

October 2010  
Volume 46 No. 8



# BC POTTERS

*Newsletter of the Potters Guild of British Columbia*

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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 6 p.m.

### Gallery Assistants

Carita Ho, Roxanne Gagnon,  
Sarah Cannon, Nadiya Chettiar,  
Kate Metten, Kelly Austin,  
Natasha Chettiar, Dave Carlin  
[staff@bcpotters.com](mailto:staff@bcpotters.com)

### Gallery Volunteers

Maggi Kneer, Sheila Morissette,  
Elizabeth Claridge, Jinny Whitehead,  
Celia Rice-Jones

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

■ **The Gallery coordinates and curates  
several 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](#).*

## 2010 Featured Artists

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)

• **February:** Carole Henshall  
• **April:** Richard Tanaka  
• **May:** Ekta Nadeau  
• **June:** Sarah Cannon  
• **July:** Kwai-Sang Wong

• **August:** Katie Janyk  
• **September:** Linda Lewis  
• **October:** Mike Allegretti  
• **November:** Elaine Futterman

## 2010 Gallery Exhibitions

### March

**Vancouver Collects**  
*Doris Shadbolt Collection*  
March 6 to 31

### July

**Laura van der Linde**  
*Three*  
July 3 to 31

### September

**Keith Rice-Jones**  
*Size Matters*  
September 4 to 30

### October

**Amy Chang**  
*Imperfection*  
October 2 to 30

### November

**Student Show:**  
**West Point Grey Academy**  
November 6 to 26

## Carol Mayer Prize for Ceramics



**Shino bowl, 12" in diameter, by Celia Rice-Jones.**

Celia Rice-Jones was the first recipient of the Carol Mayer Prize for Ceramics at the recent first World Art Market (WAM) at the Museum of Anthropology, UBC. This award will be given at future WAM festivals.

It was a varied and interesting event. As well as the wide range of artist from a variety of cultures, there were performances and ongoing demonstrations.

Look for it next year. For more info see:  
[www.moa.ubc.ca/world-art-market](http://www.moa.ubc.ca/world-art-market)

# President's Message

There have been a couple of changes on the PGBC Board. I am very pleased to announce that Nora Vaillant has joined the board. Nora has recently returned to Vancouver after spending a year in Mexico. Prior to that, she was an active participant in the B.C. clay community. I welcome her to the board.

The second change is the departure of Janis Britland. Janis is focusing more of her energy on her painting and feels she cannot also continue to contribute to the guild. Janis was an active participant on the board for a year-and-a-half, and I shall miss her.

Thanks to everyone who has renewed their membership. If you haven't done so, please do it ASAP as the newsletters will

automatically stop when your membership expires.

As the days grow shorter I expect most of you, like me, are spending more time in your studio creating work for the seasonal sales. Waking up with stiff hands the other day reminded me of Les Manning's workshop on ergonomics in the pottery studio. Watch your posture, soften your clay, and pace yourself... You've only got one body, so you have to look after it!

Don't forget to take advantage of listing your studio sale in the November newsletter, free to current members. 🏠

—Jinny Whitehead

## Gallery News *By Sharon Cohen*

The end of summer—sighhhhhh! We have a giant glass garage door in the gallery. In summer, we have it open to let in more light, air and customers. Last week, we closed it and placed some plinths in front of it, which means we can't open it again till we move the plinths away next summer. This means summer is officially over in the gallery. It was a summer of ups and downs. Business was not quite as good as we had hoped, but we've had a wonderful time! The summer exhibitions were a huge success. A special thank you goes to Laura van der Linde and Keith Rice-Jones who hosted the summer shows. The two exhibitions could not have been more different, and lent weight to my theory that women and men perceive and relate to art in different ways. Women tend to relate more on an aesthetic level, and men tend to be more analytical as they focus on construction and technique. Laura's show was "girl art," all whimsy and magic and colour, and Keith's exhibition has been "boy art," all size and impact and drama. It's been such a pleasure admiring these pieces in the gallery on a daily basis, but more visual treats will unfold as we host Amy Chang's *Imperfection* exhibition for the month of October.

Speaking of success, a special word about Jeanette Moore, who was juried into the gallery this April. Jeanette's work has sold phenomenally well. It's sparked so much interest, and it's been immensely gratifying to see Jeanette establish a reputation for herself in our gallery so very rapidly. Last week, as I was busy wrapping one piece of hers for shipping, I was busy selling another. When we tell customers how the work is made (raku) and how the decorative effects are achieved, it fascinates them, and the interest it sparks really helps to sell the work. Well done, Jeanette!



Amy Chang's *Imperfection* graces the gallery for the month of October.

