### 2021 MASTER OF THE MEDIUM
### Sergei Isupov

*"Everything that surrounds and excites me is automatically processed and transformed into an artwork. The essence of my work is not in the medium or the creative process, but in the human beings and their incredible diversity. When I think of myself and my works, I'm not sure I create them, perhaps they create me."*

Sergei Isupov is an Estonian-American sculptor internationally known for his highly detailed, narrative works. Isupov explores painterly figure-ground relationships, creating surreal sculptures - and three-dimensional narratives and animal/human hybrids. He works in ceramic using traditional hand building and sculpting techniques to combine surface and form with narrative painting using stains and clear glaze. Sergei has a long international resume with work included in numerous collections and exhibitions, including the National Gallery of Australia in Canberra,, the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, the Museum of Arts and Design in New York, the, Racine Art Museum in Wisconsin, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, and the Erie Art Museum in Pennsylvania, at which he presented selected works in a 20-year career survey *Hidden Messages* in 2017 and *Surreal Promenade* in 2019 at the Russian Museum of Art in Minnesota. In addition to being a working artist, Isupov teaches workshops and lectures internationally at conferences, universities, museums and art centers. Important to his career have been the short and long-term artist residences at Archie Bray Foundation in Helena, Montana, The International Ceramics Studio (Kecskemét, Hungary), and Guldagergaard International Ceramic Research Center (Skælskør, Denmark).

**Learn more about  JRACraft Weekend: www.jra.org/jracraft-weekend**



The **James Renwick Alliance** is an independent national non-profit organization that celebrates the achievements of America's craft artists and fosters scholarship, education, connoisseurship and public appreciation of craft art. If you are not already a member, we invite you to become one. More information about us can be found on our website.