Choose one work from the gallery. Circle all words you feel describe it:

- Rough
- Pokey
- Slimy
- Chaotic
- Edgy
- Angular
- Droopy
- Weighted
- Smushed
- Collapsed
- Sturdy
- Cheery
- Fun
- Silly
- Colorful
- Hole-y

How do these works make you feel? Circle the one that best fits.

- Rough
- Smushed
- Collapsed
- Sturdy
- Cheery
- Fun
- Silly
- Colorful
- Hole-y
- Happy
- Scared
- Angry
- Sad

What colors, textures, fabrics, make you happiest when you wear them?

Draw your favorite outfit.

December 3, 2022 — June 4, 2023 | Irving Stenn Jr. Family Gallery

Lead support for this exhibition is provided by the William C. Weese, M.D. Endowment for Ceramic Arts, the U-M Office of the Provost, and the Nam Center for Korean Studies. Additional generous support is provided by the U-M Department of History of Art and the U-M Department of Asian Languages and Cultures.
YehRim Lee grew up in a family of artists that made Korean onggi ware, an iron-glazed brown pottery used for storing and fermenting food. She builds on this traditional training and plays around with the limits and concepts of pottery.

She also studied ceramic making in Jingdezhen, China, the “porcelain city” that produced much of the high-quality blue and white ware for global trade. This is her first museum exhibition in the United States.

Discover Delight in the Decadence

Inspired by the fashion trend of the same name, Dopamine Dressing leans into the idea that bright colors and surprising textures can create happiness by activating chemicals in the brain. Clothing designers have used this concept to battle the doldrums of the pandemic and here, artist YehRim Lee asks visitors to see how vibrancy, materiality, and expressive movement in art can have the same effect. She continually adds new glaze to emulate the quick hits of dopamine that make us feel better, temporarily.

Lee says of her process: “I keep firing again and again and add glazes again and again and only stop when the material starts to warp and crack. I want to achieve a vibrant abundance, one that is almost too much: pink on sweet, sweaty blue, narcissistic yellow on stingy green.”

What in your life feels like it is done too much, an overabundance that is about to crack?

One aspect of dopamine dressing is how certain textures can also calm us or make us happy. We can’t touch these works, but what do you imagine they feel like? Let’s experiment with drawing the different textures that you see. Fill in the boxes with different textures.

Learn more about Blue and White wares upstairs on Level M

About the Artist

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Deep Simplicity, YehRim Lee

Double-Gourd Wall Vase, 1986/2.13

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