Last, but not least, a special welcome to new staff members. Kelly Austin is a ceramics student at Emily Carr University, and a very skilled and talented potter. Natasha Chettiar has recently moved to Vancouver from back east, and is a very welcome addition to our team. An extra special welcome to Dave Carlin, a knowledgeable ceramics historian and keen collector (not to mention valuable gallery customer!) who will be a volunteer gallery assistant. Watch out, Dave, you'll be getting all the "boy jobs" around the place! 🏠

## Chop Marks & Signatures

Send in your chops and have them available through the guild. For the form, click on the link here: [www.bcpotters.com/Guild/chops.html](http://www.bcpotters.com/Guild/chops.html)

You can email it back to Debra Sloan at [sloanyip@shaw.ca](mailto:sloanyip@shaw.ca) as an attachment. Or print and mail your sheet[s] to Potters Guild of BC, 1359 Cartwright Street, Granville Island, Vancouver, B.C. V6H 3R7 attention: chops. 🏠



# Go West

## From Calgary to Gabriola Island *By Mariko McCrae*

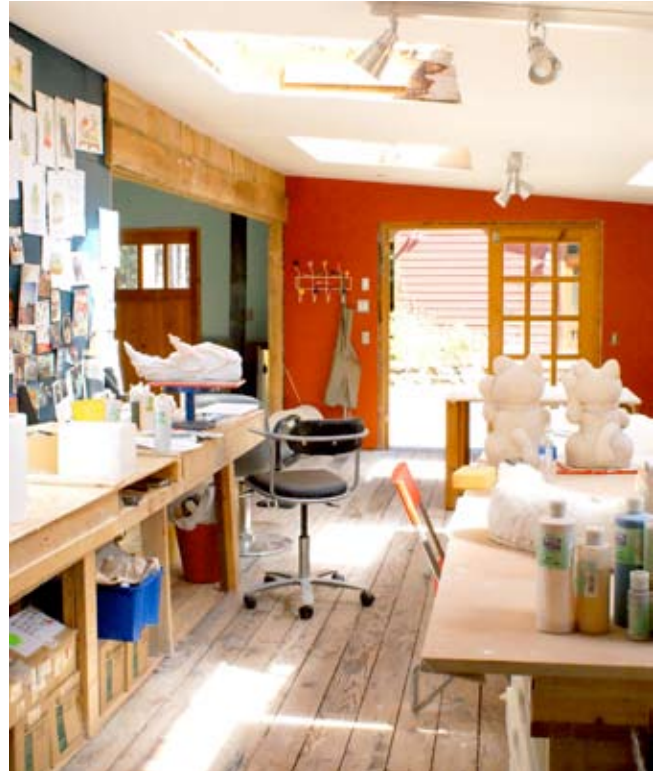
As we pulled out onto Macleod Trail and headed west the skies darkened and the snow began to fall. It was quite a fitting farewell to the end of May and our former home, Calgary. Driving through Fernie marked the end of the late spring blizzard and over the next day friendlier skies, greener pastures and the welcoming waves of the ocean greeted us. The low and long toot of the ferry horn signaled the final send off to our new home on Gabriola Island and the launching of Feedlot Studios.

Truth be told we bought our house completely sight unseen (save for the internet) and it wasn't until after our offer was accepted that we flew out for our first nail-biting viewing. Our nervousness completely subsided when we entered the beautiful Arts and Crafts Style house and even more so when we laid eyes on the studio, a magnificent 1500-square-foot diamond in the rough.

Once rented to cabinetmakers, the studio's interior wore the wear and tear of a thousand nails like a badge of banged-up honour. Needless to say, the better part of the summer was spent patching, re-mudding and re-painting the space, slowly transforming it into its colourful glory of reds, oranges and light blues. While my husband Bryan was able to manage various construction projects, we were fortunate that the walls already held 240-volt outlets, thus escaping the expensive perils of rewiring.

Fast-forward to September and the soft launch of Feedlot Studios, an amalgamation of private ceramic studio space, public classes, a gallery, and my husband's graphic design business (that also flies under the Feedlot Studios banner.) The gallery occupies approximately half the studio space and showcases, largely, my homage to the world of historical ceramics. After fifteen years of dedicated practice, I both covet and hoard Christie's and Sotheby auction catalogs that constitute my prime source of ceramic inspiration. With carefully-selected historical pieces to serve as visual anchors I then merge them with contemporary subject matters in order to achieve a body of work that demonstrates a strange hybridization of culture, a warped sense of time travel and, as always, a challenge to notions of taste. Weary of the all-white gallery look complete with predictable pedestals, Bryan and I scoured Gabriola's garage sales for furniture and accessories to set off the works in a more eclectic light.


