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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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English Editor: Rachel Zhou

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Call for Ceramic Sculpture Artists---The 2nd China Changchun International Ceramics Symposium

The organizing committee will be providing the international round-trip flight tickets, a compensation of 8,000 yuan (1 USD = 6.3 RMB), and free accommodation in Changchun, as well as assistants and interpreters. The complete ceramics works will be permanently collected and displayed at the institution of Changchun Municipal People's Government.

A well-known cultural city in northeast China, Changchun Municipal People's Government successfully held the 1st Changchun International Ceramics symposium in 2011, and 12 ceramists from 10 countries participated in the event, contributing their excellent ceramic works for the city Changchun.

From July 25 to August 15, 2012, Changchun Municipal People's Government will hold the 2nd China Changchun International Ceramics Symposium, with the theme of "Eternal and Classic - Traveling across history and future", to further promote international cultural exchanges, improving the cultural taste of the city as well as increasing the city's international influence and popularity. About 20 ceramic artists will be accepted this year.

Application process:
1. Compose at least 3 or more ceramic proposals based on the Symposium's theme; the size should be at least 80cm in height.
2. Please send colored design drafts or photos of your proposals and their digital files in JPEG, BMP or TIFF format. The digital photo should be no less than 1 megabyte.
3. Fill in a registration form and enclose your passport photo, your studio photo and your resume. The digital photo should be no less than 1 megabyte. Your ceramics portfolio is also appreciated.
The Grand Opening Ceremony of Chinese Ceramic Art Masters' League (CCAML) and Chinese Culture Promotion Society - Ceramic Art Center

A new ceramic artists' organization and its ceramic art center will be hosting its opening ceremony in Shanghai International Convention Center, Shanghai, China on June 3, 2012. The organization has about 200 members nationwide, from schools and historical ceramic production cities, as well as a few overseas Chinese people. Guangzhen Zhou, a California-based Chinese American and Board Member of the Association of Clay and Glass Artists, has been selected as vice-president of CCAML.

Over the past few decades, there have been three types of ceramic-related titles of "National Master" granted by the central government in China. These titles are "the National Master of Arts and Crafts", "the National Master of Ceramic Art", and "the National Master of Ceramic Art Design". The mission of the new organization is to join together these three kinds of masters to promote Chinese ceramic art and to improve the relationship in the world of ceramic art. CCAML will be hosting the Shanghai International Ceramic Cultural Festival in October 2012.
As of May 10th, Chinese Clay Art Corp / Clay Ground has relocated. We are going to host an opening ceremony on May 19, 2012 from 10am to 5pm during which we offer 10% off on all purchases and 5% off for clay class enrollment on Saturday, **May 19th only**. All online, email, fax, and phone orders show on the date of May 19 will receive a 10% refund check of the amount (before tax, handling and shipping charges).

This promotional event is ONE DAY only!

Our new address is:
1518 S. De Anza Blvd., San Jose, CA 95129.

Our new location is about a half a mile south from the original location, and can be found on the other side of De Anza Blvd before Prospect Road (across from Duckett Way and we are just behind Silicon Valley Piano). Thanks for your continued support!

Our phone and fax numbers have been kept with no changes, and our mailing will remain the same as well:
PO Box 1733, Cupertino, CA 95015.

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**The Diary of Chinese Delegation in the US**

*by Guangzhen Zhou*

This project was titled: "Go Abroad, 100 participants for the NCECA conference Seattle 2012". I planned to get 100 Chinese participants to come over for the conference in Seattle 2012. Finally, we had about 50 participants altogether from Beijing, Shanghai, Jingdezhen, Yixing, Hangzhou, Chengdu (Western China) and Dalian (Northeastern China). The first Chinese delegates for NCECA numbered only seven in 1999, but, today, the group is getting much bigger. The name list is as follows:

The group leader Shi Juntang, chairman of Yixing Ceramic Professional Association, with a group of 11 Yixing artists from the Teapot Town of China. Many of them are provincial ceramic masters, while one of them is a national ceramic master. The group leader and professor Zhou Wu and Dai Yu-xiang with a group of 17 from China Academy of Fine Arts in Hongzhou. These are ceramic art educators and their students.

The group leader, the general manager Gu Zhihua and his assistant manager Chen Weikai
from Shanghai Art Fair Committee with a total of five from Shanghai
Professor Zhu Legeng and Fang Lili (husband and wife) China Institute of Art Research, Beijing.
Ms. Ding Shan, College of Art and Design, Hsinghua University, Beijing
Artist Zhou Xiaobing and his wife from Chengdu (Western China)
Artist Mr. Liang Wenlun from Dalian (Northeastern China)
Publisher, Mr. Liu Xianjin from "China Ceramic-Art" Magazine
Professors and educators from Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute: Ms. Zhang Jingjing, Ms. Liu Xiaoyu, Ms. Yang Bing and Mr. Lu Xiaoni
Plus, a few of them are currently studying in the US.

