PRESS RELEASE

Eleanor D. Wilson Museum, Hollins University
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Silt-cast Stoneware art exhibit premiering at Hollins University

The Eleanor D. Wilson Museum at Hollins University will present the exhibition Architectonic Logic: Silt-cast Stoneware by Chris Gryder, from May 5 – June 27, 2009 with a lecture and closing reception on Friday, June 26 at 6:00 pm.

Trained as an architect, internationally renowned ceramic artist Chris Gryder is inspired by the methods and ideas often associated with architecture: structure, geometry, pattern and tactile form. He refers to his technique as “architectonic,” and states, “I think of this aesthetic as a sort of organic tectonic: a construction involving a language of natural forms.” His silt-cast tiles and vessels emerge at the crossroads of organic and geometric form.

In his current work, Gryder explores the potential of extended bas-relief in his tile installations, while using a one-off single casting technique, which does not allow for repetitive use; each piece is unique. As described by Janet Carty, Exhibition Curator, “...the sweeping arcs and spirals evoke the cosmos and the movements of planets and stars. Within the individual tiles, their sandy texture and swelling natural forms suggest an array of organic shapes: leaves, wings, feathers, fossils.”


Gryder has exhibited internationally, and his work is in numerous public and private collections. With this exhibition, the Eleanor D. Wilson Museum is pleased to debut Ecliptic, a major commission that will be installed in July, 2009 at Florida State University at Panama City.

The Eleanor D. Wilson Museum at Hollins University, a premiere arts destination in the Roanoke Valley, features the work of nationally renowned artists, emerging figures, and regional names. Museum hours are Tuesday – Friday, 10 am – 4 pm, and Saturday, 1 – 5 pm; closed during university breaks. Admission is free. For further information, please contact Karyn McAden at 540.362.6496.

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The Museum’s 2009 Community Partners are: