

“Conscious Carl”

By: Ben Gufford



It was around 2007 that I began to act on my interests formed through clay that had developed from my first college ceramics class in 1995. I had a deep interest in that which I felt but shunned while working on my two degrees in art. Around 2007 I sought visits with Judith Duff and Akita Satake. I had an interest in their work but more of an intuition to acknowledge and understand their philosophies. While seeking the hidden gems in my home state of North Carolina, I continued to follow my intuition and visited the Rhine Research Center at Duke University (a small nondescript building on the Duke campus).

A lot has happened between now and then, but I would say that 2007 had a tremendous impact on the formation of “Perceptionism” which I have since become to experience, research, and expand upon.

While sadly Judith has passed, Akira still works fervently at creating intrigue with intuition by pointing Americans to nature and respectively the nature of consciousness.

On this face jug are philosophical ideas, humanity’s options, and a man with great wisdom, Russell Targ. In the awareness connecting the people and ideas from the people, I have watched I name this face jug “Conscious Carl” (Carl being a reference to Carl Jung). Why Carl?

“To Western man, the meaninglessness of a merely static universe is unbearable. He must assume that it has meaning. The Oriental does not need to make this assumption; rather, he himself embodies it. Whereas the Occidental feels the need to complete the meaning of the world, the Oriental strives for the fulfillment of the meaning in man, stripping the world and existence from himself (Buddha). I would say that both are right. The western man seems predominantly extroverted, Eastern man is predominantly introverted. The former projects the meaning and considers that it exists in objects; the latter feels the meaning in himself. But the meaning is both within and without.” - Carl Jung: Memories, Dreams, Reflections.