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2018

## Fruitcake

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# *FRUITCAKE*

By

Joshua Schutz

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the

Requirements for the Degree of

Master of Arts

In

Studio Art

Ceramics

Minnesota State University, Mankato

Mankato, Minnesota

March 2018



Master of Arts Thesis Exhibition: Joshua Schutz

*FRUITCAKE*

12 March 2018

This thesis has been examined and approved by the following thesis committee:

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Chair of Committee, Todd Shanafelt

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Committee Member, Amy Toscani

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Committee Member, Jessica Flatequal

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# FRUITCAKE

I explore figurative ceramics in relationship to gesture and sexual identity. The surfaces reference art history, decorative arts, and popular culture. The quasi-functional components of the work are inspired by my personal relationship with domestic objects and space. But also from the results of capitalism, which has created a materialistic, consumer-based society with heteronormative ideals. I respond to this heteronormativity by utilizing humor as a strategy to discuss subversive topics while simultaneously drawing in the viewer. I intend for the viewer to reflect on the purpose and narrative behind such flamboyant objects.



**FRUITCAKE**































