

# **Vale**

Exhibition by Tim Guthrie

## Exhibition Statement

My past work often covered social justice or political topics (Nuclear Dichotomies: US Nuclear Testing program; Extraordinary Rendition: US Rendition and Surveillance programs; The Museum of Alternative History: Cognitive dissonance and confirmation bias in an age of disinformation). In recent years, my focus turned inward and more personal. Although I consider myself a multi-media or new media artist, for this exhibition I revisited the most traditional media I have ever worked with – media I explored when I first met Beth Broderick.

*Vale* includes a collection of graphite portraits in profile or turning away. The exhibition features a central ceramic column with a ceramic vessel on top. The vessel was broken, but repaired in a style similar to the Japanese tradition of Kintsugi.

Kintsugi is the practice of repairing fractures in porcelain with gold. The breaks and repairs are part of the history of an object, and are accentuated rather than hidden. The gold reveals and highlights the breaks, as scars, which embellish the object rather than hide the cracks. The breaks are an important part of the object's history. The object is not something to be discarded, simply because it was broken, but as something to be honored. The gold reveals a difficult and perhaps traumatic history, one that transforms the object into something healed and renewed.

The collection of drawings represents a farewell, of sorts, to my departed wife. However, the central ceramic piece - with a long history of its own - was repaired with the help of another significant person in my life and represents that person who embraced me as broken and helped make me whole, again.

*Vale* is about transformation. It is a simple and sparse exhibition. It is a valediction, not a memorial. Rather, it is a release as I prepare a new and unknown journey as I continue to move forward.

## About the Artist

Tim Guthrie is an Omaha-based multi-media visual artist and experimental filmmaker. He has presents his multi-media work all over the country and internationally and was a TEDx Omaha speaker in 2018 where he discussed his art and film work.

His films, including “Missing Piece,” have won dozens of Best Documentary awards, including the 2017 Humanitarian Award (GIFA), Audience Choice and Special Juror’s awards. His work has been shown widely, including in Wales, UK, Sweden (High Coast), Sydney (World Film Festival), Japan (Hiroshima Animation Festival), Greece (5th Annual Athens International Animation Festival), Italy (Control Arms Conference), as well film festivals in London, Miami, Bucharest, Copenhagen, Hollywood, and Toronto.