Giuseppe Arcimboldo (c. 1527-1593), the Milan-born artist of the late Renaissance famous for his fantastical portraits created from still-life elements of vegetables, fruit, and fish, was an important precursor to many of the artists active at UC Davis in the 1960s and 1970s, who paid homage to Arcimboldo in ceramic sculptures of animated foodstuffs and anthropomorphized structures. Roy DeForest’s involvement with Arcimboldo’s work was more subtle and far-reaching than that of his colleagues. He employed personification to express a pantheistic view of nature in ways as startlingly original as Arcimboldo’s must have seemed four centuries earlier.