

John Zimmerman

Big History is a field of research that attempts to understand the history and connectedness of our universe beginning with the *Big Bang* and continuing through present day. This holistic approach necessitates research into varied disciplines such as cosmology, geology, biology and anthropology. By operating conceptually within these vast boundaries of time and disciplines my sculptures take on multitudes of shapes and scales.

Clay is my chosen medium for both physical and conceptual reasons. On a physical level, clays' versatility and tactile qualities allow the utilization and construction of nearly any texture or form. Conceptually, clay exists within a geologic time scale that represents billions of years of connected history, as it is literally the broken down remnants of the earth's crust. This reality allows me to make connections between the deep past (geologic formations/strata & knapped flint texture) and present day (pixelated color patterns) in a way that makes the use of clay not only logical, but vital.

What I want the work to be is formidable, mysterious and raw...a reflection of my research, intellect and drive to make. To attain this presence, I construct contemporary landscapes and add to them texture and glazing patterns representative of pixelated geologic strata. This contrast creates connections that span millions of years and brings attention to humanities' common heritage, uncommon development and shared future in an increasingly technology driven world.