Joan Bontempo is a ceramic artist creating nontraditional functional works and expressive abstract sculpture in clay and compositions combining clay forms with paintings and mixed media. She creates work that reimagines the traditional - figures, pathways, structures or vessels - in stoneware and low-temperature Raku firing, mixed media and may have bits of glass, copper, gold enhancements, found objects or are in combination with altered canvases and acrylic.

She holds an MFA in ceramics from Wayne State University, Detroit MI, and a BFA from the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN, and has in colleges in WI, MI, MD and TN. Recently retired after 16 years as professor in ceramics and art history at Hagerstown Community College, Hagerstown MD, she now lives and works in Knoxville, TN.

Bontempo served as Program Consultant/Project Coordinator – Milwaukee County (WI) Percent for Art Public Art Program, 1998 - 2002. Leadership positions include: Board of Directors, Washington County Arts Council, (WCAC) Hagerstown MD, 2007 - 2014; the WCAC Community Arts Grant Review Panel – 2001-2018; Board of Directors, Hagerstown Community College Foundation, Hagerstown, MD, 2005, Scholarship Grant review; Chairman - Art Futures, non-profit artist awards program 1998- 2001, Milwaukee, WI; Board of Directors – Wisconsin Painters & Sculptors, 1998-2000; Board of Directors MARN – Milwaukee Artist Resource Network, Milwaukee WI; Consultant, The Bodice Project, Shepherdstown WV, 2016 – 2019

Her work has been widely shown in regional and national juried exhibits, solo shows and invitationals for 45 years. She is a past member of NOMA gallery, Frederick MD; resident artist /represented by Pivot Point Gallery, Knoxville TN; resident artist/represented by Lakeside Studio, International Artist's Program, Lakeside MI and by Marin Price Galleries, Chevy Chase MD

Selected Museum, Gallery and University Exhibits:

- •Phaze 2 Gallery, Shepherd University, Shepherdstown WV, solo exhibit, 2024
- • RED gallery, Knoxville TN, 2024
- •Dogwood Arts Gallery, Knoxville TN, 2024
- •McCormick Place, Chicago IL, *The Bodice Project, Sculpture Exhibit for the AACR* (American Association for Cancer Research), National Conference, 2018
- • NOMA Gallery, Frederick MD 2018-2019
- •The Bridge Gallery, Shepherdstown WV, 2016 - 2019
- • Marin-Price Galleries, Bethesda, MD 2010 - 2019
- •Oglebay Institute; Stifel Fine Arts Center, Wheeling WV, National Council for Education in the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) Conference 2018
- •Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, MD *Pyro Protagonists: A Generation of Influential Ceramic Artists,* invitational, 2017
- •Artspace, Herndon, VA – *Golden Dome Anthology,* invitational

•Snite Museum of Art, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN, anagama invitational
•Lubeznik Art Center, Michigan City, IN, International Ceramics, invitational
•Museum of Fine Art, Hagerstown MD, Cumberland Valley Art Exhibit, national juried exhibit
•Washington County Arts Council Gallery, Hagerstown, MD, invitational
•Frederick Layton Gallery, Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design
•Lakeside Studio International Artist program, Lakeside, MI
•UP Gallery, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, Solo exhibit
•Canton Art Institute, Canton, OH, 4th National Invitational
•Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI, juried exhibit
•Downey Museum of Art, Downey CA, national juried exhibit
•Navy Pier, Chicago, IL, "*New Art Forms Exposition*", represented by Lakeside Gallery, Chicago, IL
•Lill Street Gallery, Chicago, IL
•Nicholls State University, Thibodaux LA, invitational

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St. Clair Community College, Port Huron, MI, Permanent Collection
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