

November 2009  
Volume 45 No. 9



# POTTERS

BC

*Newsletter of the Potters Guild of British Columbia*

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**Salt & Pepper sets,** *By Sheila Morissette*  
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## Gallery of BC Ceramics

[www.galleryofbcceramics.com](http://www.galleryofbcceramics.com)

Sharon Cohen,  
Gallery Manager

[galleryofbcceramics@bcpotters.com](mailto:galleryofbcceramics@bcpotters.com)

604.669.3606



### Hours

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.



### Gallery Assistants

Aparna Kapur, Carita Ho,  
Roxanne Gagnon, Sarah Cannon,  
Nadiya Chettiar, Etsuko Asano (Intern)  
[staff@bcpotters.com](mailto:staff@bcpotters.com)



### Gallery Committee

Maggi Kneer  
Sheila Morissette  
Pia Sillem  
Jinny Whitehead  
Celia Rice-Jones



*The Gallery of BC Ceramics is a  
gallery by potters for potters.*

- The Gallery coordinates and curates nine exhibitions a year.

*Artists must apply to be juried; the  
deadline is September each year.*

*To download and print a Gallery  
Jury Application, [click here](#).*

- Every month we showcase an artist, usually someone just starting his or her career.

- We also sell the work of more than 100 artists in the retail shop.

*For information on Gallery  
Policy, [click here](#).*



## 2009 Featured Artists

The featured artist spot provides an opportunity for one ceramic artist/PGBC member to have a small display of non-juried ceramics for sale at the gallery for one month, one time only. Artists must comply with and sign the Gallery Policy before they can be listed as a featured artist.

- **February:** Gem Chang-Kue
- **March:** Sharon Bussard Grove
- **April:** David Robinson
- **May:** Jacqueline Robins
- **June:** Charleen Stroud
- **July:** Roxanne Gagnon
- **August:** Joanne Shaw
- **September:** Jobst Froberg
- **October:** Elizabeth Claridge
- **November:** Trezlie Brooks

### Featured Artists for 2010

The Featured Artist slot affords a non-juried artist the opportunity to sell work in the gallery for a month-long period. All Potters' Guild members are eligible to apply, and may show work other than the mugs and tiles to which non-juried potters are usually restricted. Please apply (include images of your work) directly to the gallery manager at [galleryofbcceramics@bcpotters.com](mailto:galleryofbcceramics@bcpotters.com)

## 2009 Gallery Exhibitions

### March

**FingerPlay**

March 1 to 31

### April

**Tam Irving**

April 4 to 30

Artist reception April 4, 1 to 3 p.m.

### May

**Vincent Massey**

May 2 to 25

Artist Reception May 2, 1 to 3 p.m.

### June

**Darrel Hancock**

June 6 to 29

Artist Reception June 6, 1 to 3 p.m.

### July

**Heather Dahl**

July 4 to 27

Artist Reception July 4, 1 to 3 p.m.

### August

**Karel Peeters**

August 1 to September 7

Artist Reception August 1, 1 to 3 p.m.

### September

**PGBC Members Show:**

**The Black White 100**

September 12 to 29

### October

**Roxanne Gagnon**

*Everything Wears Something*  
October 3 to mid-November

Artist reception:  
October 3, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### November

**Exhibition cancelled**

# President's Message

I expect, like me, everyone is up to their elbows in clay and glaze – the kiln never really cooling between loads...It is the busiest time of the year for everyone as we prepare for seasonal sales – we never seem to have enough stock! I hope it will be a successful season for everyone.

I am sorry to announce that our treasurer, Janet Smith, has resigned from the Board of Directors. Janet was on the board for three years,

and throughout that time provided us with much needed financial and managerial advice. I wish her well as she becomes more involved in her activities with the Vancouver Art Gallery. 📧

—Jinny Whitehead

## Gallery News

By Sharon Cohen

**Adventurous and fresh.** I guess that would be an appropriate description for our *Everything Wears Something* exhibition Oct. 3 to mid-November, featuring the work of Roxanne Gagnon and others. Roxanne has the theory that it's not only people who wear things. In the same way as a person would wear a piece of jewellery to enhance their appearance, a room would wear something to adorn itself. A table will wear attractive place settings, walls will wear pictures, a mirror may wear a frame to add some visual splendour. The exhibition explores and celebrates these notions of adornment and embellishment. It's all about accessorizing as art.

The show set-up was an exercise in patience and resourcefulness. Roxanne borrowed props and furniture from the Arts Club Theatre, and this involved the two of us (and a particularly wonderful Arts Club staff member) wheeling a grandfather clock along the streets of Granville Island at six in the morning, amongst other things. It was well worth it. The show looks spectacular; Roxanne totally transformed the space and we love it. We also love wearing her jewellery while at work. Every morning I decide what I'm going to wear based on which pendant from Roxanne's show I want to wear that day. Taking the pendant off at home time is not an easy thing to do. I'd buy one, but I can't, as I need to buy that cup and that bowl and...