Intending to compliment the variety of established studio practices on this "Island of the Arts," we saw Feedlot's working studio side of things as potential to engage and educate both the local and visiting public about the ceramic art process. For me, there is nothing better than hands-on experience to bridge the disconnect between an existing



**Bright and airy, the McCrae's Feedlot Studios on Gabriola Island.**

work of art and how it actually came into being. While I imagine that it will take a few class cycles to perfect the delivery of my educational and experiential intentions, within a week of announcing the first run of classes, both the adults and kids nine-week sessions filled right up. It was time to start practicing my preaching!

I've spent the better part of the last ten years teaching ceramics at such places as the Alberta College of Art & Design and North Mount Pleasant Arts Center in Calgary, the University of Michigan and Ohio University in the mid west, and Greenwich House Pottery in New York, so it was relatively easy to assemble an introductory curriculum to the world of ceramics. I'll be sharing my abilities with low- to mid-firing clay bodies and handbuilding techniques, as well as basic glazing to Cone 6 electric. Undoubtedly, I'll be sharing examples of historical and contemporary ceramics throughout my time with the inaugural students so they'll get a sense of the time and tradition that permeates all ceramic endeavours.

With a mere three months of Gulf Island living under our belts, there will be much to report on and look forward to in the coming months. To those of our colleagues who are still trying to determine if we are crazy or heroic for making the leap from big city to small community living, we'd like to think we're the latter. Only time will tell. 

**Mariko and Bryan McCrae** will be an unofficial part of the Gabriola Island Studio Tour (having arrived a tad too late) that takes place Oct. 9 to 11. More information about the dynamic duo can be found on their website, [Feedlotstudios.com](http://Feedlotstudios.com) and on their blog, [Feedlotstudios.blogspot.com](http://Feedlotstudios.blogspot.com)



**Recent work by Mariko McCrae.**

# Cathi Jefferson: BC Creative Achievement Award 2010

By Melany Hallam & Amy Gogarty

Potters across British Columbia are cheering the news that long-time PGBC member Cathi Jefferson was awarded the Carter-Wosk BC Creative Achievement Award for Applied Art and Design on Aug. 31. Cathi is joined by Natalie Purschwitz of Vancouver, receiving the award for clothing and accessories, and Toby Barratt, Pamela Goddard and Nik Rust of Propellor Design of Vancouver receiving the award for furniture and lighting. Cathi and the other BC Creative Achievement Award recipients were recognized at a presentation and exhibition event on Sept. 27 in Vancouver. Recipients receive \$2,500 and are granted the use of the British Columbia Creative Award seal to signify their creative excellence. The Award winners work will be exhibited at the YVR. Cathi is the fifth potter to receive the B.C. Creative Achievement Award. Previous award winners were Rachelle Chinnery (2007), Sarah Lawless and Kinichi Shigeno (2008), and Lilach Lotan (2009).

Inspired by the west coast rainforest outside her studio on the Cowichan River, Cathi's skills as a ceramic artist have been developed and honed over 35 years. She says that she has always known that she was meant to be a potter; it is simply something that she loves to do.

Most of her work is wheel-thrown and altered into square or triangular shapes. Pieces are decorated with impressions from nature or geometric shapes that attempt to fit the form and add texture to the surface. What makes Cathi's work unique is the salt-fired technique she uses to finish her stoneware. The salt vaporizes at a high temperature in the kiln and interacts with the clay to create a glaze. The process can create a variety of textures on the same object, providing wonderfully unpredictable results.

"Cathi Jefferson's thrown and altered, salt-glazed porcelain vessels and garden sculptures reflect her love of nature in the delicate colours and patterns that decorate them," said Amy Gogarty in a talk to the NWCF in 2008. Cathi adds that, "...my overwhelming desire to make functional dishes is grounded in the belief that it is important to have handmade items in our lives to help us remain connected to the natural world and to each other." By embellishing surfaces with imagery, textures and colours derived from nature, she



Tea Set, by Cathi Jefferson.

encourages people to pay closer attention to all aspects of the environment. She hopes that using her functional work transforms "the ordinary into something very special."

Cathi's career as a studio-trained potter began in 1974 under mentor Herman Venema in Matsqui. She received formal arts training at Kwantlen College and Fraser Valley College. She has taught clay at the University of Victoria, the Emily Carr Institute of Art + Design and the Kootenay School of the Arts. Her craft has taken her around the world, including leading workshops around North America, the UK and Korea and residencies in B.C., Alberta, Maine, Japan, the U.K. and at The Archie Bray Foundation in Montana.

