

EXHIBITION ADVISORY

Exhibition: *Julie Green: Flown Blue*

On View: September 14, 2019 – February 23, 2020

Reception: September 14, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm • Talk @ 7:00 p.m. • Artist in Attendance

[High-resolution Images](#) • [Press Release \(pdf\)](#) • [Web](#) • [Reception](#)



Image: *The Last Supper*, 2000-present. Installation view of 357 plates in the 2009 exhibition *Counter Intelligence*, California State University, Los Angeles. Photo courtesy of the artist (detail).

(Pomona, Calif.—July 3, 2019) The dishware works of ceramic artist and painter Julie Green will be the subject of a significant exhibition at the American Museum of Ceramic Art. *Julie Green: Flown Blue*, on view September 14, 2019, through February 23, 2020, will be the most comprehensive exhibition of Green’s dishware-based works and marks the first time they will be seen together and in their entirety. Bringing together over 830 plates, platters, and dishware, the exhibition explores the artist’s longstanding engagement with secondhand porcelain and stoneware dishes, drawing from both the large-scale political works for which Green is acclaimed, and more recent works interrogating societal gender biases and personal histories.

“Green’s mastery of art as social documentary affords a dramatic range of expression for an artist with a piercing cultural commentary. The artist’s provocative and pioneering works do not rest on well-deserved laurels but instead continue to push the bounds of the art world,” said Beth Ann Gerstein, Executive Director of the Museum. “This important exhibition invites viewers to marvel at the revealed scale of Green’s artistic ambition, and to formulate important questions about the foundations of our society.”

Green’s artistic practice should be considered alongside by contemporary masters Ai Weiwei, a Chinese contemporary artist and activist, and Theaster Gates, a fellow American social practice installation artist and professor at the University of Chicago. Both Ai’s works, especially commentary-rich pieces like “Hansel and Gretel” (2017), and Gates’ works, especially “Plate Convergence” (2007), use social documentary as a form of protest and artistic expression.

Highlights of the exhibition will include a large-scale installation of “The Last Supper” in its entirety (over 800 plates). In this acclaimed body of ongoing work, Green documents the last meal requests

of death row inmates in cobalt blue on white, ceramic kiln-fired plates. *Julie Green: Flown Blue* will present this work in conversation with six works from Green's most recent body of work, "First Meal," which documents the first meals eaten by exonerated prisoners. "Naively, I thought 'First Meal' would be more uplifting to paint that 'The Last Supper,'" Green tells [NPR](#). "Of course the meal is celebratory, but it is nothing compared to all those lost years. And how do you depict absence, not having an orange for seven years? How do you illustrate holding an orange for 40 minutes before savoring every bite?"

The exhibition will include works on a Noritake dinner service for twelve comprising "An Embarrassment of Dishes," a rare foray into the intensely personal for the artist. On these pieces, inherited from Green's grandmother, the artist reimagines this family legacy in signature documentary style. Cobalt blue obscures the original design on the face of the dinnerware, and uncomfortable personal anecdotes are hand-lettered frankly and intimately on the bottom. Presented face up, viewers are invited to discover these memories upon flipping each piece.

Accompanying these works will be a selection from the recent series "Fashion Plate." These works, inspired by eighteenth century French fashion plate engravings, use chinet plates to comment on decoration, fashion, identity, security, and bias. Also included in the exhibition will be "Ledger (1)," a sketchbook and record of Green's artistic process. This work includes the initial sketch of a final meal that served as the groundwork for "The Last Supper."

A recipient of the Joan Mitchell Foundation Grant for Painters and Sculptors and the Hallie Ford Foundation Fellowship, Green's egg tempera is included in *A World of Art* published by Prentice Hall. Green has had thirty two exhibitions in the U.S. and abroad, and been featured in *The New York Times*, a *Whole Foods* mini-documentary, National Public Radio, *Ceramics Monthly* and *Gastronomica*.

Julie Green: Flown Blue is curated by Beth Ann Gerstein, Executive Director of the American Museum of Ceramic Art.

In conjunction with the exhibition, an expert panel discussion covering recent developments on the death penalty and related prison reforms will be held on February 8, 2020. AMOCA's educational programs, including K-12 tours, will have age-appropriate educational materials available for participants. On November 2, *Family Day* participants will experience special tours and a hands-on activity relating to the artistic practice of Julie Green.

Education programs are made possible in part by the Ruth and Joseph C. Reed Foundation for the Arts and the DEW Foundation.

The exhibition will be featured on the Museum's website, as well on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter using the hashtag #flownblue.

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July 3, 2019

CALENDAR LISTING

Julie Green: Flown Blue opens at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, 399 N Garey Ave, Pomona, CA 91767 on September 14, 6-9pm with a talk at 7pm. The exhibition runs through February 23, 2020. The museum is open Wednesday-Sunday, Noon to 5pm. For more information: www.amoca.org/juliegreen or (909) 865-3146 or communications@amoca.org.

Credit

This exhibition is organized by the American Museum of Ceramic Art.

About AMOCA

The American Museum of Ceramic Art was founded in 2003, in Pomona, California. The mission of the museum is to champion the art, history, creation, and technology of ceramics through exhibitions, collections, outreach, and studio programming.

Museum Hours

Wednesday through Sunday, Noon – 5pm

Admission

General \$7, Student/Senior \$5, Members & under 12 Free

Location

American Museum of Ceramic Art
399 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767
(909) 865-3146 • www.amoca.org

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