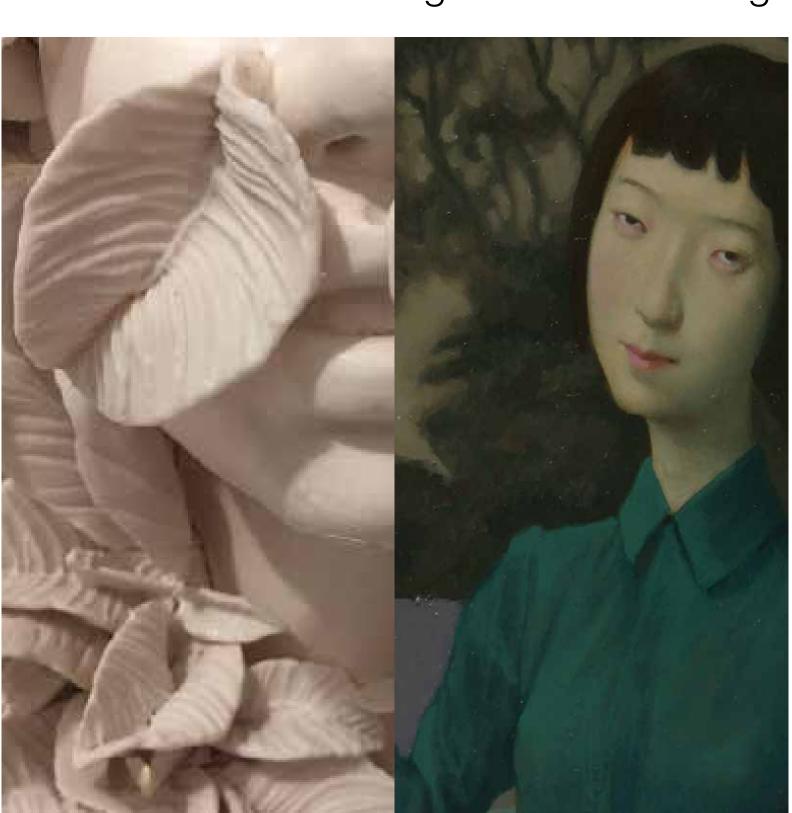


Jess Riva Cooper Viral Series Jeffrey Chong Wang The Night of South Peking





Jess Riva Cooper Viral Series Jeffrey Chong Wang The Night of South Peking

September 9 - October 12, 2017

Jess Riva Cooper Viral Series

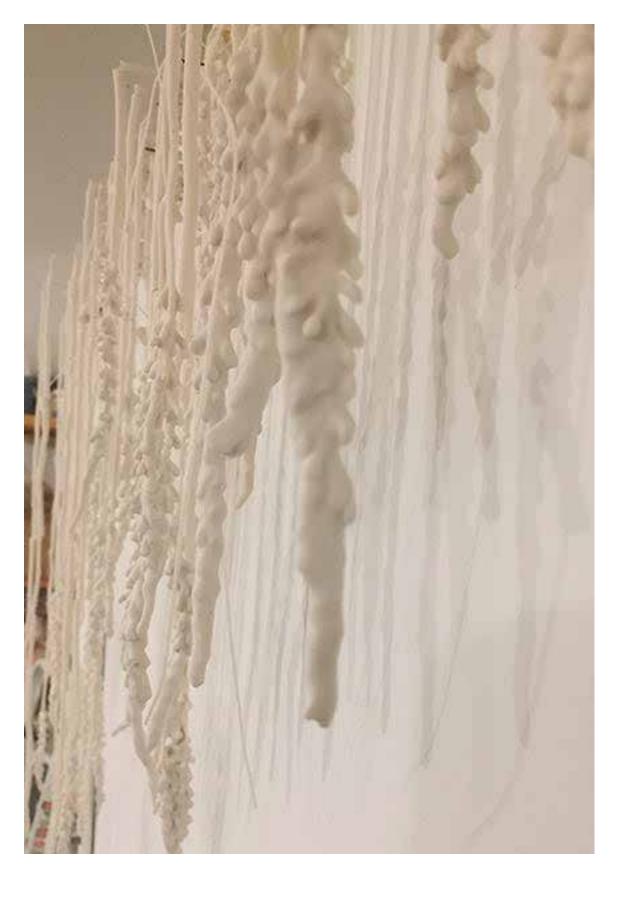
Jess Riva Cooper is an artist and educator based in Toronto who integrates color, drawing, and clay to create sculptures and installationbased artworks. She received her MFA in Ceramic Sculpture from the Rhode Island School of Design, and her BFA from The Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. She has exhibited her works throughout Europe and North America and has participated in numerous artist residencies. Cooper currently teaches at Sheridan College in the Bachelor of Craft and Design Program in Oakville, Canada.

