

# BEAUTY SURPLUS

## WORDS TO KNOW

**Exhibition:** A display of artwork, and often other objects and artifacts, that all share something in common. Three possible examples are: they were all created by the same artist, are all created in the same medium, or tell a story from a moment in history.

**Inspired:** When someone or something gives you an idea to do or make something.

**Historic (Place or Object):** Something important or famous that people want to take care of so many people can see it and learn from it.

## BEAUTY SURPLUS: SERRA VICTORIA BOTHWELL FELS

Serra Victoria Bothwell Fels is an artist from Brooklyn, New York. Her new **exhibition** at the Arts Center, *Beauty Surplus*, imagines how our world might be different if we accepted things even when they do not look perfect.

Serra was **inspired** by people and nature. Some of her art looks like caves, plants, and skin. Serra wants visitors to look closely and think about what is real and what is imaginary.

*Beauty Surplus* is the second year of the Arts Center's Open House Project, which asks artists to create art in the rooms of the **historic** John Michael Kohler home.

Do you ever try to make the sound an animal makes? Sounds like “moo” and “quack” are called onomatopoeias. It is a big word! Try sounding it out like this: “on - o - mah - toe - pee - ah”

Serra invented her own word to describe some of the ceramic shapes she created when she worked in the Kohler factory - “splat-ploops”! Serra explained that she would stand on a table and drop slip roll (a heavier clay) onto plastic on the floor to see the different shapes it would make.

**What sounds would her other sculptures  
in *Beauty Surplus* make? Write your ideas below!**



Images (left to right): *Beauty Surplus*; Serra Victoria Bothwell *Fels* installation view at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, 2019.

**Sounds like...**



**Sounds like...**



**Sounds like...**



**Sounds like...**