

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Participate in Eddy Firmin's *Confessional* at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery

WATERLOO (ONTARIO) CANADA, February 15, 2024 – Visitors are invited to contribute to *Confessional*, a recent work by Montréal-based artist Eddy Firmin on display now at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery. Presented in our current exhibition *Resonance*, this interactive artwork explores contemporary ideas and experiences of race and racism. Born in the French Caribbean (Guadeloupe), Firmin is an artist and researcher whose work revolves around the politics of knowledge sharing, race, identity, and decolonization. Through his work, familiar objects and scenes are subverted and intertwined with narratives of oppression, heritage, family, and a reclaiming of identity and culture.



Confessional is composed of a large, wooden structure assembled in the Gallery that includes three invitations for visitors to participate. Eddy Firmin invites visitors to enter the confessional booth and record a brief testimony, reflecting and sharing their experiences of racism. An in-between space that is private, yet connected to Firmin and the public, visitors can share what they may not feel comfortable to with an audience. They can speak out loud their experiences as victims, perpetrators, or bystanders to racism and oppression. Once recorded, these testimonies are anonymized and shared with other visitors through the second invitation: to listen to the experiences of other visitors through the headphones outside of the confessional.

The back of *Confessional* includes shelves that hold the final invitation, for visitors to deposit racist ceramic collectibles. Eddy Firmin has had an ongoing project to remove these household objects and sculptures from circulation, destroying them or using them in the creation of artworks. By depositing the ceramic objects, visitors are able to help Firmin with this project and remove these racist images from our community.

Resonance, featuring the work of Eddy Firmin, Lisa Creskey, and Susan Day, is on display at the Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery until May 12, 2024.

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ABOUT THE CANADIAN CLAY & GLASS GALLERY

The Canadian Clay & Glass Gallery is a long-standing site of excellence and a destination for contemporary art for international tourists and regional citizens. We present critically acclaimed exhibitions that challenge ideas and perceptions of the definitions of art, craft, and design today. The Gallery is a relevant and dynamic cultural organization providing supportive education programs to people from across the region. Using exhibitions as a starting point, individuals develop arts vocabulary and appreciation and cultivate confidence in their interpretation of contemporary artworks. For more information, visit: www.theclayandglass.ca

CONTACT

To schedule a media interview or for more information, contact Denis Longchamps, Executive Director & Chief Curator, at 519-746-1882 ext. 231 or director@theclayandglass.ca