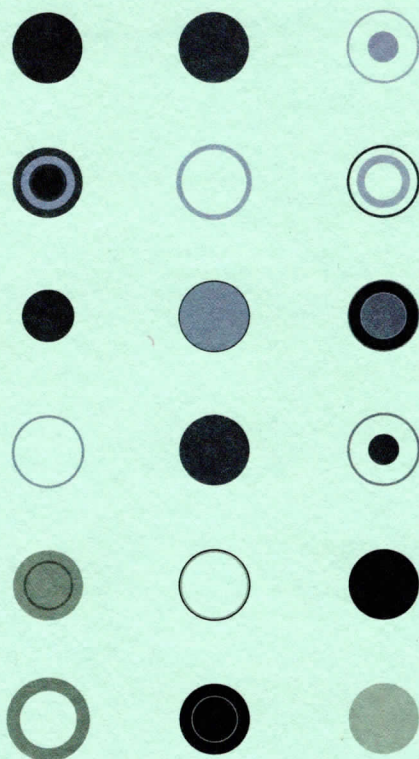


Point & Counterpoint



NORTH CAROLINA ARTS COUNCIL
FELLOWS 2014—2015

SECCA



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Executive Director, SECCA
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AARON WILCOX

BUNDLES

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Ceramic artist Aaron Wilcox's work models fundamental questions of relationship through physical materials. At their core, his *Bundles*, *Masses*, *Wraps*, and *Drapes* investigate the construction of units, groups, and systems.

Wilcox's *Bundles* series began as an experiment in spontaneity and improvisation. He took a deconstructive approach to parsing earlier forms he made. In reconsidering the anatomy of curves and other shapes that define the traditional medium of ceramics in all manner of vessels, Wilcox began to reconfigure smaller pieces of porcelain with zip-ties. This incremental approach generates structures and masses with an anthropomorphic aspect.

Further articulations of line and form in Wilcox's non-traditional take on ceramic building can be seen in his series *Masses* and *Wraps*, and the 2015 work *Drape*. In the process of forming his new suite of sculptural ceramics, Wilcox became mesmerized by the sound and pull of the clay, and by the torque of the zip-ties. He was thrilled by the possibility that the plastic zip ties could shatter the fragile porcelain pieces they hold together. The binding, potentially destructive element in these ceramic masses became more than a means of support; they became the crux of the work.

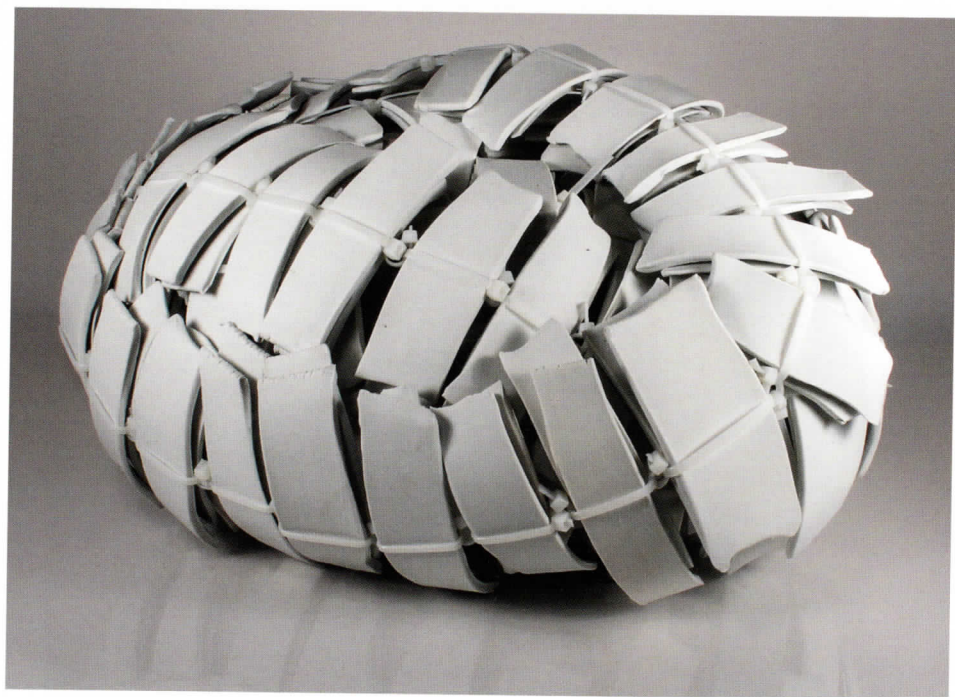
Wilcox borrows from a language of conceptual art where verb and noun, action and object, process and result become nearly identical (wrap, drape, bundle). Wilcox follows these linguistic imperatives through the material. He rolls, compresses, and layers clay with alternatively dense and open outcomes.



Dense mix bundle (detail), 2013



Mass #1, 2014



Drape, 2015