Actually, I shouldn't be buying anything; I need to save my money for Morocco, where I'll be spending the first half of November, checking out all the ceramics and other wonders the country has to offer.

And in case enquiring minds want to know, no, our roof repair is NOT complete yet, and it has NOT been fun. Dust is the enemy!

Last but not least, please start sending in your applications for the 2010 Featured Artist slots. This is an opportunity open to any and all guild members (excluding our juried artists, of course) who wish to sell work in the gallery for a month-long period, and can do so without being juried in. Application forms are available on [http://www.bcpotters.com/Gallery/forms/2009\\_gallery\\_featured\\_artist\\_submission\\_form.pdf](http://www.bcpotters.com/Gallery/forms/2009_gallery_featured_artist_submission_form.pdf). I look forward to receiving some stellar submissions! 📧



Setting up:  
Pre-dawn shenanigans.



Looking spectacular...



In case enquiring minds want to know, here's what some of the gallery staff members look like. Seen at the opening of Roxanne's exhibition Oct. 3 (and all sporting her fabulous jewellery) are, left to right, Sharon Cohen, Roxanne Gagnon, Carita Ho and Aparna Kapur.



## The Great Kiln Wrap of 2008 *By Clive Tucker*

It's been a full year since I moved into my new studio, *Straight Up Studios* in Port Moody with fellow potter Jacqueline Sheridan. Now I can reflect on the progress and joy of setting up my own space.

The kiln was by far the biggest problem we had to solve. When we first saw the space there was a big, fat electric cable hanging out of the ceiling. It was a sign. This space was meant for a kiln.

It was a big cable at least 60 amps, two wires, red and black, it looked like a 240V single phase supply. Brilliant, we had been given a 240V single phase electric kiln. It was a 10-cubic-foot oval from Seattle Pottery Supply, rated at 48 amps.

Well nothing is quite what it seems, it was indeed a 60-amp-cable but the supply was three-phase and the voltage 208V. There are plenty of three-phase kilns; the Vancouver school board has three-phase 208V, so I figured we could just convert it. Three-phase makes no difference to the efficiency of the kiln; it just needs to be wired slightly differently.



Wrapping the front of the "free" kiln.

Greenbarn's catalogue is  
now available online.

In an effort to be more environmentally  
friendly, by reducing our use of paper, we  
are phasing out our printed catalogue,  
in favour of a downloadable version  
available on our website.

Now you can check prices and item  
descriptions just by logging onto  
[www.greenbarn.com](http://www.greenbarn.com)

9548 192 Street,  
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Next there was the voltage to consider, 208 V vs. 240V. The trouble with 208V is that it doesn't deliver as much power as 240V. Power = Current (amps) X Voltage (volts). The kiln was 48 amps x 240 volts = 11520 Watts. We had 48 amps x 208 volts = 9984 Watts

This was only 86% of what we needed. The solution was to call Seattle Pottery Supply and buy a complete set of new elements for a 208 volt kiln. I installed them and we were ready to fire.

The first firing had 20 mugs in it with lots of kiln furniture and nine sets of cones, it was a glaze firing going to cone 6 and we wanted to map the heat distribution inside the kiln with cones on three levels at each end and in the middle. I had also installed a kiln controller so the kiln was programmable.

The kiln was set to fire at 150°F/hr to 2195°F and soak for 15 minutes. It was scheduled to go off at 12 p.m. I arrived at 10 a.m. to log the temperature rise of the last two hours of firing. At 2000°F, the rate was 70°F/hr. As the temperature crept up the rate slowed even further. At 5 p.m., I turned the kiln off. Some of the cones were down but the rate had fallen to just 20°F/hr. How were we going to fix this kiln?

*Continued on Page 5, Heat Balance*

## Heat Balance, Continued from Page 4

The kiln reaches maximum temperature when the heat going in equals the heat going out. It's a heat balance. The more heat you put in, the hotter it gets until the kiln walls radiate out as much heat as the elements produce inside the kiln. The kiln cannot get any hotter, and this is almost the point we reached in the first firing. The kiln room was very hot as the kiln radiated so much heat. An oval kiln has more surface area per cubic foot of interior space compared to a circular kiln hence more heat loss.

Our initial reaction was to insulate the kiln with the maximum amount of ceramic fibre blanket, at least two inches, possibly more. Plan B was to buy even more elements from Seattle Pottery Supply which would have a bigger output.

