

## GRACE SACHI TROXELL

Born 1991, Champaign, Illinois  
Lives in Ithaca & Brooklyn, NY

*Cosmic Daikon*, 2023 (detail)  
Clay and steel  
Dimensions variable  
Courtesy of the artist

In Grace Sachi Troxell's first solo exhibition in New York City, *Cosmic Daikon*, clay and steel create the foundation of her sculptures. Organized in constellations of enmeshment, they hum with activity as steel entrails support and enclose clay bodies. In *Big Belly Deli Tentacular Tummy*, for instance, steel tentacles bear the weight of one clay amalgamation, while wrapping their talons around a second.

Emerging from the surface of Troxell's forms, amidst a forearm and a fragmented face are squash, napa cabbage and garlic—cast from vegetables grown in Wave Hill's seasonal Paisley Bed. Body parts cast from different family members—her aunt's belly, her partner's mechanical arm, her mother's breasts—are placed on the same plane as a community of vegetables. The tumbling of these abundant vegetal and corporeal forms creates a mass that is more than the sum of its parts; the strewn surfaces mutating each clay orb into an unfamiliar gourd.

Vegetables are just one answer to the question of how our bodies relate to the earth. In their capacity to provide sustenance and aid bodily functions of repair, they can also cause uncertain digestion. In *Cosmic Daikon*, Troxell presents occasions for appreciating vegetables as both an offering of nourishment and physiological discomfort.

Troxell's sculptures enliven and capture moments on the precipice of change, as in the base of *Rutabaga, Beet, Apple Tray, and Boobs*, a drawing in space consisting of steel curves. Bending and looping, touching but just shy of connecting, they sprout upwards to support a ceramic figure. One piece of steel creates an arc around the ceramic, meeting it again on top—grounding but also lifting, shifting at an angle, yet fully secure. These are the tensions held in simultaneity that condense time, allowing us to see in an instance what can otherwise only be seen across time.

Grace Sachi Troxell's work is included in exhibitions at Alison Bradley Projects, NYC (through July 29) and Cohen Gallery, Alfred, NY (through July 28). Residencies include Sharpe-Walentas, Brooklyn, NY; MacDowell, Peterborough, NH; the Studios at MASS MoCA, North Adams, MA; Willapa Bay AiR, Oysterville, WA; The Pottery Workshop, Jingdezhen, China; and in New York at Yaddo, Saratoga Springs; Sculpture Space, Utica; and Woodstock Byrdcliffe, Woodstock, NY, among others. Troxell earned a BS in Art from Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY, and an MFA from Cornell University, Ithaca, NY.

**PUBLIC PROGRAM: SAT, JUN 17, 2 PM, *Meet the Sunroom Artists***

Organized by Curator of Visual Arts Rachel Raphaela Gugelberger, the Sunroom Project Space provides an opportunity for New York-area emerging artists to develop and exhibit a site-specific project as a solo show. The 2023 season features, consecutively, Jae Hi Ahn, Jacq Groves, Grace Troxell, Jill Cohen-Nuñez, Max Sarmiento and Bel Falleiros.

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