

JAMES RENWICK ALLIANCE FOR CRAFT 2021 MASTERS OF THE MEDIUM



Sergei Isupov

"Everything that surrounds and excites me is automatically processed and transformed into an artwork. The essence of my work is not in the medium or the creative process, but in the human beings and their incredible diversity. When I think of myself and my works, I'm not sure I create them, perhaps they create me."

Sergei Isupov is an Estonian-American sculptor internationally known for his highly detailed, narrative works. Isupov explores painterly figure-ground relationships, creating surreal sculptures with a complex artistic vocabulary that combines two- and three-dimensional narratives and animal/human hybrids. He works in ceramic using traditional

hand building and sculpting techniques to combine surface and form with narrative painting using stains and clear glaze. Isupov has a long international resume with work included in numerous collections and exhibitions, including the National Gallery of Australia, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (TX), Museum of Arts and Design (NY), Racine Art Museum (WI), Museum of Fine Arts Boston (MA), and the Erie Art Museum (PA), at which he presented selected works in a 20-year career survey *Hidden Messages* in 2017 and *Surreal Promenade* in 2019 at the Russian Museum of Art (MN). In addition to being a working artist, Isupov teaches workshops and lectures internationally at conferences, universities, museums and art centers. Important to his career have been the short and long-term artist residences at Archie Bray Foundation (Helena, MT), The International Ceramics Studio (Kecskemét, Hungary), and Guldagergaard International Ceramic Research Center (Skælskør, Denmark).

Learn more about JRCraft Weekend: www.jra.org/jracraftnews/2021-masters-of-the-medium



The **James Renwick Alliance** is an independent national non-profit organization that celebrates the achievements of America's craft artists and fosters scholarship, education, connoisseurship and public appreciation of craft art. If you are not already a member, we invite you to become one. More information about us can be found on our website.