Chinese Clay Art, USA

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"CHINESE CLAY ART" is a newsletter emailed to professional artists, curators, collectors, writers, experts, educators and students in the ceramic field, who want to know about ceramic art in China and things related. This newsletter will be a bridge between China and Western countries for the ceramic arts. Comments and suggestions are very welcome.

An earlier newsletter is on the Web at: http://www.chineseclayart.com

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in this issue

- The months of Olympics and Safe Trips to China
- New Products at Chinese Clay Art
- The Textural Mats Which Transfer Patterns onto Clay
- Free T-shirt for orders over $100

The months of Olympics and Safe Trips to China

Due to the upcoming potential security issues of the Olympics in China, the visa application policies, security checks and airline luggage policies have been changed. The Beijing Police Department has launched the slogan "Safe Olympic China" for several months. (May to October 2008)

Chinese Visa Application

From May to October 2008, the Chinese visa application process will be different: Maybe, no more multi-entries visa will be granted. To avoid the application denial, all applicators may need to prepare the following documents: Airline tickets, itinerary, hotel reservations and possibly a letter of invitation (or provide the information of your friends or relatives in China). Also, apply your Chinese visa within three months only from your departure date.

Traveling in China during "Safe Olympic"

Due to the "Safe Olympic China" months (May to October 2008), some of the foreigners may encounter a security check by the local police force, especially in Beijing. If anyone plans to visit China during that time, please carry your passport, hotel address and itinerary all the time after you have arrived in China.

There is a new policy for carry on luggage for the domestic airlines in China.

Beginning on May 1st 2008, all Chinese domestic airlines will limit passengers of business classes and economy classes to one carry on luggage no heavier than 11 pounds. The sizes of the carry on luggage will be limited to 20 x 40 x 55 centimeters (about 8" x 15 ? 21 ?). Any oversize or overweight luggage will be checked in and will cost an extra fee. The check-in luggage is remained in same: one luggage at 50 pounds or less per passenger.
For further questions, or anyone who would like to join our tour of "Ceramics China", please contact me at ChineseClayArt@hotmail.com directly.

Guangzhen Zhou, Chief Editor

**New Products at Chinese Clay Art**

**Stamps for Sewing on Clay**

Have you ever see anyone who was sewing on clay works? You may say: Yes, Marilyn Levin did on her leather jackets, shoes and cases. It is also a unique technique adopted by some Yixing artists. The artists use a handmade stamp to press onto the surface of clay and create stitches effect. Now, Chinese Clay Art is carrying these type of "Stitches Stamps". The stamp sets contain stamps of three sizes. (Item number SE 02). For details, please visit [www.Chinese ClayArt.com](http://www.ChineseClayArt.com). It is a fun tool to play with!

**The Textural Mats Which Transfer Patterns onto Clay**

The Textural Mats which transfer their relief patterns onto the surfaces of the clay are the number one sold products within all of our clay art supplies. I have invented the textural mats in 2001 and I have been granted the patent in China. The first of the textural mats were made out of plastic at 8 inches x 12 inches (series of PA 01 in 6 designs). Later on, we reduced them to half their original size (series of PA 01C,) and they sold very well too.

In 2003, due to several requests, we made the textural mats of a larger size -12 inches x 16 inches (series of PA 02 in 4 designs)- out of black rubber. In 2005 to 2007, I have had 4 new designs in size 10 inches x 15 inches (series of PA 212-PA 219) out of plastic. So, up to now, we have 10 designs of textural mats in 5 different sizes in our stocks. We plan to have a few more designs launch out in later of this year.


**Free T-shirt for orders over $100**

Starting from today until May 15th, we are going to offer free Chinese Clay Art T-shirts for any online orders over $100. The white T-shirt has an image of a big brown teapot that was designed by Guangzhen Zhou and made by Yixing artist Meiqun Gu. The retail value of the T-shirt is $12.00 (Please email us for the size of the T-shirt you want after you have processed your order online).