

Meet 2018 Nasher Prize Laureate Theaster Gates

Pronounced: thee-AS-tur

"The vision that I have for what art could be or what art is, it's kind of a big vision and it's a vision that doesn't really have a lot of boundaries." – Theaster Gates

Theaster Gates lives and works in Chicago. His curiosity and imagination have inspired him to explore ceramics, performance, sculpture, and transformative neighborhood projects in Chicago and around the world.



Johnson Publishing Archive

Collecting

"Part of the reason I think I'm attracted to collections is because they constitute one person's or one institution's way of seeing the world. And it's like this little time capsule of things that were important to someone."

These are a few Theaster's collections: architectural history books, records, glass lantern slides and Johnson Publishing Magazines.

What do you collect?

What does your collection tell others about you?

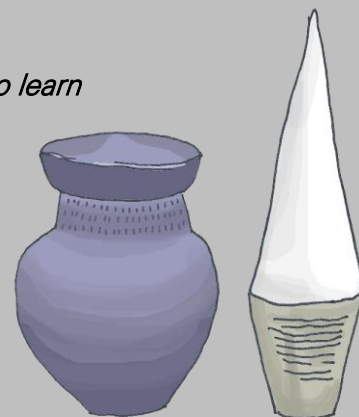


Nasher Prize is a special award for a living artist who helps us see sculpture in a new way.

Ceramics

"I feel like as a potter you also learn how to shape the world."

Theaster Gates studied ceramics, urban planning and theology. He has been making pots for over 15 years. He believes that, "the materials become tools by which we write our poetry."



LEFT: Theaster Gates, *The Bank*, 2016. RIGHT: *The Steeple*, 2016.

Community

"And it went from a bowl, to a singular house to a block to a neighborhood to a cultural district to thinking about the city."

Theaster Gates converts abandoned buildings into vibrant spaces to share art, music and movies and to display numerous collections.

Gates said, "beauty has the right to live everywhere."

Where do you see beauty in your neighborhood?

How could you add more beauty to your neighborhood?



Dorchester Projects