Cooper creates installation-based artworks referencing fallen economic and environmental climates —where houses have become feral; ivy, trees

and Kudzu planted generations ago twist and obscure. Cooper sees a direct parallel between her interest in insidious plant life with the Dybbuk spirit - a malicious possessing spirit from Yiddish folklore believed to be the dislocated soul of a dead person. In both cases, a loss of control is suffered as the parasitic entity subsumes the host.

"In my sculptures, the world sprouts plant matter. Color and form burst forth from quiet gardens and bring chaos to ordered spaces. Nature undergoes a reclamation process by creeping over structures, subverting past states and creating a preternatural transformation."

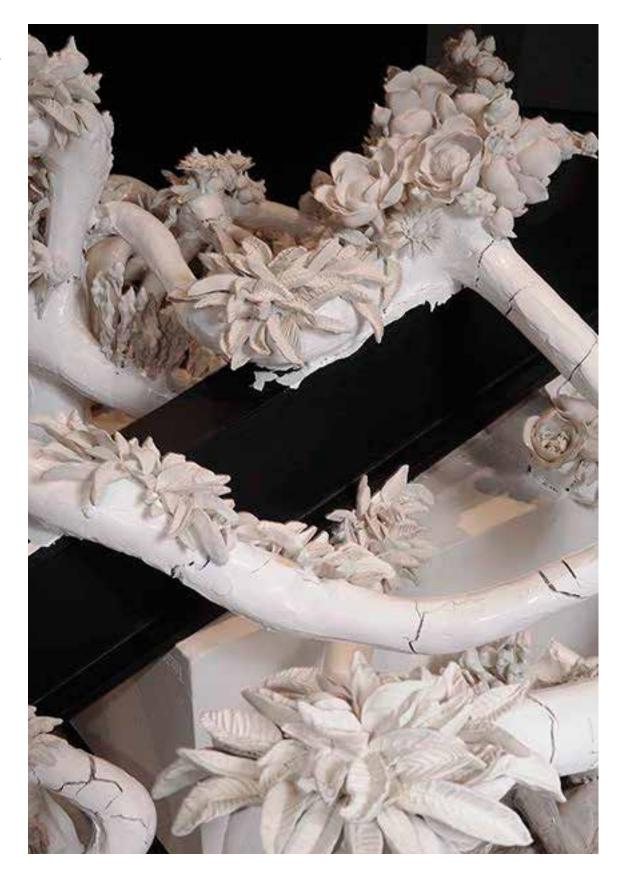
Viral Series is a continued exploration into the death and regeneration that takes place in deteriorating communities. Places and things, once bustling and animated, have succumbed to nature's mercy. Without intervention, nature takes over and breathes new life into objects, as it does in her sculptures. Clay busts, once pure and pristine, are hardly recognizable. They become tattooed with nature. Their heads grow leaves instead of hair. Their faces scream out in pain — or perhaps pleasure — in the midst of transformation. Often used to represent life, here nature becomes a parable for an alternative state - one where life and death intersect.



Wall Piece (Detail) 3 X 5' Porcelain paper clay, Waxed linen Thread, welding rod

Floor Piece (Detail)

Ceramic, raw clay, acrylic ink, latex paint, pvc tubing, plumbing tape Price upon request







Viral Series: Ruff 1 12 x 9 x 20" Porcelain, paper-clay slip, glaze **Viral Series: Ruff 2** 12 x 9 x 20" Porcelain, paper-clay slip, glaze



Not Pictured
Viral Series: Bouquet 1 & 2
12 x 9 x 20"
Porcelain, paper-clay slip, glaze, decal

Self Growers #1 & #2 3 x 3' Hand-Built Porcelain, Underglaze, glaze, Acrylic Ink, Paint



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Education

- 2010 Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI, MFA Ceramics (honours)
- 2009 Brown University, Providence, RI, University Teaching Certificate
- 2006 Sheridan School of Craft and Design, Oakville, ON Ceramics Diploma (honours) ,
- 2004 Nova Scotia College of Art and Design, Halifax, NS BFA Interdisciplinary (honours),
 - Minor: Art History

