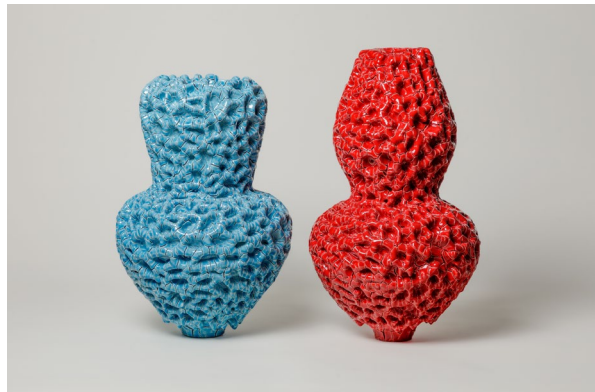


September 12 – November 5, 2026

MICHAEL RICE

Coral Memories

Opening Saturday, September 12, 2026 from 6 p.m., in the presence of the artist



Michael Rice, Turquoise Coral Vessel, h. 46 x 29 cm & Red Coral Vessel, h. 49 x 28 cm.

Galerie de l'Ancienne Poste is pleased to present the first exhibition in France of the renowned Irish ceramist based in Dubaï, who explores the intersection between the memory of matter and form through a series of sculptural vases that constitute a cleverly radical body of work.

Michael Rice 's practice challenges the boundaries between functional pottery and sculpture. Drawing on the formal vocabulary of traditional ceramics - vases, bowls and cups - he shifts their scale, endowing these familiar forms with a distinctive presence. An intensely coloured glaze, whose textured reliefs draw inspiration from coral structures, transforms their surfaces, accentuates their volumes and asserts their sculptural force. Freed from their utilitarian function, these works acquire a distinctly sculptural dimension, where the memory of ceramic forms enters into dialogue with the organic world through a resolutely contemporary visual language.

Michael Rice (b. 1972, Belfast) is an Irish artist, designer, maker, and educator specializing in ceramics, currently Chair of the Visual Communication Department and Professor of Studio Art at the American University in Dubai.

He holds a BA in Fine Craft Design, a PGCE in Art and Design, and an MA in Multi-Disciplinary Design from the University of Ulster. His teaching career spans schools, colleges, universities, and international art centers, and he has undertaken residencies in the UK, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the UAE, and Indonesia. A member of the International Academy of Ceramics (Geneva), Michael has contributed to Ceramic Review (UK), Ceramics: Art and Perception (Australia), and Ceramics Ireland. He regularly presents his work at leading institutions worldwide, including the University of Ulster (UK), the Rhode Island School of Design (USA), and NYU Abu Dhabi (UAE).

Michael's work has garnered significant international recognition. In 2016, he was a finalist in the Taiwan Ceramic Biennale and runner-up in the Van Cleef & Arpels Middle East Emergent Designer Prize. He was a finalist in the 2019 Korean Ceramic Biennale and returned as a finalist at the Taiwan Ceramic Biennale in 2020.

More recently, in 2025, Michael's work was once again featured in LCW Secret Ceramics, this time exhibited and auctioned at Christie's, London. He was selected as a finalist for the 17th International Biennale of Artistic Ceramics in Aveiro, Portugal; the Martinsons Award at the Latvian Ceramics Biennale at the Rothko Museum, Daugavpils; and the Korean Craft Biennale in the Cheongju International Craft Competition, where his piece 'Sea Blue Coral Vessel' earned a Judges' Honourable Mention. He was also chosen to exhibit in the Michelangelo Foundation's inaugural INTERWOVEN Homo Faber capsule exhibition in Seville, Spain.

Galerie de l'Ancienne Poste is open from Thursday to Sunday included, from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 3.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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The best in contemporary ceramics.**