I went to Inproheat in Vancouver for ceramic fibre and shared my kiln story with them. This is where it pays to consult with the salesman. He calculated the temperatures in the wall of the kiln at varying distances through the wall itself. He calculated how two inches of insulation would affect the outside temperature of the kiln. Based on an inside temperature of 2195°F, and a three-inch soft brick wall, the original outer skin of the kiln would heat up to 1150 deg F. Red hot. One-inch-thick fibre was all I needed, which made the steel skin approx 750°F. Ceramic fibre is such a good insulator that the final surface temperature would be around 200°F.

So we wrapped the kiln. I don't know if anyone has done this before, but it was a long process. It took three days to wrap it, one box of 1 inch fibre, two sheets of 4'x 8' aluminum and lots of stainless steel screws. We put two inches of fibre on the lid too.

The result was stunning. We increased the rate of rise from 20°F/hr at 2160° to 120°F/hr right up to 2195°F. The cones were even all over the kiln, cooling is a little slower but the results are excellent.

It may have taken a month, on and off, to finally complete the great kiln wrap but it's a kiln that we can rely on now. Would I do it again? Maybe. Even though something is initially free, it's bound to cost you something in the end, if not financially, then in stress. Anything can be fixed but sometimes it's just easier to spend the money on the most reliable option and make more pots instead with the time saved. 🙌

**Clive Tucker** is a ceramic artist working in Port Moody. He also offers kiln repair services. See his work at [www.clivetuckerceramics.ca](http://www.clivetuckerceramics.ca)

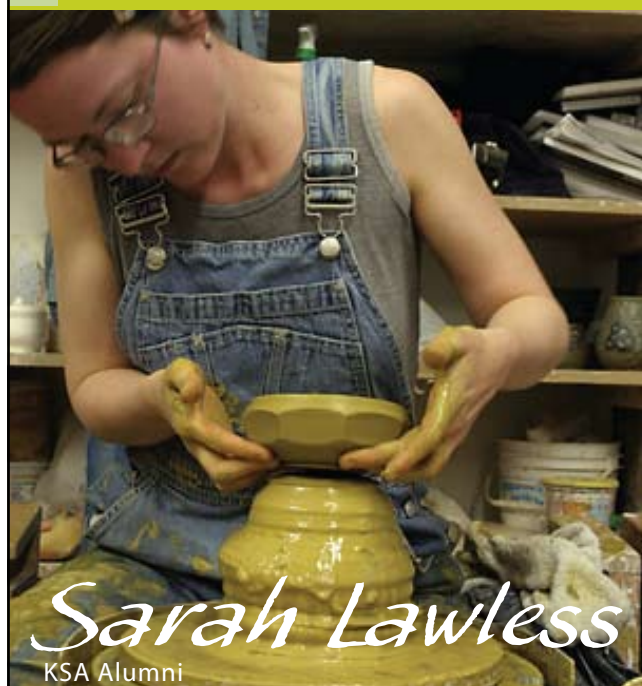


Working on the kiln lid.



That's a wrap...finished kiln.

kootenay school of the arts



*Sarah Lawless*

KSA Alumni

Sarah graduated from Kootenay School of the Arts (KSA) in 2006 and is a 2008 BC Creative Achievement Award winner. She has her own studio practice and is presently selling her work in the Gallery of BC Ceramics in Vancouver.

KSA offers a 2-year diploma in Art Craft & Design with a Major in Clay. The program focuses on hands-on training with an emphasis on studio practice and is transferable.

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1.877.552.2821 | [selkirk.ca/ksa](http://selkirk.ca/ksa)

Selkirk College

## PGBC Board Posting: Treasurer

The PGBC Board of Directors is seeking a Treasurer who has financial qualifications and an interest in supporting ceramic arts. We seek someone willing to provide financial advice and guidance to staff, make enquiries on an adhoc basis, and to provide strong recommendations to the board. The treasurer liaises with the PGBC bookkeeper and generates reports on income and expenditures. We are seeking a treasurer who is a creative thinker and understands the legal and fiduciary role of the Treasurer. The PGBC Board carries Directors' Errors and Omission's Liability Insurance. The PGBC is a self-supporting, volunteer-based organization.

**Skills and Experience:** Some formal accounting training; experience interpreting financial statements; experience and understanding with project accounting and spread sheets; experience leading discussions, providing guidance and advice.

**Contact:** Jinny Whitehead, 604.687.3590, [vwhitehead@shaw.ca](mailto:vwhitehead@shaw.ca)

## in FORMations

An Exhibition Featuring  
Sheila Morissette

**Exhibit:** October 22 - November 29, 2009

**Opening Reception:** Thursday, October 22, 6-8pm

Craft Council of BC Gallery

1386 Cartwright St. Granville Island, Vancouver, BC, V6H 3R8


Tel: 604-687-7270, [www.craftcouncilbc.ca](http://www.craftcouncilbc.ca)

*By Sheila Morissette*

I am totally intrigued with design in all its multiple disciplines. Clay allows me to express many aesthetic choices with its versatility. Its tactile nature provides interaction and exploration of form, texture and scale. I am seeking strong visual impact using clean lines with only subtle details. I want my pieces to pop, to be noticed, but they must also be quiet.

