

## Juror

Bonita Day is a Louisiana native currently living in New Orleans. She received her BFA from Louisiana State University in 1992 and her MFA from Tulane University in 1999. Bonita's work has been exhibited in four solo exhibitions and in numerous group exhibitions nationally including *Watermark: New Orleans Artists Exiled in Baton Rouge*, Oculus Gallery, 2006, Baton Rouge, LA; *Surge: NOLA Artists on Higher Ground*, Brooklyn Lyceum, 2006, Brooklyn, NY; *Facets of the Feminine Mind*, 3 Ring Circus, 2007, New Orleans and the Curiosity Shop, 2008, New Orleans.

She was the recipient of two individual artist's development grants from the Louisiana Division of the Arts. Bonita was the Curator of the Carroll Gallery of Tulane University from 2003 to 2005. She served on the Board of Directors for the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts for five years and was the Chair of the Visual Arts Committee of the New Orleans Contemporary Arts Center, 2003 to 2005. Bonita is the Co-chair and organizer of the first annual NOLA Fired Up Ceramics Art conference in 2008.

### Juror's Statement for 2008 Catalog

"Water Consciousness" is a theme that evokes at once a sense that we can think like water, be like water or that water can be like us: a living thinking, breathing entity. What does it mean to think like water? To move like the tide in cycles and rhythms of life that carry us forward? What does it mean, we wonder, that water can be like us? We know that our bodies are made up of anywhere from 60% to 90% water. Does water reflect back to us our true natures? If so, do we see our supple, powerful, shiny selves or do we see the litter and detritus that life leaves in its wake? Once water from one body or container is mixed with another can it ever again be separated? When we begin to have the consciousness of water, we can, with out fear, doom and gloom forecasts or politics see for ourselves that we must protect the earth's water as if it were our own life because they are one in the same. When we begin to appreciate the nature of water we become inspired by its awesome beauty, power and find the same qualities within ourselves.

It is an honor to jury this Sixth Annual Grand Isle Juried Art Exhibition. The works in the Exhibition all contemplate and explore the many aspects of life in and around water. The high quality of the submissions made selection a difficult but pleasurable task. While jurying this Exhibition, in addition to the thematic criteria, I looked for vision, ideas and mastery of the materials. Thank you to all of you who entered the Exhibition and put your work forward. I was impressed with the quality of the work and the depth of the ideas and inspiration. Congratulations to the artists for an excellent Exhibition that is a moving reflection on the nature and consciousness of water.

Bonita Day  
February 24, 2008