

SIDE GALLERY

ROGER HERMAN (1947-)



Ceramic vase
Manufactured by Roger Herman
USA, 2022
Clay, glaze

Measurements
28 cm x 51h cm
11 in x 20h in

Edition
Unique piece

Biography

Roger Herman (b Saarbruecken, Germany, 1947) is a painter and ceramic artist who combines his career with his work as a professor of Fine Arts at University of California in Los Angeles. Herman applies many drawing and painting techniques, such as inlay, scraping, wax resist, oxide wash, and underglaze and glaze combinations. In addition, his pieces vary in style from both abstract and figurative to convey an informal, open, honest and exuberant look. Influenced by expressionism, his style is characterised by wild mixtures of lines, shapes, opacities and ad hoc, fast-stroked stains and smudges that overlap in awkward but satisfying compositions.

Shortly after graduating, he received a postgraduate scholarship from the Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Later, in 1981, he received the National Endowment for the Arts Painting Fellowship. Roger Herman has exhibited broadly in the United States and Europe. His solo exhibitions include the Santa Monica Museum of Art, Ace Contemporary Exhibitions, Los Angeles and New York and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, among others. In addition, some of his finest collections are housed at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles and the MOMA in New York.

Concept

Herman's visual language is like an archaeology of references, taking influences from pop culture and various historical art genres: manga, eroticism, surrealism and Palaeolithic cave drawings. The only common point that prevails is the randomness of his themes, as a sign of his inexhaustible curiosity to know nature in all its forms. Among this variety, the human body is always present in Herman's sculptural work. The faces and painted figures are reminiscent of ancient cave paintings and, like them, leave their trace and accentuate their presence in their lively materiality.