	Retrospective Inner City Inspiration: An Artists Evolution in Clay – iMOCA- Indianapolis IN
	2008	Recent works- Beard Arts Center Gallery-Indiana Wesleyan University
	2007	<i>Backjumps</i> , Ruschman Gallery, Indianapolis IN
	2007	<i>Shift: new works by Malcolm Mobutu Smith</i> , Leedy-Voulkos Art Center
	2007	Backroom Gallery KCMO
	2006	<i>Glyphs: Ceramics by Malcolm Mobutu Smith</i> (an NCECA show), Pyro Gallery, Louisville KY
	2006	Recent Works, Chameleon Gallery, Cazenovia NY
	2006	<i>Touch and Circumstance: New Ceramic Work</i> , Parkland Art Gallery, Champaign IL
	2005	<i>Rigmarole: Object/Image</i> , SoFA Gallery, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
	2005	<i>Surface and Structure Series: Rigamarole</i> , Gallery 204, Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA
	2002	Recent Works, Tuska Gallery, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
	<b>Two Person</b>	
	2010	<i>Navel Gazing</i> , Christyl Boger and Malcolm Smith, Pewabic Pottery, Detroit MI
	1999	<i>No Problems No Solutions</i> , Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock PA
	1998	<i>Expression and Interpretation</i> , Manchester Craftsman Guild PA
	1997	<i>New Works—Ceramics by Malcolm Smith and Painting by John Oakes</i> , Capital Arts Center Bowling Green KY
	1997	<i>(re)search(re)vision(re)construct</i> , Old Dominion University Gallery, Norfolk VA
	<b>Invitational</b>	
	2012	<i>Represent-</i> Indiana State Museum – Indianapolis IN
2012	<i>Heartland</i> – Indiana Artists from the Permanent Collection- Indiana State Museum – Indianapolis IN	
2012	<i>Drawing Clay-</i> Central Michigan University Art Gallery, Mt. Pleasant MI	
2010	<i>Salad Days Artist: Then and Now-</i> Watershed Center of Ceramic Art – Watershed ME	
2010	Vincennes University 2010 Ceramics Invitational, Shircliff Gallery Vincennes IN	
2010	<i>Fertile Ground-</i> NCECA, Philadelphia Horticultural Center, Philadelphia PA	
2010	<i>Conestoga Alumni</i> –NCECA Philadelphia PA	
2009	<i>Beyond Bounds –Glow</i> , Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park KS	
2009	<i>NewNow</i> , Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park KS	
2009	<i>Making it the Midwest</i> -Indiana State Museum Indianapolis IN	
2009	IMPACT: Old Traditions in New Clothes, Center for Fine Print Research Archive, Bristol UK	
2008	<i>Black Clay in PA: A Dialogue in Flux</i> , 209 Gallery, Pittsburg PA	
2008	<i>Bling</i> , Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe NM	
2007	<i>Of the body: Five Contemporary Artists Explore the Human Presence</i> , Todd Gallery Middle Tennessee state University Murfreesboro TN	
2007	<i>Stardust Memories: IU Ceramics Faculty Past and Present</i>	
2007	<i>Earth Tones: A Multi-Cultural Look at Clay</i> , Louisville KY-NCECA	
2007	<i>In My Own Words</i> Invitational show, Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe NM	
2005	<i>13+1: Penn State Alumni Show with Chris Staley</i> , The Works Gallery, Philadelphia PA	
2005	<i>The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring</i> , Santa Fe Clay Co., Santa Fe, NM.	
2004	<i>1<sup>st</sup> International Ceramic Journal of Editors Exhibition</i> , FuLed International Ceramic Art Museum, Beijing, China	
2004	<i>Earth Tones: Contemporary African-American Ceramics</i> , Rocky Mount Arts Center, Rocky Mount NC	
2004	<i>From Hoosier Hands</i> , Richmond Art Museum, Richmond IN	

# Malcolm Mobutu Smith

- Ten Regional Artists*, Swope Art Museum, Terre Haute IN  
*Well Beyond the Crossroads – Contemporary Black Art Invitational*, Concord College WV  
*Diversity in Unity Invitational*, Baltimore Clayworks, Baltimore MD  
*A Sense of Identity: Contemporary Ceramic Art Invitational*, Fort Wayne IN
- Juried**
- 2006 *1st Annual National Juried Cup Show*, Monticello AR  
2005 *Ceramic Art Competition*, Gallery International, (jurors: Adelaide Paul and Ron Lang), Baltimore MD  
2004 *Forms and Shapes: Cups*, AKAR Gallery, (Juror Clary Illian), Iowa City IA  
2002 ClayFest, University of Indianapolis, Indianapolis IN  
2000 *Mid States Crafts Exhibition*, Evansville Museum of Art and Science, Evansville IN
- Traveling**
- 2004-07 *Shades of Clay*, Smith Kramer Traveling Exhibition [curated by Paul Wandless]  
Museum of Art and History Santa Cruz, CA: February 26 -April,  
Louisiana Art and Science Museum, Baton Rouge, LA: May 17 - July 9  
Philip and Muriel Berman Museum of Art, Collegetown, PA: July 30 -  
September 24  
Springfield Museum of Art, Springfield, Ohio: December 31, 2006 -  
February 25, '07  
Museum of Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, September 11, 2005,  
through November 6, 2005. J. Wayne Stark Gallery, College Station, Texas,  
January 13, 2005, through February 27, 2005  
Bergstrom-Mahler Museum, Neenah, Wisconsin, November 7, 2004,  
through January 2, 2005
- 2001 *Shared Journeys: Chinese and American Ceramics*, West Virginia University
- Group**
- 2011 *Small* - Luise Ross Gallery, New York, NY  
2011-13 *Heartland Art: Selections from Your Indiana Collection* – Indiana State Museum  
2007 *Emerging Excellence: 14 Regional University Programs*, Mellwood Arts Center,  
Louisville  
*Bloomington Biennial*, (faculty show), Indiana University Art Museum,  
2006 Three person show – Prima Gallery, Bloomington IN  
2005 Group show of competition winners, Gallery International, Baltimore MD  
*Bloomington Biennial*, (faculty show), Indiana University Art Museum,  
2004 “X in Clay” *Contemporary Ceramics*, Ruschman Gallery, Indianapolis IN  
*Indiana University Ceramic Faculty*, SoFA Gallery, Bloomington IN  
2003 *Bloomington Biennial*, (faculty show), Indiana University Art Museum,  
Bloomington IN

