MFA NEW PALTZ

CERAMICS
MISSION/// The program cultivates the conceptual, technical, and professional growth of its graduate students by providing an environment balanced among pragmatic skill development, critical and theoretical dialogue, and intensive studio research geared toward a process of making and thinking, resulting in innovative and dynamic outcomes. We encourage students to have a strong sense of responsibility, self-reliance, and confidence. Faculty guide students independent research and individual approaches to their practice. The curricular structure challenges students to critically evaluate their work within a material-specific and an interdisciplinary framework, as well as in theoretical and professional contexts. Students are encouraged to work with methodologies that explore the boundaries of the field while demonstrating an understanding of historic and contemporary ecologies.
ANAT SHIFTAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

Originally from Jerusalem, Israel, Shiftan studied English Literature and Philosophy (BA ’80) at the Hebrew University, Ceramics at Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, (1980-1982), Eastern Michigan University (MA ’84) and at Cranbrook Academy of Art and Design, (MFA ’86). Shiftan worked at Pewabic Pottery, Detroit Michigan (1986-1999) as Instructor, Production Manager—Senior Designer and Director of Education. She taught at Bezalel Academy of Art and Design (1999-2002) and is teaching ceramics at SUNY New Paltz, NY since 2003 where she is currently head of the Ceramics Program. Shiftan received two Michigan Grant for Individual Artists and exhibited her work extensively. Shiftan has collaboratively organized: Contemporary Issues in Clay: A British Perspective, (2006) and Why Clay (2008), and organized Beyond Hand Made (2008), symposiums that examined theoretical, social and economical contexts in which creative practice in visual arts occurs today. shiftana@newpaltz.edu
845.257.7834

BRYAN CZIBESZ
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Bryan Czibesz is an artist grounded in the tradition of object making who asks questions of authorship and authenticity through varying degrees of dislocation between the hand and material manipulation. Originally from Ohio, Bryan earned his MFA from San Diego State University and BA from Humboldt State University, and has shown his work in solo and group exhibitions throughout the United States and internationally, including the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, The Center for Craft, Creativity & Design, the Riga Porcelain Museum in Latvia, and the Ceramics Annual at Scripps College. He has taught at Arcadia University, Rowan University, and has been Artist-in-Residence at The Clay Studio in Philadelphia, the International Ceramics Studio in Kecskemét, Hungary, c.r.e.t.a. Rome, and the University of Hawaii at Manoa. bryan@bryan.czibesz.com
czibesz@newpaltz.edu
845.257.3834

STUDIO SPACE AND FACILITIES

Each student is provided a private graduate studio space within the program’s expansive 10,000 square foot facility. Our state-of-the-art facility gives students a wide range of technical opportunities and is fully equipped to accommodate most traditional and current ceramic practices. The studios are well resourced, ventilated, and brightly lit, and are designed to be flexible and responsive to the needs of the students and the curriculum. The studio is outfitted with a full range of ceramics equipment that is essential to clay fabrication and all aspects of surface development and firing. The program also introduces computer-aided design and manufacture of 3D digital technologies that support students’ expanding production abilities. A broad range of materials for testing and experimentation is available for students’ use on an as-needed basis. Firing ranges from low to high temperatures in electric, gas, soda, and wood kilns. Large, mid-range, and small kilns are available for group and individual firings.

EQUIPMENT
• Full-color digital ceramic decal printer
• 2 Mac computers, scanner, printer, etc.
• Photo room and equipment for documenting work
• Digital projector
• 2 Peter Pugger pug mills (porcelain, stoneware)
• Soldier clay mixer
• 3 Bluebird clay mixers
• 2 Blunger-style slip mixers
• 1 Bluebird vacuum pug mill
• Numerous digital and manual scales
• 2 spray booths, fully equipped
• Plaster mold room
• Jolly Jigger and plaster turner
• 3 slab rollers
• 2 extruders

AUXILIARY TOOLS
(grinders, saw, sand blaster, etc.)
• 3 downdraft gas car kilns
• 1 downdraft gas soda kiln
• 2 front-load electric kilns
• 7 top-load electric kilns
• 6 top-load test electric kilns
• 1 Anagama wood kiln
• 1 catenary arch downdraft wood kiln
• Various Brent (40) and Randall (6) potter’s wheels
• Auxiliary equipment
• Access to fully equipped wood shop
• Access to fully equipped Digital Lab including:
  - laser cutter
  - 3D printer
  - CNC digital router

