

**Randy Colosky**

**ARTIST STATEMENT**

The works in *Rise and Fall* are made from an engineered ceramic block that is basically an extruded ceramic grid. This material has many inherent poetic aspects that can be experienced by the viewer.

The works take different shapes but all share the characteristics of forms created by carving into the grid. Some of the pieces are smoothly carved to emulate 3D graphs; some are carved away and tooled by a process of erosion; and some are simply fractured and stacked.

All the pieces share two qualities that I try and instill in my work. First is a direct optical element to engage with and second is the idea that the pieces are in the state of transition—either forming or coming apart depending on how you choose to view it.

Although I see this work as being primarily about the material and the shape with no narrative content, the title refers to the sense of entropy in the work. I think there is a dystopic element to this material and my work. As a sculptor, I can't help but be aware of the constant geological changes in the environment around me. By creating this work, I feel that I am actively participating in that process.

The pieces are built up and carved away. There are successes and failures—pushing materials to the brink, transforming orderly rigid materials into something that transcends its original nature.

**BIO**

Working for over 25 years, Colosky has honed his artistic practice using drawing and sculpture to re-contextualize commonplace materials into transformative visual poetics. Steeped in design, science, history, and humor, Colosky establishes a polarity between familiar and unfamiliar, which engages and often surprises the viewer. His material-driven conceptual works range from two-dimensional drawings and paintings to three-dimensional sculptures in a variety of media.