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# **Chinese Clay Art, USA**

#### Newsletter Vol. 86

For online version with pictures or previous version of our newsletters, please click *Newsletters* in this issue "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 Chief Editor: Guangzhen "Po" Zhou

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#### Visiting Kamm's Art, the World's Largest Teapot Collection



On February 28, I was contacted by Tony Huntley, Tony, Zhangfa Qian (visiting artist from Yixing) and visited the Kamm's museum-like house in the Encino hills, Los Angeles area. Gloria and Sonny Kamm are major patrons of the International Small Teapot Competition and Show in Saddleback College, Southern California. As we were guided by a GPS, it wasn't difficult to get there. First we saw the Peter Shire: a tall,

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stainless- steel teapot mailbox sculpture standing next to the gate. Inside, I saw a ceramic piece of frogs in a pan by David Gilhooly sitting right on the stove in the kitchen (while Sonny was boiling water for tea). Shelves with teapots were everywhere in the house from the garden and the guest room to the bedrooms and the bathrooms. There were many inventive contemporary artworks by American and International clay artists with powerful visual impact. Most of the teapots are ceramic, non- functional sculptures. However, there were also many teapots made of other materials, as well as contemporary paintings and furniture. There are teapots by widely known artists, including Rudy Autio, Marilyn Levine, Bevely Mayeri, Adrian Saxe, Akio Takamori, Richard Notkin, Raymon Elozua, Michael Lucero, Sergei Isupov and Ralph Bacerra. I have seen many artists

whom I know, and many artists whom I hadn't known. There are also many antique teapots from all over the world. The exhibition titled "The Artful Teapot: 20th Century Expressions from the Kamm Collection" traveled to COPIA, the American Center for Wine, Food & the Arts, Napa, California; the Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Alabama; the George R. Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, Ontario, Canada; the Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California; the Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, Illinois; and the Mint Museum of Crafts & Design, Charlotte, North Carolina from 2002 to 2004. The exhibit was subsequently extended to three more museums: The Bellevue Arts Museum, Bellevue, Washington; the Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts: and the Dixon Museum, Memphis, Tennessee. "The teapots at our home are just small part of our collection. Most of it is in our Kamm Teapot Foundation warehouse in North Carolina. The total collection should be over 10,000 pieces" the now retired estate-planning attorney Sonny Kamm told us. Sonny and Gloria Kamm have been collecting teapots for almost 30 years. Sonny Kamm said that he and his wife plan to donate all of their teapot collection to an existing museum where it might have a positive social impact and benefit the art world. A number of museums are very interested in the Kamms' teapot collection.

Guangzhen Zhou, Chief Editor

#### Questions and Answers for the China trip in June 2010

Q. Is it true that, when compared with the previous costs of your China trip, the price has increased? A. Yes. Firstly, Chinese currency has been going up every year, and the costs in China have been raised as well. For example, the international round- trip airline tickets from San Francisco to Shanghai was around \$700 to \$800, but during June of 2010, the prices will be over \$1,500 (\$1500 deduction if you buy your own international air tickets), which means the costs have about doubled. In addition, because of Shanghai World Expo, costs such as hotel rooms and meals will increase during that time.

Q. What is the exchange rate now?

A. \$1 USD exchanges to about 6.8RMB. The Chinese currency is still going up every few months. However, our charge is fixed and our services are guaranteed.

Q. How many people are you going to take for this trip?

A. It will be a small group. We are limited to 16 people or less. We still have a few openings left so far. If anyone signs up before March 31, he or she will receive a \$50 discount. Also, we still have a scholarship available for people who are willing do the slides presentation in China. They will qualify for a scholarship up to \$400.

#### NCECA Hotel Room- Marriott Available

Due to the delay in US visa application, my Chinese friend will not be able to come. I have two rooms at Marriott to give away. Our reservation is: March 30 to April 3 (check out), \$159 per night.

Marriott Hotel tel. 1-215-625-2900

We have paid the costs for the first day \$178.56 (including tax). If you are interested in the room, you need to pay us back for the first day's charge (we may take credit cards) and you will pay the rest on your own at the hotel front desk.

Once we have received your payment, we will release the confirmation number to you.

If anyone is interested, please contact us ASAP.



#### Essay The Name of Celadon Was Derived after a Actress in West

Essay The Name of Celadon Was Derived after a Actress in West published on "Ceramic Art Magazine" of Taiwan, 65th issue, page 72. By Guangzhen Po Zhou

Along with my essay, there are pictures of artworks that I received from the artists. Here is a list of their names: Lynn Goodman, Steven Salisian, Kyounghwa Oh, Veena Raghavan, David Pier, and Jackie Shaw. (Please contact me if you see your name in the list).

I am going to give the magazine as a free gift to the artists. Since the international shipping fee is so high, I would like to collect \$15 for each copy as the postage. Thanks for your support!

### **Ceramics Annual of America**

Ceramics Annual Beptember 10th-12th, 2010

Ceramics Annual of America (CAA) will be hosted at Herbst Pavillion, Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, Sept. 10th to 12th, 2010. For application or information, please contact ceramicsannual@gmail.com.

Tips for Using the Clay Tools--The Texture Mat Works Good

In my nostalgic series of clay sculptures titled Enamelware Age-Shanghai, I have made some projects by using the texture mat-wood design. I use the texture mat to impress the pattern on the clay surface first, and then use a knife to carve details. Once I have painted with different oxides, the results come out differently. The texture mat worked well in my new series.

Read on ...

#### **New Products**



We now have a lot of new underglaze decals with a firing temperature up to cone 10. You may use them on greenware or bisque fired pieces. The good thing about these kinds of decal is that there is no additional firing needed. For our new released decals, please visit our website at Decals

Free poster given at NCECA Booth at Number 121.

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