- March 28, Chinese artists set up an exhibition at the Clay. The group leader Shi Juntang, chairman of Yixing Ceramic Professional Association Art room (the convention center, room 611, offered by my friend Mr. Mel Jacobson). The group of 17 from China Academy of Fine Art was on their own most of the time during the conference, after I got their shuttle bus from the airport to their hotel. A few of them spoke fluent English.

- March 29, we hired a travel agent with a bus for a one-day tour in Seattle. We visited Boeing, Space Needle, Washington University, and the Bellevue Art Museum.

- March 30, 9:30 to 11am, in one of the Shelton Hotel meeting rooms, all of the Chinese attendants were invited by NCECA president Keith J. Williams for a meeting. We were there, exchange cards, books, gifts, smiles, and we have taken pictures together.

- March 31, we all left for San Francisco. After the tours and banquets with Bay Area friends, Professor Stan Welsh from San Jose State University, Sandy and Bob Kinze, Barbara and Charley Brown, some of them left to Las Vegas and I was then leading a group of 13. We toured in the East coast, Las Vegas, and the Grand Canyon, and arrived in Los Angeles on April 10th.

- April 13, we were invited by the Largest Teapot Collectors in the World-Mrs. and Mr. Kamm (Gloria and Sonny Kamm) and toured in their house and viewed their collection.

My first time visiting Kamm's house was in 2010, and I had been accompanied by Tony Huntley. I am glad to know that Mr. and Mrs. Kamm are going to donate all of their collection - 17,000 pieces - to Fuller Craft Museum, south of Boston, Massachusetts (www.fullercraft.org).

- April 14, 2012, we spent all day in American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, California.

Working together with Professor Tony Huntley of Saddleback College, we started with a slide talk of a brief introduction of Chinese artists. One of the Yixing artists began to pound clay to demonstrate traditional teapot making. We then had a hands-on teapot workshop with over 40 American friends. Some of them had come from very far away. In the evening, there was the opening of the 5th biannual Big Fish Small Pot, the International Teapot Competition and Show at American Museum of Ceramic Art

- The trip ended with a 5-day tour in Hawaii from April 15-20.
The grand prize winner is: "In Between West Meets East" by Natasha Dikareva, who was born and raised in Kiev, Ukraine, and immigrated to the US in 1995. The sea shell became a teapot. The teapot is part of her Shell Dwellers series that reflected a common thought of many people in the world. She said: "Although I may want to hide at times, I know we can find common understanding among our stories if we show them to others."

On opening night, a DVD of Yixing was showing at the lecture room. Seven Yixing artists had donated their teapots to AMOCA, and Serina Nakazawa, the grand prize winner of the 3rd biannual Big Fish, Small Pot exhibition handed over a teapot to Mr. Shi Juntang, the chairman of Yixing Ceramic Professional Association for donation to the Yixing Ceramic Museum. Please visit Teapot Show.

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**The List of the Best Schools in the MFA ceramic art program in the US (USNEWS)**

1. Alfred University--New York State College of Ceramics
2. Cranbrook Academy of Art
3. Rhode Island School of Design
4. The Ohio State University Columbus
5. California College of the Arts
6. Ohio University
7. Arizona State University
8. University of Colorado Boulder
9. Louisiana State University
10. University of Nebraska Lincoln
11. Virginia Commonwealth University
12. University of California Davis
13. Temple University
14. School of the Art Institute of Chicago
15 University of Florida
16 Syracuse University
17 University of Minnesota Twin Cities
18 Indiana University--Bloomington (Hope)
19 University of Wisconsin Madison
20 West Virginia University

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**Chinese Students in the US for the ceramics program**

In 1989, the first student from mainland China who came over to the US to study ceramic art landed in Los Angeles - his name is Guangzhen Zhou, from Shanghai, China. During the past few years, the number of Chinese students who choose to study aboard has been increasing rapidly, including those in ceramic art programs. If any of you (your schools) would like to promote your MFA program (ceramic art related only) please send me a link to the website.

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**About Ceramic China Tour**

Due to the relocation of our business, we have to cancel Ceramic China Tour in May-June, but we may do the tour in October. Please check out our newsletter in the next few issues. Thanks for your support and understanding!

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