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**Du Chau: *Through the Garden* Opens Saturday,
October 14th at Erin Cluley Gallery**

[Dallas, Texas – August 29th, 2023] **ERIN CLULEY GALLERY** is pleased to announce *Through the Garden* – an exhibition of new and recent work by Dallas-based artist Du Chau. The exhibition will be on view October 7th through November 11th, 2023, at the gallery's main location, 150 Manufacturing Street, Suite 210. **An opening reception will be held Saturday, October 14th from 4 – 7 PM.** The gallery is open weekly Wednesday through Saturday, 12 – 5 PM and by appointment.

Suggesting the natural design of foliage, Du Chau's new ceramic installations and bronze sculpture recall in form and concept personal intersections of memory and herbal remedy. Through repeating porcelain forms, hung individually by silver piano wire, his work moves its parts towards unification; however, if not purposefully, Chau's work rarely breaks its habit for abstraction and shapelessness. *Through the Garden* anchors this habit in references to fruit, herbs, and berries of special significance to his relationship with his parents as well as his Vietnamese heritage.

Most of Chau's work utilizes simple porcelain forms reproduced, with slight variation, through mold-making and slip-cast techniques, where a mold is filled, allowed to solidify a consistent outer layer then emptied. While the color of memory is white according to Chau, ceramics glazed with deep hues of blue and green float soft bursts of red, orange, and yellow. Piano wire allows Chau's porcelain to droop freely from the wall, while some works rest on the floor or pedestals, imitating patterns observable in nature.

In this new body of work, Chau broadens his material interests to include cast bronze. Often, the subject of these forms, sometimes representational, sometimes not, relate to or complicate the memory attached to a particular work. The great care Chau takes to create (and recreate) a single form confers a profound meditation on the texture memory takes in sculpture.

In *Through the Garden*, Chau's porcelain forms imitate natural remedies grown and harvested from his mother's garden when he was a child. Plants imported from Vietnam, where Chau was born and left in 1981, were used as medicine and nourishment for the young artist; later, when Chau's father entered hospice care, the artist made drinks with bitter melon and other plants he first discovered from his mother's garden. Recreated in porcelain, Chau gives permanence to the nostalgia within these organic forms. Capable of conjuring recessed memories in the artist and viewers alike, Chau's newest work extends

a career-long exploration of the affective strength in sculpture and our contemplation of its form.

Through the Garden will be Du Chau's first solo exhibition with Erin Cluley Gallery. He had a solo exhibition at Cluley Projects in 2021.

About the Artist

Du Chau was born in Vietnam and came to the United States in 1981. He has pursued a medical career in pathology and is currently a Pathology Technical Coordinator at Methodist Hospital of Dallas. After taking art classes at Dallas College Brookhaven Campus, he took a sabbatical from his medical career to pursue a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree and a Master of Fine Arts Degree at the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University. As well as continuing his pathology work at Methodist Dallas Medical Center, Du Chau has also become an adjunct Professor of Ceramics at Dallas College.

Du Chau lives and works in Dallas, Texas. He has exhibited his work throughout the United States, including the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, Amarillo Museum of Arts, and Wichita Falls. His works are in the collections of Curaumilla Art Center in Chile, CRETA Rome in Italy, Honos Contemporary Art Gallery in Italy, the Alfred Art Ceramic Museum in NY, the University of Port Harcourt Nigeria Museum Complex, the University of Texas, the Dallas County Community College District Service Center, Dallas College Mountain View, and Brookhaven Campus.

Du Chau is a visiting Scholar at the University of Port Harcourt and Olabisi Onabanjo University in Nigeria in 2019. He is the recipient of the 2017 NCECA International Residency Award allowed him to work at the Curaumilla Arts Center in Chile, and in 2016 he was awarded a residency from the CRETA Foundation in Rome, Italy.

About Erin Cluley Gallery

Erin Cluley Gallery is a contemporary art gallery representing emerging, mid-career, and established artists from Dallas and the United States. The gallery presents a provocative program of artists working in both traditional and alternative forms including painting, sculpture, new media, photography, sculptural installation and public intervention.

In 2014, Erin Cluley Gallery ignited a creative movement in West Dallas acting as a hub for visual arts and community engagement. After nearly five years on Fabrication Street, the gallery has moved its operation to Riverbend – a development in Dallas' Design District celebrating the intersection between culture and commerce.

In April 2021, Cluley opened Cluley Projects – a satellite location in West Dallas acting as an incubator space focusing on regional artists and providing a platform for discovery and mentorship.

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