

S u S a n C o l l e t t R C A I A C

C L A Y ~ S c u l p t u r e ~ P R I N T S

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ARTIST STATEMENT

Susan Collett lives and works in Toronto, Canada. She is in the 33st year of her full-time studio practice in the city. Collett holds a BFA major in printmaking with a minor in ceramics from the Cleveland Institute of Art, (CIA) USA.

Clay & Printmaking are the focus of her explorations.

Collett's work derives from the interest in the tension of strength against fragility and as she pushes the work to the edge of physical collapse, this theme becomes more potent.

This recent Beacon series of porcelain vessels comprises paper-thin layers of striated porcelain, carrying no more than air and light-movement and gesture that harkens from her background in dance.

The series began 25 years ago after an important residency in Jingdezhen, China upon winning the prestigious Winnifred Shantz Prize from the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery in Canada. In China she witnessed the gamut of porcelain production, from tiny egg-shell boxes to colossal-scale free-standing structures that influenced a larger body-scale relationship to her forms.

Keeping a daily sketchbook limbers her hand and mind coordination so that when she is in direct contact with the clay, her enjoyment comes from direct action, without preparatory layouts, enabling her into an improvised act of sculpting.

Collett received her RCA, Royal Canadian Academy of Art in 2008 and her IAC, International Academy of Ceramics in 2007.