I work in series, making 10 to 20 of a particular form at a time. As a maker, when I look at a freshly-made series, there is always a special piece that exceeds the others in a subtle way and I use that one to inspire creating others that hopefully achieve that special quality as it becomes my new standard. This standard evolves each time I attempt the series. Each piece is hand formed, so no two will ever be exactly the same and I enjoy those subtle distinctions. I am always surprised and intrigued by which pieces people choose as their favourites; sometimes they are the same as mine but just as often they are not. After all, we all see things differently. These explorations motivate a continuing unfolding of new work.

I particularly enjoy the interactions and negative spaces within groupings of similar forms. I like to play with arranging the pieces when they are done to see how they might work together. This has led to recent explorations in creating multiples of repeated forms.

Wood firing is my favourite way to fire my work. The strongly interactive process brings a whole new energy to the surfaces than can't be achieved any other way. It is simply breathtaking to catch a glance of what I call a "waterfall" flame that flows downwards gently wetting the pots with ash as it moves by them in what seems like slow motion. These mere glimpses into the kiln over the course of numerous firings have inspired designing forms perfectly suited for this environment. The tapered edges and slender shapes help direct the flame through, allowing for unique ash runs. Sometimes my favourite one changes as a result of the surfaces created by the firing. To have the favourite form become the favourite surface too is much harder to achieve as so many variables can affect the outcome, but it's good to keep trying. 

**Sheila Morissette** is a professional potter working from her home studio in West Vancouver. For more of her work, see: [www.sheilamorissette.com](http://www.sheilamorissette.com)

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Surrey, B.C.

### Or give us a call at:

**604.574.0454**



## NCECA Lifetime Achievement Award *By Roger Champagne*

Robin Hopper was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award for Education in the Ceramic Arts at this year's National Council on Education in the Ceramic Arts (NCECA) conference last April in Phoenix, Ariz. Robin was made an honorary member for his many contributions to the pottery world over a lifetime, as teacher, author and ceramic artist.

My introduction to him was during my first visit to 'Chosin Pottery, his and Judi Dyelle's wonderful studio/gallery in Metchosin. We were on a holiday from Toronto, making a pilgrimage to all the West Coast pottery icons I had been reading and hearing about for so many years. Robin found time to ask us about our interest in ceramics and to outline his



journey from Ontario years before. Afterwards, we walked through his garden and one could see the many sources that he has drawn from, in both creating his garden and in the long evolving arc of his body of work.

Robin retired this year from teaching at the Metchosin International Summer School of the Arts, which he co-founded in 1985 but will still be "around!" We are indebted to Robin for his work as an author, teacher, supporter of causes and mentor to many. 📧

**Roger Champagne** is the president of the South Vancouver Island Potters' Guild. See his SVIPG member profile at:

[www.victoriapotters.ca/members/RogerChampagne/](http://www.victoriapotters.ca/members/RogerChampagne/)



SVIPG 2010 Calendar cover.

## South Vancouver Island Potters' Guild: 10th Anniversary Celebrations

*By Nancy Wall*

As part of celebrations in 2010, the 70 members of the South Vancouver Island Potters' Guild, in Victoria, have created a calendar highlighting our members' work and a brief history. It is a high quality, full colour production. This is a celebratory project and not-for-profit, so we are offering the calendar 'at-cost,' to other guilds and potters. Each month presents two quality images, plus there are collage thumbnail pages featuring vessels and group activities.

To learn more about our guild, check out the website at [www.victoriapotters.ca](http://www.victoriapotters.ca). We are pleased to share this exciting representation of the abundant and various talents of our members! At \$20 each (includes mailing) the 14-month calendar is a bargain; a wonderful keepsake, or gift; and memorable resource for guild libraries. Payment may be made by cheque [payable to S.V.I.P.G.]. Should you wish to receive a calendar, please contact Nancy W. by email at [dnpk@shaw.ca](mailto:dnpk@shaw.ca). 📧

**Nancy Wall** is a member and past president of the South Vancouver Island Potters' Guild. See her work at [www.gobc.ca/NancyWall](http://www.gobc.ca/NancyWall)

### There are bargains to be had on pottery supplies!

It has been almost a year since The Mad Potter closed its doors. The Mad Potter still has inventory remaining and can sell it to you at amazing discounted prices. All inventory items are 50% to 75% off regular retail price.