Cathi's installation work, *Reflecting Nature: Reflecting Spirit*, is showing until Oct. 16 at the Cowichan Valley Arts Council Arts Centre Gallery (2 - 139 Station Street, Duncan, B.C.) The show was three years in the making and was partially funded by a grant from the Canada Council for the Arts. The very large, diverse display includes mixed media, projected images and printed banners as well as her incredible stoneware sculptures, and has been shown on only one other occasion in 2007 at the Seymour Art Gallery in North Vancouver.

Cathi, from all of your fellow guild members, congratulations on your achievement! 🙌

Among many positions she's held within the B.C. clay community, Cathi Jefferson served on the North-West Ceramics Foundation board for

three years, has been a co-chair of the Canadian Clay Symposium since 1999, is past president of the Fraser Valley Potters Guild, and is currently teaching at the University of Victoria. You can see Cathi and her work at the Circle Craft Fair in Vancouver Nov. 17 to 21 and at the Out of Hand 22nd annual artisan Christmas fair in Victoria Nov. 26 to 28. She also has a studio gallery now and would love potters to come by to visit and have a cup of tea when they are in the beautiful Cowichan Valley. For more info see Cathi's website: [www.cathijefferson.com](http://www.cathijefferson.com). For more on the BC Creative Achievement Award see: <http://www.bcachievement.com/creative/recipients.php>



Large Leaf Bottle, by Cathi Jefferson.

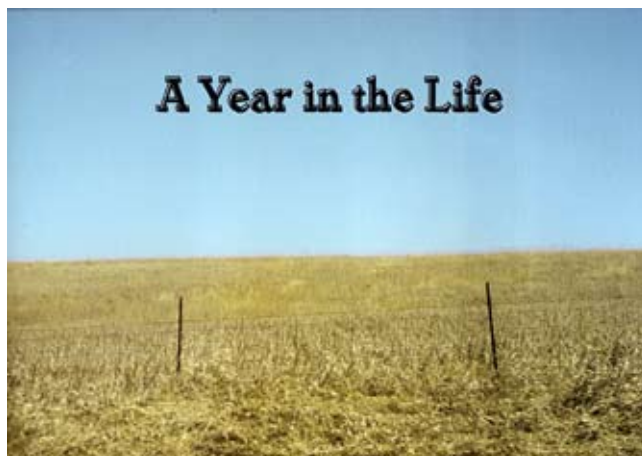


## DVD Review *By Patty Osborne*

The focus of the DVD *Clary Illian: A Year in the Life* is the changes that Illian went through when she fell and broke her wrist. While her bones mended, Illian took a hiatus from pottery production (for the first time in the more than 40 years since she apprenticed with Bernard Leach) and spent time reflecting on where she's been and where she's going. In interview excerpts, Illian reveals that her large gas kilns kept her on a rigorous two-month production cycle. Sometimes she felt like she was pushing an enormous pile of pots up a hill to the top. Illian could see a day coming when she would no longer be able to keep up this schedule so after her wrist healed she switched to electric firing and what looks like earthenware clay (the video mentions "lower temperature" but does not specify how much lower.)

Illian's work has always been unrestrained but with the bright glaze colours available at the lower temperature, she has let whimsy take hold. She now decorates her work with loosely painted flowers, cats, birds, faces or just squiggly lines.

Also included on the DVD is the video *A Life In Clay* in which Illian talks about her time at summer camp ("they made us all good girls"), her art school beginnings and her new, more-calculated way of looking at production. There's also a slide show of both her gas- and electric-fired work, and a couple of short interviews with other potters who admire her work. The DVD seems to be directed at a general audience and the potter in me wanted more details about Illian's process (and a faster slide show) but this small glimpse of Illian's life and work was both interesting and inspiring. 📺



**Clary Illian: A Year in the Life**  
Atom Burke Productions  
DVD \$30  
[www.atomburke.com/a-year.html](http://www.atomburke.com/a-year.html)

### Specialty Workshops at the Surrey Art Gallery

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#### Hands-on Throwing Workshop

Improve your basic techniques on the potter's wheel through disciplined throwing exercises. Focusing on the dynamics of the basic cylinder, you will learn to have more control of this form, which will allow you to create a broader range of work.

Nov 7 & 14, 10am–4pm  
2 sessions \$85 | Course 4217971

*Instructor Fredi Rahn received her BFA from Nova Scotia College of Art & Design. Fredi creates one-of-a-kind functional and decorative pieces in her Vancouver-based studio, and exhibits her work across the continent.*

#### Kiln Operations Workshop

Learn all about electric kiln operations from the kiln manager at Surrey Art Gallery. Topics include trigger adjustments, kiln loading, re-wiring, firing schedules, cones, troubleshooting, and safety.

