

Mark Errol-Bio.

Mark Errol graduated from Georgia State University in 2014 with his MFA where he was the recipient of the Ernest G. Welch Fellowship. Mark accepted the position of Lecturer in 2015 at Valdosta State University in Valdosta GA where he teaches Ceramics, Foundation 3D Design as well as Professional Preparations for budding artists and Senior Presentation. He is currently serving as Interim Gallery Director for the Dedo Maranville Gallery at VSU.

Mark lives in Tifton, GA where he maintains his studio and is the co-owner of Plough Gallery with Glenn Josey. His work has been featured in shows both nationally and internationally as well as in Studio Potter magazine and other regional and national publications. The work he makes investigates the relationships of architecture, interior design, and personal narratives while utilizing the surfaces of functional forms meant for domestic environments.

Mark Errol – Artist Statement

Home ownership is a dream to which many aspire. However, for some, often, that dream can be very difficult to achieve. Erratic fluctuations of mortgage interest rates and various other economic forces create social, economic, and cultural barriers that only deepen the divide between the “haves and have nots”.

As a have not, I struggle to understand how homeownership becomes reality? What opportunities exist to assist the aspiring mortgagee to realize the lifelong desire to own a home? How does one make claim to their place within the gridded topography of land use?

Growing up in New York City and subsequently living in large urban centers where space is at a premium, I listened to folk fleeing the city for the suburbs to have “breathing room”. I became fascinated by a sense of how space and place somehow created a new identity or sense of status to those they were leaving behind.

The forms of *Dead End*, amplify a common narrative that haunts me even now; that a hierarchy exists for those who live at the end of a cul-de-sac. The home at the end, positioned like a crown. I see it as long runway, a sense of arrival, a pinnacle of the American dream.

This series echoes my feeling of the allusion of space, of actual ownership of place and how when we take a bird’s eye view of these planned communities, all the homes have achieved their breathing room by now sharing their backyards with one another and having only one way out.