

DIANE ROSENSTEIN GALLERY

David Hicks

Trophies

July 25 - August 29, 2026

Diane Rosenstein Gallery is pleased to present *Trophies*, a solo exhibition of ceramics by David Hicks. The installation features new glazed vessels from his ongoing "clippings" series. David Hicks is based in the San Joaquin Valley in Central California, and this is his third solo exhibition with the gallery.

"They are trophies. They're homages to the cast-off, the overlooked, those things that are discarded... They're kind of a reliquary: a monument to the things that I think often, especially where I'm at, are so overlooked, socially."

The title, *Trophies*, refers to the agricultural and floral cuttings that adorn the hand-built earthenware bowls, bottles, jars, and ewers that Hicks then glazes in dynamic applications. He describes these glazes as being in a decayed state of "optimal softening," and his process goes through multiple firings that break down the surfaces, causing the glazes to rupture and melt in a "call and response" process. The glazing palette centers on pale pink and vibrant green, inspired by a leafy and flowering branch that fell from a backyard tree at Hicks' home. Other vessels are radiant in orange and pale blue, with varied surfaces and tonal values varied as if excavated and then resurrected into a new life.

"These are rethinking the vessel – instead of being a container that would hold these elements to a vessel being encrusted by the things that they're meant to hold."

David Hicks (USA, b. 1977) is an artist and educator who lives and works in his hometown of Visalia, California. Hicks has had solo exhibitions at Diane Rosenstein Gallery, Los Angeles; Mindy Solomon Gallery, Miami; and Edward Cella Art & Architecture, West Hollywood, CA. His ceramics were included in *The Vessel Revisited: Fundamental Forms in Contemporary Ceramics* at the Torggler Fine Arts Center, Newport News, Virginia (2025), as well as *Wayfinding*, Craft Contemporary's Third Clay Biennial, and *Think Pinker*, curated by Beth Rudin DeWoody at GAVLAK, both in Los Angeles (2023). An installation of his *Poly Panel Triptych* was featured in *More Clay: The Power of Repetition*, curated by Rebecca Cross, at the American University Museum, Washington, D.C. (2022).

Hicks received a BFA in Ceramic Arts from California State University, Long Beach (2003) and an MFA in Ceramics from Alfred University, New York (2006). His work is held in the collections of the American Museum of Ceramic Art (AMOCA), Pomona, CA; Arizona State Museum (ASM), Tempe, AZ; Boise Art Museum, ID; and the U.S. Department of State's Art in Embassies Collection, Washington, D.C., among others.