Nov 21, 10:30am–1pm  
1 session \$26.50 | Course 4217972

*Instructor and full-time potter Murray Sanders has taught at the Surrey Art Gallery for eighteen years, and is the ceramics studio technician. He holds a Fine Arts diploma and a diploma in Adult Education.*

#### Winter programs are coming up quickly...

... and registration begins November 29 for more of Surrey Art Gallery's terrific courses and workshops!

#### Pottery — Level 2

Jan 25  
8 sessions \$135  
Instructor: Eliza Au

#### Surface Decorating Workshop

Feb 20  
2 sessions \$98  
Instructor: Fredi Rahn



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Please register no later than 7 days in advance.




# Empty Bowls 2010, Sunshine Coast

By Elaine Futterman



The potters are, left to right, Jack Ploesser, Patsi Mines, Elaine Futterman and Diane Amaral, admiring some of the work that will be donated for EMPTY BOWLS 2010, taking place in Roberts Creek on Oct. 16.

Coast Potters are presenting *Empty Bowls 2010*, a benefit for the Sunshine Coast Food Bank, on Saturday, Oct. 16, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Roberts Creek Community Hall.

Choose a beautiful bowl made by a Coast potter and then enjoy a delicious lunch of soup, bread, beverage and dessert. Tickets are available at The Gift of the Eagle Gallery (Gibsons,) Roberts Creek General Store and Windsong Gallery (Sechelt). Adults \$20, kids (lunch only) 6 - 12 years old \$10, kids under 5 are free. For more information or to arrange for tickets at the door phone Marilyn at 604.740.0530. 

**There's lots happening on the Sunshine Coast this fall. See the Sunshine Coast Art Crawl info on Page 13!**

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.

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or register online: [burnaby.ca/webreg](http://burnaby.ca/webreg)

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# TriCity Potters Show at the Port Moody Arts Centre

*By Gillian McMillan*

TriCity Potters' first show opened the evening of Thursday, Sept. 9 in the 3D Gallery of Port Moody's Arts Centre. The two ceramic and two painting shows were enthusiastically received. Some photos of the work are included here, but I've made a Picasa album of images of all the work here:

<http://picasaweb.google.com/gillianmcmillan1/TriCityPotters2010PortMoodyAC?feat=email#>

TriCity Potters members participating in the show are:

Eliza Wang	Judy Inouye
Myrta Hayes	Gillian McMillan
Grace Sui	Birgitta Schreiber
Judith Burke	Hannah Chan
Maria Palotas	Joyce Gillespie,
June MacDonald	Monica Viola
Sue Griesse	Kay Bonathan
Dan Severance	

The show continues until Oct. 9. Congratulations everyone! 🎉



**Tea set, by Dan Severance.**



**Plate, by Judith Burke.**



**Water jug and wash stand, by Birgitta Schreiber.**



**Container, by Monica Viola.**



**Carved white vases, by Linda LeBrun.**



## Obituary: Letia Richardson



Letia Richardson passed away on Aug. 31, 2010, peacefully in her 67th year. Letia had an extensive career in the visual arts as a curator, educator and administrator. She was also a frequent visitor to the Gallery of BC Ceramics, and the editor of the Potters Guild of BC Newsletter for many years.

"She was a consummate professional and excellent grammarian. Really excellent qualities for an editor!" says Keith Rice-Jones, past president of the PGBC. "She was instrumental in stamping out a new more streamlined and tightly organised publication."

Survived by husband Peter Hendrie and his children, Tim (Susan) of Calgary, Jane Wright (David) of Surrey, Angus of West Vancouver and her grandchildren Ben Wright of Surrey, Rhonda Treacy (Mitch) and Greg Garbutt (Linda) of Calgary; also by brothers Jack (Donelda) and William (Elaine) and sister Kae Mabee (Chuck deceased) of Ontario and sister Pat Wollcott (Norm) of Alberta. Her friends and generations of family will lovingly remember her. A gathering in Letia's memory will be held at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club, 3811 Point Grey Road, from 1:30 to 3:30 pm, Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010. 🕯



## From Oven and Kiln Fundraiser Spring 2012

The North-West Ceramics Foundation would like to announce that their always-anticipated major fundraiser, *From Oven and Kiln*, will next be held in the spring of 2012. At that time, also, we will present the NWCF Award to an outstanding B.C. ceramic artist who demonstrates an ongoing commitment to the ceramics community.

Founded in 1998 by John Cloutier, Keith Rice-Jones and the PGBC Board, the From Oven and Kiln silent auction and dinner has become our main fundraising event. Funds raised through the Oven and Kiln Auction/Dinner supported the Jumpstart Scholarships, continue to support the Maureen Wright Scholarships and the NWCF Award.