Raw Materials, Mason Stains, Glazes/Underglazes (Gare, Georgies, Duncan, Speedball, Amaco), Tools, Brushes, Finishing Items (pate knives, mini lamps, burners, chimney's etc) Stoppers, Books, Orton Cones, Kiln Equipment and Parts Plus much more.

To receive a full itemized inventory list please contact Anthea by email at [madpotter@themadpotter.ca](mailto:madpotter@themadpotter.ca)

They can still offer free delivery for orders over \$50 (Lower Mainland only).



# First Annual Pottery Word Find *By Melany Hallam*

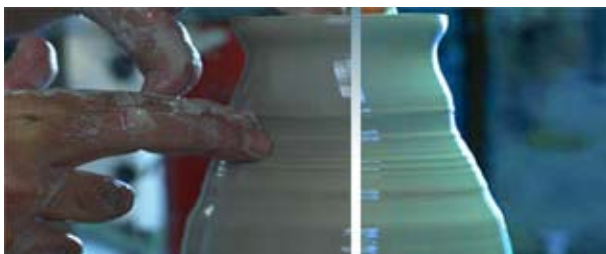
**For those slow moments** at your holiday studio sales, exercise your mind with this First Annual Pottery Word Find. Find all 56 of the words listed below, crossing them out or circling them as you go. Words may be across, up, down, diagonal or even backwards. Write down all of the unused letters and then decode the secret message!

L B S T R T P G H S W S E B O G N E E V  
 A U H O E O I E P P E C S P O U T A S B  
 N R A E D P N R Y R D U C T L A B O C O  
 O N R A U A C S R I G L N I L O A K G U  
 I I D C C E H T O G E P K I M B O W L R  
 T S S I T T C L M G V T E C P A S F G R  
 C H S L I P L E E O O U R W O M R L T Y  
 N O T I O H A Y T K E R H V R I A E R B  
 U O I S N D Y B E M C E G E C Z L E C O  
 F D E S I G N O R O E U T U E S F O K X  
 S T O N E W A R E L X T H A L R N I M O  
 I G R E E N W A R E A I M C A E L O T R  
 U K O M M E T T C H L A D C I N L I A A  
 Y F I R T I V E C R G K T A N D F K E P  
 E R A W N E H T R A E O C T T F U U T S  
 T N E M E L E O N S R T I A A I Q L H D  
 R E T T I S L A B Y E N S R R S O C R L  
 G N I R I F E L D N A H G U I C E N O E  
 A T A L L I G I S L A S O B L T S U W F

ANAGAMA	CRACKLE	GROG	REFRACTORY	STONEWARE
BISQUE	DESIGN	HANDLE	SCULPTURE	TEAPOT
BOURRY BOX	EARTHENWARE	KAOLIN	SGRAFFITO	TEMMOKU
BOWL	ELEMENT	KILN	SHARDS	THROW
BURNISH	ENGOBE	LUSTER	SIGILLATA	TRIM
CERAMIC	EPK	MOLD	SILICA	VITRIFY
CHATTER	FELDSPAR	OXIDATION	SITTER	WEDGE
CHUCK	FIRING	PINCH	SLAB	WHEEL
CLAY	FUNCTIONAL	PORCELAIN	SLIP	
COBALT	GERSTLEY BORATE	PYROMETER	SODA	
COIL	GLAZE	RAKU	SPOUT	
CONE	GREENWARE	REDUCTION	SPRIG	

**Secret message (HINT: it's a quote & the letters appear in the puzzle in order, left to right):**





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**You are invited to attend the  
Canadian Clay Symposium**

## Aesthetics 2010

**to be held March 13, 2010  
at the Shadbolt Centre in Burnaby, B.C.**

Featuring a great line-up of local, national  
and international potters. For more details:

[www.canadianclaysymposium.ca](http://www.canadianclaysymposium.ca)

**Early bird registration has begun.**

See you there!!

### SUZY BIRSTEIN'S SALE & OPEN HOUSE

aMUSEing pendants,  
sculpture, colourful tableware  
and Hartley's yummy treats...

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**Sunday Dec. 6 & 13 - noon til 6**

**Sat. Dec. 12 - noon til 6**

3436 W. 2nd Ave, Vancouver (at  
back); [www.suzybirstein.com](http://www.suzybirstein.com)



### Straight Up Studio Sale

**November 13, 14 & 15**

2605 D Murray Street,  
Port Moody

Clive Tucker &  
Jacqueline Sheridan  
[www.clivetuckerceramics.ca](http://www.clivetuckerceramics.ca)

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# Holiday Sales & Exhibitions



## Comox Valley Potters Club Christmas Sale

Saturday, November 28; 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Filberg Center, Courtenay

Over 20 well-known and popular local potters showing their newest and best work just in time for Christmas gift-giving. A loonie entry gets you coffee and a great selection of seasonal goodies.