Selected Exhibitions

- 2017 NCECA Annual Exhibition: The Evocative Garden,
 Disjecta Contemporary Art Center, Portland, OR
- 2015 Solo Exhibition, Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, Waterloo, ON OFF Artfair, Espace Art 22, Brussels, Belgium A Celebration of Women Artists NCECA Concurrent Exhibition, Arcadia Contemporary, New York, NY NCECA Concurrent Exhibition, RISD, Providence, RI
- 2014 Souvenirs from the Future: A Survey of Contemporary Ceramics, Lawrence Arts Center, Lawrence, KS RBC Emerging Artist, Gardiner Ceramic Museum, Toronto, ON The Wassaic Project, Summer Exhibition, Wassaic, NY Emerged: After the Residency, Lillstreet Art Center, Chicago, IL
- 2013 Faculty Exhibition, Eastern Oregon University, La Grande, OR NCECA Projects Space, George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, TX Archie Bray Resident, Artist Exhibition, 18 Hands Gallery, Houston, TX
- 2012 Archie Bray Resident, Artist Exhibition, Kolva Sullivan Gallery, Spokane, WA
- 2011 Sprouting at Bone Solo Exhibition, Katherine Mulherin Contemporary Art Projects, Toronto, ON Artist-in-Residence Group Exhibition, Lillstreet Art Center, Chicago, IL
 - Artist-in-Residence Golem and Dybbuk Solo Exhibition, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute Artist-in-Residence, Kniznick Gallery, Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA Hidden Cities, Group Exhibition, Women's Caucus for Art,
- New Century Artists Gallery, New York, NY
 Annual Graduate Thesis Exhibition, Rhode Island Convention
 Center, Providence, RI
- 2009 From Beginning to End Group Exhibition, Gelman Student Gallery, Chase Center, RISD, Providence, RI

Hi Fructose

Jess Riva Cooper's New Sculptures Explore Death and Renewal

by Caro Posted on March 22, 2016

Jess Riva Cooper explores themes of reclamation and transformation in her ceramic sculptures where nature overwhelms and takes over her subjects. Particularly inspired by invasive plant species, the Toronto based artist, featured here on our blog, uses clay to express her fascination with chaos erupting into order.

In her surrealistic busts, nature takes the form of wild foliage, fungi and vines as it grows out of her subject's orifices; eyes, noses, mouths, and even out of their scalp into Medusa-like hair. Though their expressions feel almost pained, there is a haunting beauty about their death and transformation: Cooper herself describes it as a sort of "violence', enacting itself onto the structures of her work. Cooper shared with us two of her most recent series, "Serotiny" and "Viral Series", where she further conveys ideas about death and renewal. In her own words: "Serotiny explores the themes of death and regeneration through the creation of a large-scale, site-specific installation at The Clay and Glass Gallery in Waterloo Ontario. This installation references the way that nature reclaims its place by creeping over and through the austere architecture of the gallery."

"Viral Series is a continued exploration into the death and regeneration taking place in deteriorating communities. Places and things, once bustling and animated, have succumbed to nature's mercy. Without intervention, nature takes over and breathes new life into objects, as it does in my sculptures."

"In Viral Series, the busts, once pure and pristine, are hardly recognizable. They become tattooed with nature. Their heads grow leaves instead of hair. The faces scream out in pain- or perhaps pleasure- in the midst of transformation. Often used to represent life, nature instead becomes a parable for an alternative state- one where life and death intersect."

Colossal Magazine

Haunting Ceramic Faces Overgrown with Vegetation by Jess Riva Cooper by Christopher Jobson April 7, 2014

Toronto-based artist Jess Riva Cooper created this haunting collection of ceramic busts called her Viral Series as part of an artist residency last fall at The Kohler Factory in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. The pieces seem to lie at the peculiar intersection of life and death, as it should be given her inspiration behind the sculptures. Cooper shares about the Viral Series via email:

In my art practice I integrate colour, drawing, and clay to create installation-based artwork. I investigate fallen economic and environmental climates in regions such as Detroit, Michigan, where houses have become feral, disappearing behind ivy, trees and Kudzu vines that were planted generations ago. In my sculptures, the world sprouts plant matter. Colour and form burst forth from quiet gardens and bring chaos to ordered spaces. Nature reclaims its place by creeping over structures. Wild floral growth subverts past states, creating the preternatural from this transformation.

