In this issue July, 2010
- The Ceramic Art Market in China
- How a Chinese Teapot Fetched $2 Million
- Ceramic China Tour June 2010
- Yixing
- Hangzhou & Yellow Mountain
- Jingdezhen
- Xi'an
- Beijing
- Shanghai
- Ceramic Annual of America

For online version with pictures or previous version of our newsletters, please click Newsletters

"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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The Ceramic Art Market in China

By June 27th, 2010, we had two ceramic pieces sold at 86,250 RMB each (about $12,700 including fees) in an auction at Shanghai. One is Sylvia Hyman's Mainly Mail (the piece was printed on the back cover of the auction catalog) and the other one was done by Guangzhen Zhou, titled Enamel Age, Shanghai Nostalgia #2. During the three days of auction show June 25-27, my blog on Artron (Chinese version only) received over 50,000 hits. Click Blog

My first book American Ceramic Artists Today was published in 1998 in Beijing. The first show of American Ceramic Artworks I put together was the year of 2000 at the Shanghai Art Expo. The show was very well received but only a few pieces with lower prices sold. Due to the economy booming in China, the market of art has been increasing rapidly since 2005.

On August 2009, I shipped four pallets for the show at the Beijing International Art Expo and I participated in the Shanghai International Ceramic Art Expo November 2009, as well as the Shanghai International Art Fair May 2010. The artworks that we promoted have been featured on many Chinese news mediums and websites. Finally, I was introduced to an auction company in Shanghai.
How a Chinese Teapot Fetched $2 Million

May 2010, a purple sand teapot by Gu Jingzhou (1915-1996) was sold at 12,320,000RMB and reached the highest price of Yixing teapot in the Chinese ceramic art market. Here is the news in English. Click Here

Ceramic China Tour June 2010

A group of ten Americans visited places from Shanghai to Beijing for a tour of Ceramic China for 16 days. We have been in seven cities. I would like to share some pictures with you.

Shanghai
We visited the Shanghai World Expo, but weren't able to see many pavilions due to the large crowds there.

Yixing
Teapots by Kevin Franz Chamberlain (the Grand Prize Winner of Big Fish, Small Pot, International Teapot Show and Competition) and Swanika Ligtenberg (Thanks Swanika! I wish you could have been there. You will able to see your piece in the museum next time you're there) were donated to the Yixing Ceramic Museum and a photographer from Yixing Daily News was waiting at the museum since he had received my phone call earlier.
We had a banquet with the mayor, Ms. Hong Ya, and several other national masters of ceramic art that evening
We stopped in Hangzhou for one night and Yellow Mountain for two nights. We then arrived in Jingdezhen by bus.

Thanks to Angela Zhang's contacts that evening in Hangzhou, we visited the Zhejiang Art Museum for the opening of Chen Jialing. As a professor of Shanghai University-Fine Art College, the artist has been involved in the mediums of Chinese traditional paintings, fashion design, furniture design, and ceramic art.

I have been working with some factories there for my new projects, and we visited a factory making vases over 12 feet tall. We were invited by the foreign affairs officer for lunch. We have been told the International Ceramic Fair will be held Oct. 18 to 22. In conjunction with the fair, the International Ceramic Art Exhibition will be hosted at the same time. If anyone's artwork was accepted by the committee and donated to the Jingdezhen Museum, you will get free accommodation (hotel rooms, meals and transportation) during the time you stay in Jingdezhen. For details, please contact me at chineseclayart@hotmail.com.
Besides the Terracotta Museum, I was originally planning to visit the Xi’an Fine Art College, which is one of the top eight fine art schools, and present a slide talk there, but we actually went to Fuping, and visited the Fule International Ceramic Museums.

I invited a few ceramic artists for dinner together: Zhang Shouzhi, one of the top ten ceramic artists and a retired professor from Hsinghua University, and Mao Zengyin, an editor of Chinese Ceramic Art Magazine. On the last day, we visited 798 Art Soon in Beijing.
My family and I returned to Shanghai at the end of the trip. We visited the Shanghai Mint Museum. My grandfather was the chief engineer (for the engraving of coin molds) during 1930's. On June 30th, as a special blog writer on Artron, I was invited to the opening of Martell (L'Or de Jean Martell) - Artists of the Year at the Shanghai Art Museum and also interviewed by a TV news reporter.

Ceramic Annual of America
Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, September 10-12, 2010
The Ceramics Annual of America (CAA) is an unparalleled exhibition, the first event of its kind in the United States. On par with events like the Korea World Ceramic Biennale, or the Ceramics Biennial at the Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche in Faenza, Italy, CAA will showcase one of the largest and most diverse exhibitions of ceramic art in North America. Click Here

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