## Richmond Potters Club 2009 Xmas Sale



November 27 (Friday)  
2:00 pm to 9:00 pm

November 28 (Saturday)  
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

November 29 (Sunday)  
10:00 am to 3:30 pm

Buy Direct from Potters  
at

Richmond Cultural Centre  
7700 Minoru Gate, Richmond

## Studio 3 Annual Sale

Joan Barnet • Hsiao-Chen Peng  
Cheryl Stapleton • Yi Wei Wang  
Jinny Whitehead

As part of the East Side Culture Crawl  
Friday, November 20; 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.  
Saturday, November 21; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday November 22; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Suite 265 - The Mergatroid Building,  
975 Vernon Drive, Vancouver  
Tel: 604.708.3390



## North Delta Potters Annual Christmas Pottery Sale

November 13, 5 to 9 p.m.

November 14, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

November 15, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The ArtSpace

11425 84th Avenue, North Delta

There is a Door Prize to be won by some lucky individual!! Please come and visit us!!

## DELTA POTTERS CHRISTMAS SALE



FRIDAY, NOV. 13, 10:00-5:00  
SATURDAY, NOV. 14, 10:00-5:00  
SUNDAY, NOV. 15, 10:00-4:00

At  
1720 56th St., Tsawwassen  
South Delta Rec. Centre  
(across from McDonalds)



November 3 to November 29, 2009

*Seymour Art Gallery*  
The best little gallery on the North Shore

Opening reception: Nov. 10, 7 to 9 p.m.  
4360 Gallant Ave., North Vancouver  
604.924.1378, [www.seymourartgallery.com](http://www.seymourartgallery.com)



## CHRISTMAS POTTERY SALE

Connie Glover Pottery

Saturday and Sunday, December 5 & 6, 2009  
11 am to 4 pm

1872—136th St., South Surrey, B.C.  
[www.connieglover.com](http://www.connieglover.com)

Drop by to see new work in high-fire soda glaze  
and sawdust fire!



# Light-Headed!




**Light-Headed** features the works of Elaine Brewer-White and runs Nov. 6 to Dec. 1, 2009, at the Circle Craft Shop & Gallery in Granville Island's Net Loft.

Brewer-White's ceramic work is based on the figure where moments of solitude or simple interactions between people celebrate the wonder of the human condition. This work seeks to further explore social behaviours and life-affirming activities through the use of humour and irony. For this new series of works, Brewer-White engages the concept of blending art and utility—namely, art as light source.

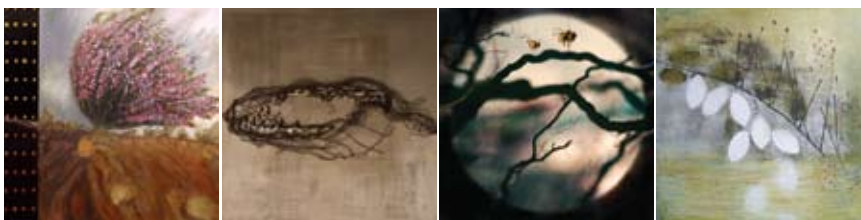
"In this age of recession and belt-tightening, I wanted to reflect on ways I could present art that serves a purpose as well as an aesthetic. The idea of creating torsos with lights for heads made me laugh—and got me so excited I've been in my studio 24/7!" says Brewer-White.

She adds, "It was a great challenge to express the intent and gesture of each piece with just the torso, and not rely on a face to convey meaning."

The *Light-Headed* series bears her trademark humour, colour and whimsy, as well as power-smart light fixtures for illumination. Beginning November 1, 2009, sneak previews of this exhibition will be posted to Brewer-White's website, [www.ebrewerwhite.com](http://www.ebrewerwhite.com), and on her blog, [www.humourandart.com](http://www.humourandart.com). 

## FOURHeathers TakeROOT

Leighdon Studio Gallery



HeatherAston  
PRINTMAKER

HeatherCairns  
POTTER

HeatherJohnston  
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November 3 – 28

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 7-9PM

Leighdon Studio Gallery, 190 West 3rd Avenue, Vancouver BC, Canada 604.875.0029

[www.leighdon.ca](http://www.leighdon.ca)