You can find the work of our first 2009 NWCF Award recipients, Lisa Henriques and Ian Johnson, on our website, [www.nwcf.ca](http://www.nwcf.ca). There is no application for this award. If there is a ceramic workshop coming up that you want to attend, do not forget, you can apply for a Maureen Wright Scholarship.

Guests take home unique dessert plates made and donated by B.C. potters. The event also features a silent auction of ceramic pieces made and donated by many of B.C.'s most outstanding ceramic artists.

For more on From Oven and Kiln and the NWCF Award, please consult our website at [www.nwcf.ca](http://www.nwcf.ca), and please stay tuned for more information as it becomes available. 📧

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# Inspired By Nature

By Peggy Stortz

Living on the west coast we are surrounded by the beauty and power of nature. On Vancouver's North Shore, we are fortunate to be able to enjoy the mountains, forests, rivers and coastal waters with all of their flora and fauna. But as human development continues and these precious sanctuaries become more and more at risk, we must protect them as well.

The year 2010 has been designated the International Year of Biodiversity. This September, in an effort to raise awareness about the vital role that parks and green spaces play in our lives, the Ferry Building Gallery mounted a mixed media group exhibition called *Inspired by Nature: The Parks of West Vancouver* (Sept. 3 to 26.) Fifteen recognized local artists depicted, in clay, textiles, paint and other media, aspects of the natural habitat from several of the area's parks. Public lectures on the subjects of rockfish, glass sponges and forest biodiversity were presented during the three-week exhibition.

Three of the participants in this show were ceramic artists, and all three of them are Potters Guild of BC members. Jackie Frioud's work reflects her fascination with the streams and water pools of Cypress Park's Black Mountain and Nelson Canyon where she enjoys hiking and cross-country skiing. *Stream Beds I, II & III* are trough-like vessels of blue and copper-brown clay resembling creek beds. In each lie several round stones, again made of clay. They shine just like stones in the crystal waters of North Shore rivers and creeks meandering their way down to the sea.

*Frozen Lakes, Black Mountain* is a descending series of shallow ceramic bowls, irregular in shape and icy blue grey in colour. They show the artist's appreciation for the wintry beauty of the North Shore Mountains.

Ronda Green takes us to a much tamer location. Memorial Park, known for its lovely gardens, is also home to West Vancouver's cenotaph. Celebrating the elegance and importance of flowers, Green created hundreds of small clay flowers for three of her four pieces. She assembled some of these into the shape of two wreaths, acknowledging the park's war memorial. *Black Wreath*, circular and comprised of black and sandy-toned flowers, is a reminder of deadly toll of war. Its partner, *Green Heart* is just that—a heart-shaped wreath of delicate sage green flowers. To the artist, it symbolizes her wishes for a better world. With a similar message of hope, beauty and love, the off-white blooms of *Basket of Flowers* cascade out of the ceramic basket of the same hue. Their colour is offset by the deep green leaves that peek out here and there.

*Lily Monument*, Green's fourth contribution to the exhibition is a tall clay vase (60 cm) embossed with images flowers. Are the four bands of colour on the vessel—brown, orange, yellow and green—representative of the autumn shades we see in November?

From the urban park in the town centre we move to the outer western edge of the municipality. Whytecliff Park is one of the favourite haunts of ceramic artist Helen Weiser and a popular destination for divers, bird watchers and beachcombers. Weiser has celebrated diverse aspects of the West Vancouver shoreline. *Low Tide Rock Bowl I, II & III* is a series of clay bowls fired in deep earthy tones to represent the sand, clay and rocks visible when the tide is out.

Another threesome is her *Surf Scoters I, II & III*. These sea birds, with their sleek black feathers and brightly coloured beaks, winter in the area. No doubt some of them can be seen at Whytecliff. But Weiser may have had a more serious reason for choosing this bird for her work.



**Frozen Lakes, Black Mountain, by Jackie Frioud.**

In 2007, an oil spill in San Francisco harbour killed thousands of surf scoters. In fact, 40% of the birds killed by this spill were scoters.

Weiser's final piece in the exhibition is a mixed media sculpture entitled *Rockfish at Whytecliff Park*. These delightful clay rockfish are suspended on sticks over a bed of natural stones. The artist chose shades of grey, brown and yellow to colour the fish. Some are striped, others more mottled. Looking on from the sidelines is a curious deep-grey seal, one of a series called *Seal Rocks*. Could he be planning his next dinner?

