

Artist Statement

My artwork focuses on water usage in the Great Plains area: a regional concern that is related to the phenomenon of global drought. As a nation driven by the imperative of over-consumption, the United States has become dependent on commodities that require large quantities of diminishing water. Below the Midwest lies the greatest underground water reserve in the world, the Ogallala Aquifer. Since 2000, I have witnessed the drought-like conditions in the Midwest, and I have witnessed how people have responded to the drought.

Through my research on water, I have discovered many structural similarities between intake towers, jackstones, and water and ethanol molecules. These objects explain levels of water and drought. I use cartographic color, surface texture, and scale to aid in this understanding. My ceramic artworks reference the increasing struggles over water rights and are battered reminders of these problems. I hope that all who see my artwork begin to protect and preserve our most precious resource, water.