## DVD Review *By Patty Osborne*



**Paul Soldner: Playing with Fire**  
DVD, 80 minutes

**American Museum of Ceramic Art; \$29.95**

Paul Soldner is said to have changed the face of modern ceramics, not only with his vigorous and unrestrained body of work but also through his influence as a teacher and mentor who encourages his students to pursue their own direction and to "welcome accidents along the way." *Paul Soldner: Playing with Fire* follows Paul's early days as a potter when, under the GI bill after WWII, he was accepted to study ceramics under Peter Voulkos at the new Los Angeles County Art Institute. When he arrived there, he discovered that he was the only student and the ceramics department consisted of a big empty room. The two men set out to research and equip a pottery studio and build their own wheels and kilns. Soldner

went on to more and more experimentation with clay. He is credited with developing the North American version of raku, a process he first read about in a book by Bernard Leach which involved taking pots out of the kiln when they were red hot. Soldner describes his first attempts as "pretty shitty" but once he began to plunge the red hot pots into combustible materials, the results were exciting and a new style of raku was born. The DVD centres around a large show of Soldner's work and includes interviews with Soldner himself (who is always wearing a brightly-coloured sarong skirt and is shown several times kneeling in a field, cutting the flowers off dandelions with a pair of scissors and putting them into a brown paper bag so they can be used later to make dandelion wine,) some of his contemporaries in ceramics and some former students. While Soldner comes across as humble without being self-deprecating, everyone else stresses the importance of Soldner's groundbreaking work, saying he has "the curiosity to think of new ways of working and the courage to do it." *Playing with Fire* is an important record of the history an extraordinary man in an interesting time. It's a funny and heart-warming look at a man who has many friends and admirers. Soldner himself says that "creativity takes courage" and perhaps this DVD will inspire some of us to take chances and see where they lead us. 



# ClayLines

Celebrating Success in our community

## Submissions for the December newsletter

Please get your articles and ads in to Melany by November 20 at the latest for the December 1 newsletter. If you submit your material after that date, it may have to wait till next month's newsletter. Submissions can be sent to [editor@bcpotters.com](mailto:editor@bcpotters.com). Thank you for your help!

## Unclassifieds

**FOR SALE:** Hardly-used Shimpo-RK2 Potters Wheel, stool and tools incl, \$500. West Vancouver. Contact Anni Hunt, 604.922.0502 or email [annihunt@me.com](mailto:annihunt@me.com)

**SUBLET:** Oceanview Loft + Pottery Studio in Ucluelet. 42x24ft nicely furnished bedroom + ensuite in shared cedar castle! 16x16ft studio w/oceanview windows, electric kiln, wheel, wedging table. \$700/month inc. Available Dec. 1-Mar. 1. 250-726-4630 or email [tarynn.lloyd@gmail.com](mailto:tarynn.lloyd@gmail.com) for photos. Free rain...

**FOR SALE:** 60 cu.ft. movable downdraft gas kiln, wheeled door, chimney, all furniture - \$2000. Brent CXC, near new - \$1000. Brent B - \$400. Hard & soft bricks, bagged clay & chemicals @ 1/2 retail. Terry Ryals, Victoria, (250) 652-0310. [tryals@shaw.ca](mailto:tryals@shaw.ca).

**FOR SALE:** Property and wood kiln, Vancouver Island. Four acres, 2500 sq.ft. house with 500 sq.ft. studio, two-chamber bourry box wood kiln, asking \$350,000.00. For details email Alison Tang, [actang@shaw.ca](mailto:actang@shaw.ca)

## Tofino Sales Opportunity

The Tofino Tea Bar opened in July and is looking for some more functional pottery to sell in the shop...the owner's father-in-law currently supplies his wares from Cortes Island but is unable to keep up with the demand. The tea shop owner is interested in wholesale pricing but would also consider a reasonable split for functional ware. Contact: Cheryl Graham, Tofino Tea Bar, 250.725.8833 business, 250.726.3940 cell, [tofinateabar@gmail.com](mailto:tofinateabar@gmail.com).

## Calls for Entry

### EMERGING ARTISTS 2010 EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL AWARDS EXHIBITION

SlowArt Productions presents Emerging Artists 2010, the eighteenth annual competition for group exhibition, and awards. Open to all artists working in any media this event is devoted to the discovery, introduction and promotion of emerging artists.

**Cash Award:** A \$1000 grand prize cash award will be presented to one artist.

**Publication Awards:** One artist will be awarded a two page display in 2010 edition of *Direct Art Magazine*. [www.slowart.com/about.htm](http://www.slowart.com/about.htm). Two artists will be awarded one-page display pages in the 2010 edition of *Direct Art Magazine*.

**Gallery Exhibition:** Will be held at the Limner Gallery, March 5 - 27, 2010 and will also be featured on the Limner Gallery web site: [www.slowart.com/limner/htm/notes.htm](http://www.slowart.com/limner/htm/notes.htm)

**ELIGIBILITY:** The competition is open to all artists, national and international, working in all media. All forms of painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, graphics, digital and installation art are eligible. Entrants must be 18 years of age or older to apply.