Several of the pieces will be on view at The Wassaic Project opening in June, and you can see much more here. If you liked this also check out the ceramic work of Mary O'Malley. (via NOTCOT)

Jeffrey Chong Wang The Night of South Peking

Jeffrey Chong Wang moved to
Canada from his native China
in 1999. He earned a BA from
OCADU and an MFA from the
New York Academy of Art, with
trips to France and Italy for offcampus study. Jeffrey's artwork
is a reflection of emotions and
memories and although now living
in Canada, his time spent growing
up in China has an important
influence on his artwork. His
paintings are portraits of his family
at different ages as well as different
locations remembered.

"Deliciously unwholesome and decadently languorous" – R.M. Vaughan, The Toronto Globe and Mail Wang's art is opulent in a symbolism that richly references bygone centuries rendered in a classical, almost Florentine style. His work is filled with intrigue and theatrics; his paintings exist not in the landscape of the familiar but in memories of places that do not exist. Wang's work reveals an inexhaustible talent for reinventing historical models for an ahistorical age. They are strangely disquieting and expressionistic.

"All the figures that I create on canvas are myself in a way; they reflect my cultural upbringing, personal feelings, and experiences. I think of them as characters in a drama, and the canvas as a stage. My work is a response to

the imbalance between my inside feelings and the outside world. I fuse classical concepts and traditional techniques into my work using my own exaggerated figures. These figures reflect the history of western oil painting techniques but also show contemporary themes of eastern culture." using my own exaggerated figures. These figures reflect the history of western oil painting techniques but also show contemporary themes of eastern culture."



