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For immediate release

MALCOLM MOBUTU SMITH

Mutations

Malcolm Mobutu Smith's ceramic vessels have a distinct mixture of elegance and whimsy, turning the utilitarian into the sublime. The sensual fluidity of the work takes on a figural quality, as if a person is about to unfold out of the sculpture. Inspired by jazz and graffiti, Smith's sculptures retain a feeling of improvisation and the ephemeral, despite the labor intensive and premeditated nature of the ceramic medium. Integrating rich texture and a strangely beautiful color palette with the undulating forms of the vessels, Smith plays with the relationship between two and three-dimensional space. He draws on the rich history of ceramic craft, while perpetually looking for ways to transcend its limits. In this, Smith's first exhibition at Luise Ross Gallery, he succeeds.

Malcolm Mobutu Smith received his MFA from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University and has won many awards and grants.

Title: Malcolm Mobutu Smith: Mutations

Dates: 18 April – 30 May 2015

Reception: Saturday 18 April 3 – 5 pm