**DEADLINE:** The final postmarked deadline is November 30, 2009. Winners will be notified by December 31.

For application form and details see: [www.slowart.com/prospectus/ea2010.htm](http://www.slowart.com/prospectus/ea2010.htm)

## Katrina Chaytor Lecture

Internationally-known ceramic artist and educator Katrina Chaytor will be speaking in Room 245 of the North Building of Emily Carr University, Granville Island on November 12 at 7:30 p.m.

## Gallery of BC Ceramics

### Annual Exhibition Jury

The Gallery of BC Ceramics is looking for potters who wish to apply to become a Featured Artist for a period of one month. Guild members (excluding our juried artists) who wish to apply may do so at [www.bcpotters.com/Gallery/forms/2009\\_gallery\\_featured\\_artist\\_submission\\_form.pdf](http://www.bcpotters.com/Gallery/forms/2009_gallery_featured_artist_submission_form.pdf).

As a featured artist, you'll be able to show a range of unjuried work in the gallery for a limited time, expose your work to a new clientele and generate some sales. Applications will be received until the end of the year.

## Maureen Wright Scholarship

The North-West Ceramics Foundation will be setting up a mug wall at the upcoming Canadian Clay Symposium. Participating artists are asked to donate a mug or cup, which will then be sold for \$15. All monies raised will go to the Maureen Wright Scholarship Fund, which is open to B.C. residents who are not currently enrolled in a full-time ceramics program. For more details on how to apply, visit the NWCF website: [www.nwcf.ca](http://www.nwcf.ca)

## Kamloops Sales Opportunity

Arlana and Elaine have opened a new store in downtown Kamloops and they're looking for potters to supply them with functional work. If you're interested in a new sales venue for your work, please contact: Essentials and Beyond, 367 Victoria St, Kamloops, BC; 250.372.2006, fax 250.372.1105 [essentialsandbeyond@telus.net](mailto:essentialsandbeyond@telus.net)



## Submissions & Advertising

Published 10 times yearly, the PGBC Newsletter is an information link for members.

### Submissions:

Send articles, reviews, images, member news, letters and information to: [editor@bcpotters.com](mailto:editor@bcpotters.com) **by the 15th of each month** for publication the following month. Submissions may be edited for space.

### 2009 Advertising Rates\*:

*All ads are payable upon receipt of invoice*

- Full page, \$185+ GST
- 2/3 page, \$125 + GST
- 1/2 page, \$95 + GST
- 1/3 page, \$65 + GST (horizontal, vertical, or column)
- 1/4 page, \$49 + GST
- 1/6 page, \$35 + GST

Please submit ads as PDF, TIF, JPG or EPS files. For ad sizes see: <http://www.bcpotters.com/Guild/newsletter.html>. Ad rates are for files requiring no further work by our staff. Ads that are not the correct size, or that need formatting or basic design work will cost \$20 extra.

### Unclassified Rates:

Members FREE! Non-members: \$22 + GST

*\*Advertising rates subject to change*

**Potters Guild of British Columbia**

**1359 Cartwright St · Granville Island**

**Vancouver, BC · V6H 3R7**

**tel: 604.669.3606**

**fax: 604.669.5627**

**<http://www.bcpotters.com/Guild>**



**At the Oceanside Community Arts Council  
135 McMillan Street, Parksville  
Saturdays, Nov. 14 - Dec. 12, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.**

## Potters Guild of BC Board

**Jinny Whitehead**, President

604.687.3590 · [vwhitehead@shaw.ca](mailto:vwhitehead@shaw.ca)

**Kathryn O'Regan**

[k.oregan@shaw.ca](mailto:k.oregan@shaw.ca)

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**Laura McKibbin**

604.720.7835 · [laura@culdesacdesign.com](mailto:laura@culdesacdesign.com)

## Membership

### Membership Fees

For 12 months, including GST: Individual, \$55;

Full-time Student: \$35, Senior (over 65), \$35; Institution/Group/Corporation, \$200.

### Membership Renewals & New Memberships

- In person: pay by Visa, cheque or cash at the Gallery of BC Ceramics OR
- By mail: pay by Visa or cheque and mail to the Guild; mark the envelope and cheque with either 'Membership Renewal' or 'New Membership'
- Online at our secure site with a credit card by [clicking here](#).

## Communications Committee

**Don Jung**

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**Melany Hallam, Maywood Design**, Newsletter editor

604.487.1597 · [editor@bcpotters.com](mailto:editor@bcpotters.com)

**Andrea Maitland**, Proofreader

## Let us know about your holiday studio sales!

We'll be including members' Christmas craft and studio sales info (incl. photo) in the December newsletter. Get your information in to Melany at [editor@bcpotters.com](mailto:editor@bcpotters.com) by Nov. 20 for the Dec. 1 newsletter.

Can't wait to see what you've got cooking for Christmas!