STUDIO SPACE AND FACILITIES

Jessica Longobardo ’15, Side Elevation of Garages, Trailers, and Motorcycles, 2015
Shiftan/Untitled, 2015
Czibesz/Variables Amphora, Nagy, 2015
Our students have access to a wide range of world-class institutions, organizations, and professionals for internship and fieldwork opportunities in the Hudson Valley and in New York City, which is a 90-minute bus ride away. Related experiences are highly encouraged as they expand and deepen the students’ understanding of the field and related professional goals, and provide invaluable networking opportunities. Students have interned with NYC based practicing ceramic artists and designers as well as with editors of ceramics publications and ceramics art centers.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Our graduates have entered and sustained a broad range of successful careers. Our Graduates are ceramic sculptures, potters, designers, independent studio production craftsmen, educators, and writers in the field. They exhibit and publish their work nationally and internationally and have received awards from international exhibition forums such as Taiwan Yinggery Biannual, the Korean Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale and into NCECA national juried exhibitions. Publications featuring our graduates work and writings often are Studio Potter, Ceramics Art and Perception and Ceramics Technical. Ceramics Monthly and many Lark Published books. Our graduates teach at highly regarded institutions including Emily Carr, KyungHee University, and Suwon, Konkuk University in Korea, the National College of Art Lahore in Pakistan, Skidmore College Marymount Manhattan College and numerous community colleges and ceramics programs in many east coast public and private high-schools. In addition many of our graduates direct programs in art centers sector such as Women’s Studio Workshop, Art Centro and Studio Potter. Our graduates received competitive fellowships and residencies at The International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary; the Museum of Art and Design, Anherson Ranch and Clay Art Center.

LOCATION

Just 90 minutes north of New York City, SUNY New Paltz is uniquely enhanced by its location in the heart of New York’s historic Hudson Valley region. The initial home of the nineteenth-century Hudson River School of Painting, the region continues to serve as home to many artists and artistic organizations and presents a wide array of cultural opportunities. The proximity of New Paltz to New York City provides students with an unparalleled range of artistic and educational opportunities. Frequent field trips and other special events connect students to both historical and contemporary art. Not only have the striking vistas of the Shawangunk and Catskill mountains inspired countless artists through time, but they are also home to world class hiking, climbing, biking, and camping. A legacy of environmental and social justice movements combined with vibrant community supported agriculture programs make New Paltz a leader in sustainability. Both the town of New Paltz and the university promote, as one of their key values, a deep respect for national, racial, ethnic, class, gender, and sexual diversity. We strive to foster a learning community that engenders critical thinking and a profound appreciation for difference and dialogue. New Paltz has been at the forefront of several struggles for social justice with strong traditions in the LGBTQ, civil rights, labor and environmental movements.

AFFORDABILITY

Situated within an Art Department with nationally and internationally known faculty, SUNY New Paltz’s graduate program is considered one of the best, most affordable, high quality programs on the East Coast. All non-resident and international students receive our MFA scholarship allowing them to pay our low in-state tuition rates of approximately $11,000 per year. A number of competitive graduate teaching assistantships are available that offer students approximately $5,000 per semester in combined tuition waivers and stipends.

The Sojourner Truth Diversity Fellowship is open to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who meet specific diversity criteria. Numerous research and travel grants are also available.

For more information: newpaltz.edu/graduate/funding.html
READY TO APPLY?

1. SELECT YOUR GRADUATE PROGRAM
Review our graduate programs www.newpaltz.edu/graduate/programs/ and click the "more info" link for admission requirements, curriculum outline, as well as, faculty information. Contact us at (845) 257-3285 or gradschool@newpaltz.edu if you would like to schedule an advising appointment or need assistance selecting a program.

2. BEGIN YOUR APPLICATION
Visit our website at www.newpaltz.edu/graduate/admissions/apply-now/ to begin the application process. Remember to submit your application well in advance of your program’s admission deadline to ensure timely application review and early decision.

The Graduate School will only review complete files for admission. We close all incomplete applications at the conclusion of each admission cycle and dispose of these files after two years. Please review our records retention policy on our website for more information: www.newpaltz.edu/graduate/records_retention

3. COMPLETE THE PROCESS
Please mail official transcripts, test scores and additional supplemental items to:

SUNY New Paltz
The Graduate School, OM 127
800 Hawk Drive
New Paltz, NY 12561-2442

www.newpaltz.edu/art/admissions.html