On entering the gallery and experiencing this extraordinary exhibition, one cannot help but feel surrounded by nature—images of stormy coastlines and giant trees are juxtaposed with watercolour paintings and illustrations of some of the region's most delicate wild flowers. The artists' tributes to land, water, plants and animals are powerful reminders of our own connection to the natural world, a treasure to be cherished and protected. 🌿

**Peggy Stortz** is a North Shore writer, entertainer and educator. She loves to spend time in nature.



**Flower Basket, by Ronda Green.**



**Seal Rocks, by Helen Weiser.**



## Julie York Lecture, Oct. 13

Reminder of special lecture coming up soon, hosted by the North-West Ceramic Foundation:

**Julie York, Conflagration of Object and Image**  
Wed., Oct. 13, 7 p.m.

Emily Carr University north building, in the IDS  
- Motion Capture Studio

## Call for Artists

**Deadline: Oct. 17**

Are you an artist or artisan looking for a place to display and sell your work at Christmas? Place des Arts, a multi-disciplinary arts centre in Maillardville Coquitlam, is seeking new artists for its Christmas Boutique Nov. 12 to Dec. 17, 2010. A \$5 jury fee applies. The deadline for registration is Sunday, Oct. 17, 2010. For registration forms and artists identification cards, interested artists may visit [www.placedesarts.ca](http://www.placedesarts.ca) and follow the "Our Programs" dropdown menu to "Christmas Boutique." For more information, contact gift shop coordinator, Lidia Kosznik, at 604.664.1636 or email her at [lkosznik@placedesarts.ca](mailto:lkosznik@placedesarts.ca)

## Menorah Chanukah Competition

**Deadline: Oct. 25**

This competition and exhibit is open to artists to celebrate winter light. Artists from all communities are welcome to submit artwork that interprets the meaning of Chanukah and the menorah design. For more information about the menorah design and the observation of Chanukah, please visit [www.burquest.org](http://www.burquest.org). There is a **\$1,000 cash award** to the winning artist of the Judges vote, and a \$100 cash award will be awarded to the winning artist of the public vote. Details are available for download at: [www.portcoquitlam.ca/\\_shared/assets/Menorah\\_Chanukah\\_Competition\\_Call2010\\_final8437.pdf](http://www.portcoquitlam.ca/_shared/assets/Menorah_Chanukah_Competition_Call2010_final8437.pdf)

## LADYSMITH, B.C.

### Potters Discussion Group

Hello fellow potters:

The next Discussion Group meetings will be on **Sunday, Oct. 3 and Sunday, Jan. 9** from 1 p.m. onward at my pottery in Ladysmith on Vancouver Island. Everyone is welcome, beginners to professionals, and there is no charge. The idea is for a free flow of discussion covering whatever areas people may be having problems with. I personally like to help with problems around finding your style and the creative process but am happy to help in other areas too if I can. Mary Fox Pottery is located at 321 Third Ave. Ladysmith 250.245.3778, [maryfox@shaw.ca](mailto:maryfox@shaw.ca)

An email or phone call to let me know you are planning on attending is welcome but not a requirement. Looking forward to seeing you,

—Mary Fox

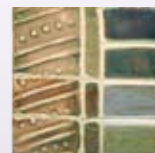
# Totally CERAMICS

...supplier of your ceramic and pottery needs.

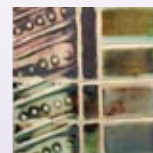
**Georgies new Cone 6 Interactive Pigments:**



IP203  
Golden Straw



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Olive Green



IP205  
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A versatile design element that interacts with both clay and glaze. Use them:

- over top or under your raw glaze
- as a wipe back for texture

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12 colours!

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Monday to Friday  
9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday

9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

**Drop by and check us out:**

#109 - 18525 - 53 Ave.  
Surrey, B.C.

**Or give us a call at:**

**604.574.0454**

## 2501 Migrants: A Journey

*2501 Migrants: A Journey* is a full-length documentary about a huge sculpture project that explores questions of art, and indigenous community in the context of global migration.

Daily, thousands of primarily poor and young indigenous Mexicans abandon their native homes. They start voyages to the first world in search of jobs and the hope of a brighter future—or, indeed, any economic future at all. In their wake, they leave behind the hollow footprints of a cultural and domestic abandonment. *2501 Migrants* illustrates this through the story of Alejandro Santiago, a middle-aged artist and family man from Oaxaca, Mexico. Relatively affluent and erudite, Alejandro returns home after a brief self-exile in France. But upon arrival to his native Teococuilco, he is struck by what he perceives as a virtual ghost town. Alejandro experiences, first hand, the reality that Oaxaca has emerged as one of Mexico's leading exporters of human labor to the United States. Inspired by this, he decides to create a monumental installation art piece: 2,501 life-size sculptures an homage to each individual migrant who left his village.

See part of the documentary here:

<http://2501migrants-themovie.com/trailer.html>



# Chops and Signatures: A Mark Registry *By Debra Sloan*

The idea of starting a Registry of Marks came to me after attending an auction where a number of my pieces were up for resale after the death of a collector. I wanted to see how the process worked. I remembered Tam Irving commenting years ago that the realistic value of an artwork is established when it is resold.

