



PORTRAIT: CAREN ALPERT. OPPOSITE: COURTESY OF LACMA. TOP RIGHT: NANCY PEARCE.

"I love everything about what I do," says potter Adam Silverman, shown in Heath Ceramics' Los Angeles studio. "Being a potter in 21st-century L.A. is completely ridiculous and wonderful at the same time." *Opposite:* An installation at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art showcasing the limited-edition piece Silverman created for the museum, *Untitled [LACMA/PST edition], 2011.*

When it comes to creative endeavors, there isn't much that Adam Silverman, potter and studio director at Heath Ceramics, hasn't conquered. Through diligence, dedication and study, the former architect, clothing designer and businessman turned a garage-based ceramics hobby into a sustainable reality. "Pottery was the only thing that ended up feeling right," explains the artist, who now works out of Heath's studio-store location in Los Angeles. "Things were clicking internally and externally, and that didn't happen with other mediums." Launched in 2002 with a series of bowls, Silverman's Atwater Pottery was initially sold on consignment to rousing reviews. "My approach to working," he says, "is one of curiosity and respect." And with innovative materials and a highly covetable product, it's no wonder that a collaboration with Heath Ceramics was quickly established. "It's a fairly unusual arrangement but it works," says Silverman. "I'm sort of like the ambassador for the company, but I'm still in the back being a potter." atwaterpottery.com; heathceramics.com

A stone, wood and bronze sculpture by Alma Allen. Silverman is currently collaborating with the artist on a show in Tokyo.



MAN DIVIDED

ADAM SILVERMAN



Work approach:

I like that no matter how long I live, I'll keep learning new things about working with clay. As for my work itself, I hope that it's a physical record of that curiosity and respect.

What's inspiring you now?

I'm overdosing on mid 20th-century California art and design. There's so much great stuff to see here at the moment.

Design icons:

Le Corbusier, Louis Kahn, Merce Cunningham, Alexander McQueen and Peter Voulkos.

Current projects:

A show in Tokyo with Alma Allen; a limited artists edition for the Los Angeles County Museum of Art; a show in Santa Barbara with Edward Cella Art + Architecture; a new line of candleholders with Commune Design in L.A.; and a big collaborative show with Geoff McPettridge to be held at Heath in L.A.

Keepsake:

A carved relief of three fish on a platter in dark brown glazes by Picasso; it belonged to my grandparents.