## ***Collections***

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Center for Fine Print Research Archive, Bristol, UK  
Oppenheimer Collection, Nerman Museum Overland Park KS  
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, Overland Park, KS  
Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN  
Anne and Harry Wollman, Contemporary Ceramics, Private collection, VT.  
Baker University Collection, Baldwin City KS  
FuLed International Ceramic Art Museum, Beijing, China  
The Gloryhole Collection, The International Museum of Ceramics at  
Alfred NY  
Grace Hampton, American Crafts, Private Collection, Exton PA  
Helms-Craven Library, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green KY  
Jingdezhen Institute of Fine Art, Jingdezhen, China  
Stephen Hootkin, American Ceramics, Private Collection, New York NY

Robert Pfannabecker, American Ceramics, Private Collection, Lancaster

## ***Awards and Grants***

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- 2009 Emergency Grant in Aid of research Indiana University Bloomington \$500  
2007 New Frontiers Visionary Scholars Grant – *Infinite Speed, Zero Errors & Total Creativity and Desire in the Digital Age* collaboration with Anton Reijnders - University \$29,000  
Emergency Grant in Aid of research Indiana University Bloomington \$500  
2006 Emergency Grant in Aid of research Indiana University Bloomington \$500  
2005 First Place, Gallery International Ceramic Art Competition, Baltimore MD  
2003 Trustees Teaching Award for Sustained Excellence in Teaching, Indiana University  
2000 Professional Development Grant, Kentucky Arts Council  
Purchase Award, Owensboro Art Guild

## ***Reviews and Citations***

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- Cateforis, David, Oppenheimer Collection, pp. 284-5. Color illos. and text. 2012.  
Perry, Rachel, article- “Celebrating Indiana’s African American Artists” American Art Review Vol. XXIV, No.1 2012 pp 87 color image.  
Tandy, Kisha, article- “Art Intersects History: Indiana African American Artists” Indiana Historical Society, Spring 2012 pp. 27 color image.  
Exhibition catalog, “Represent: Celebrating Indiana’s African American Artists” curated By Rachel Perry and Kisha Tandy pp. 35-36 color images and text. 2012.  
Chan, Shu-Mei, article- “On Virtual Sandboxes” *CeramicsTECHNICAL* No. 30, 2010 pp. 8-13.  
Catalogue Color section three illos. Making it in the Midwest Indiana State Museum Catalogue Color illo. Beyond Bounds – Glow, Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art Selected - peer juried website [www.accessCeramics.org](http://www.accessCeramics.org) contemporary ceramics image resource  
Review- The Kansas City Star, February 3, 2009, section E page 1(illo.), 3.  
Burns, Khephra, article – *American Ceramics Magazine* (final issue web published) multiple four color images  
Highlight section - *Clay in Art International* yearbook and CD-rom 07/08 multiple four color images and article excerpts  
Kangas, Matthew, article – “Malcolm Mobutu Smith: Hip Hop Art Pottery” *Ceramics Monthly* Oct 2008 Cover feature and multiple four color images.  
Bey, Sharif; Carpenter II, B Stephen; Smith, Malcolm Mobutu, “Inspirational Clay Studio Practices and Visiting Artists: Products and Altar Installations” *The Journal of Cultural Research in Art Education*  
O'Donnell, Laura, “Malcolm Mobutu Smith: Touch and Circumstance.” *Ceramics Art and Perception*, (Issue 68, 2007), pp. 79-82. 4 illos.  
*Fusion Australian network of Clay and Glass Artists*, Featured artist Malcolm Mobutu Smith newsletter (2007), pp. 13.  
Carpenter II, B. Stephen, Ceramics as Hypertext and Curriculum: Malcolm Mobutu Smith’s Complex and Complicated Clay Conversations” *Terracotta Magazine* 2007 - < <http://www.terracottamag.com/>>  
O'Donnell, Laura, “Touch and Circumstance: Recent Ceramic Work by Malcolm Mobutu Smith” *Critical Ceramics* 2006  
<<http://www.criticalceramics.org/reviews/shows/mobutu.shtml>>  
Vorel, Jim “New Art displayed at Parkland” The Daily Illini October 11, 2006 Section B page 10.  
Gallery section. *American Craft*, (Dec.2005/Jan. 2006).  
Baude, L. “Voices of Clay,” *Indiana University Research and Creative Activity*, Vol. XXVII, No. 2, (Spring 2005), pp. 16-19.

## Malcolm Mobutu Smith

- FuLed International Ceramics Museum. *1st International Ceramic Journal of Editors Exhibition*, (journal). Beijing, China, 2005. (Two color images; one bio page)
- Watkins, James and Wandless, Paul. *Alternative Kiln and Firing Techniques*, Lark Books, 2004. (quarter page color image, p. 100)
- Lackey, M. L. "Indiana University Ceramic Faculty." *Ceramics Monthly* (June/July/August, 2004), pp. 63-65.