Montserrat Dream 30 x 24" Oil on Canvas





Girl Playing With A Cat 12 x 8" Oil on Canvas



In Front of Kali 14 x 11" Oil on Canvas

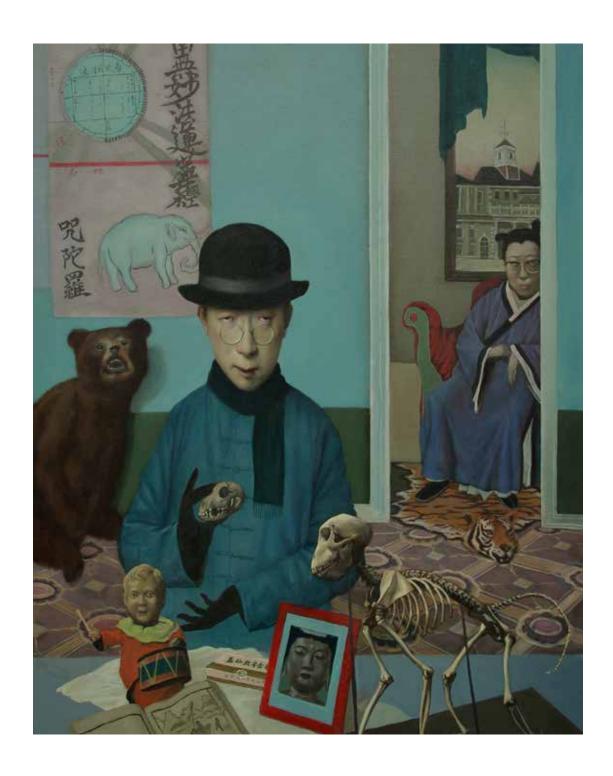
Swordsman 14 x 11" Oil on Canvas

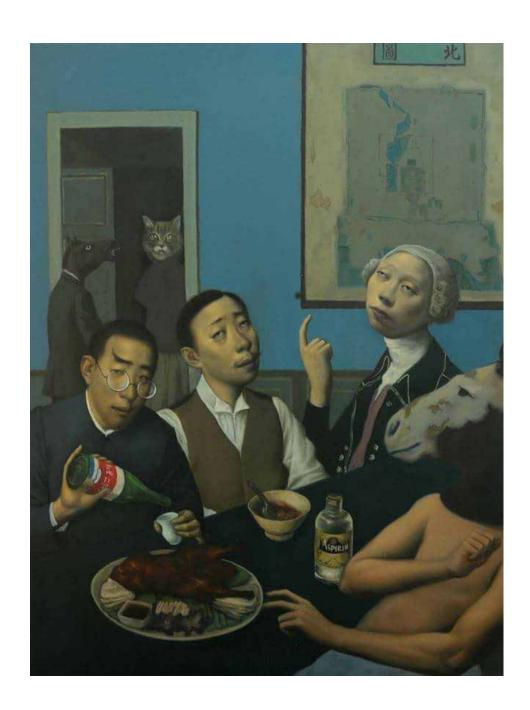














Harmony 9 x 18" Oil on Canvas



Friends 36 x 48" Oil on Canvas







The Emperor 16 x 13" Oil on Canvas **Left Wing Girl** 16 x 13" Oil on Canvas



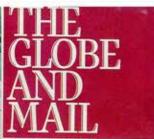
CV	
Education	
2007 - 2009	New York Academy of Art, New York, U.S.A.
_	Master of Fine Arts Degree
Summer 2008	Normandy Summer Painting Residencies,
	France In collaboration with the Prince of Wales Drawing Institute, Co-ordinated by
	M.F.A. program, New York Academy of Art,
	Paintings collected by Christopher 'Kip'
	Forbes and the Prince of Wales
2001 - 2006	Ontario College of Art and Design, Toronto,
	Canada Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree
2002 - 2003	O.C.A.D. Off-Campus Program, Florence, Italy Full school year organized by B.F.A.
	program at O.C.A.D.
	program at o.o., ab.
Exhibitions	
Oct. 2015	Solo Show, Gallery Youn, Montreal, Quebec
Oct. 2014	Group Show, Attachment, Anger, Ignorance
lon 0014	Shanghai, China
Jan. 2014 July 2013	Toronto Art Council Grant for Visual Arts Fellowship Award for 4-week residency
ouly 2010	Vermont Studio Centre
Oct. 2012	Solo Show, Engine Gallery Toronto
June 2012	Mutural Interests, The Art College of
	Shanghai University,
	The New York Academy of Art Shanghai, Chi
May 2012	Art Beijing, Beijing, China
July 2011 June 2011	Solo Show, Engine Gallery, Toronto 50 Years of Art - Retrospective Exhibition
Julie 2011	First Canadian Place, Toronto
Apr. 2011	Toronto Art Expo, Toronto Convention
	Centre
Feb. 2011	'Best of 2010' Featuring Award Winners
	from Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition

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Oct. 2014	Group Show, Attachment, Anger, Ignorance
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	The New York Academy of Art Shanghai, China
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	First Canadian Place, Toronto
Apr. 2011	Toronto Art Expo, Toronto Convention
	Centre
Feb. 2011	'Best of 2010' Featuring Award Winners
	from Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition
	FCP Gallery, First Canadian Place
Oct. 2010	International Art Fair,
Sept. 2010	2nd Place Award, Queen West Art Crawl
	Toronto
July 2010	"Best Painting" Award, Toronto Outdoor Art
	Exhibition
Sept. 2009	2nd Place Award, Queen West Art Crawl
	Toronto
Feb. 2008 - 2009	Tribeca Ball, Artist Exhibitor
	New York, U.S.A.
Jan Feb. 2009	"Best of 2008" Featuring Award Winners
	from Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition
	FCP Gallery, First Canadian Place
Sept Oct. 2008	Solo Show, Campbell House Museum
	Toronto, Canada
July 2008	Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition,
	Nathan Phillips Square, Honorable Mention
	Telford Fenton Memorial Award, Artist
	Exhibitor



THE CLOBE AND MAIL

Globe Arts



CANADA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SATURDAY, IULY 30, 2011

BB . GLOSE ARTS

THE GLOST AND MAIL . SATTEMAY HELY TO JULY

VISUAL ARTS

Portraits through a funhouse mirror

Jeffrey Wang takes his subjects and reconfigures them stretching into a lurid, goofy world



Deffrey Wang at Engine Gallery Cittle Aug. 3, 37 Mill St., Toronto; cryptogolderyca



IN OTHER VENUES

Amy Swarts at Angell Gallery Until Aug. 20, 12 Occupyon Are.

Doad huge with lettle hate!
Doad buge with dolf beach!
Doad buge marching in
formation!! Part purpor
tanklermint, port fibrocula's
By-Seving hoschman English,
Swartz makes even the finises
dother meaningful, and, yes,
morbidly farmy).