In the auction mentioned above, the paintings and the First Nations art that could be identified by the auctioneer, or was of a known value, sold for handsome prices. Once the ceramics came on the block, the auctioneer did not know how to evaluate or identify the pieces, and was selling well-known potters' work starting at five dollars. There were a few collectors and potters in the audience and we had a good time scooping up bargains. I realized that in this situation contemporary ceramics were literally an anonymous art form.

For those who watch *The Antiques Road Show*, we now know that, along with the aesthetics of a piece, its value is increased when it has a context or a provenance. In North America, particularly in the west, there is no indigenous ceramic culture. A few pieces of locally-made contemporary ceramics can be found in the Museum of Anthropology (MOA), for instance, but they are unsupported by historic local work. Other ceramics represented have been imported through immigration. Our community does not have a memory of old pots being used in our parents' homes, we used industrially made ceramics, and there was no traditional pottery producer down the road. As ceramicists, we know that the best way to become knowledgeable is through touch, experience, and observation. The Potters Guild of BC has been doing its best, over the



Sandra Dolph



Rachelle Chinnery

## Two examples of guild members' marks.

years, to illuminate the ceramic practice to the citizens of B.C.

The Potters Guild of BC is the oldest provincial potters guild in Canada and has been pro-active in trying to acquaint our communities with ceramics. For more than 50 years we have held sales, exhibitions, workshops and lectures. Our newsletter has been sent out to potters B.C.-wide since the early 1960s, and we have marked all our important exhibitions with catalogues. The guild published our most successful book, *Made of Clay*, in 1998; a unique publication in Canada. We also published the *Source book* in 2005 for our 50th Anniversary. Our gallery on Granville Island has been showcasing members' ceramics for almost 25 years. There has been an increase in interest in all the galleries and museums in B.C. The MOA, the Vancouver Art Gallery, the Belkin, and the community galleries of Surrey, Burnaby, North and West Vancouver, Port Moody, Vernon, and Penticton, have all featured or included ceramics in recent exhibitions. Some, like the MOA, have started permanent ceramic collections. The UBC Rare Books and Collections now has original copies of all of the publications by the Potters Guild of BC, and about B.C. ceramics, and will have

copies of all of our newsletters.

Every week the Gallery of BC Ceramics gets calls from customers and collectors trying to identify work. Several galleries and collectors have declared an interest in assisting with this project. Over the last few years, people have submitted both drawn and digital images of their marks. We now have several hundred. Volunteer Rezwan Vaghani has scanned and organized the marks sent in, or collected at the Canadian Clay Symposium, and Isabel Sloan Yip has photographed all the signatures from the gallery. Later this fall we will be visiting a couple of collectors to photograph more. Finally, and most significantly, Linda Lewis has just started to put these up on a Mark Registry page on our [website](#).

Collecting the marks has been a slow process as it is all done on volunteer time. At first we collected drawings of marks, but this year decided to use a digital camera instead. For now we will combine the hand-drawn marks with the digital photographs. By next September we will ask all renewing members to submit a digital photograph of their mark(s) and to answer a few biographical questions. This will be the most efficient way to create a foundation for this registry. Our ambition is to have a reasonable profile on every known potter, past and present, in B.C., as well as a record of their marks, a short bio, exhibitions, and any newspaper articles. It will be a great resource for any researcher, and will demonstrate that we take our ceramic practice seriously.

The Mark Registry can be viewed as an opportunity for B.C. ceramicists to be more pro-active with their practice. By identifying ourselves, and our work, we provide context and provenance to the ceramic practice in B.C. Perhaps next time someone attends an auction the auctioneer will identify the potter and give a short history, and someone will decide that this is an art-practice worth learning about.

Contact me anytime at [debraesloan@gmail.com](mailto:debraesloan@gmail.com). I have a short list of biographical questions, and would love to receive a digital copy of your mark(s). We have more than 21 regional potters guilds and associations in our province. The number of potters in B.C. is a phenomenon and a great source of new marks...so please contact me and get onto the registry. And always, any volunteer assistance if most welcome! 🍷

## Christmas Craft Fairs 2010

Maria Palotas



maripottery.com

November 11, 10:00 - 5:00  
November 12, 10:00 - 5:00  
November 13, 10:00 - 5:00  
November 14 10:00 - 4:00  
Burnaby Arts Council  
Heritage Christmas Craft Fair  
Shadbolt Centre  
6450 Deer Lake Ave, Burnaby

November 27, 10:00 - 4:00  
November 28, 10:00 - 4:00  
15th Annual Happening  
Arts and Crafts Fair  
Thomas Haney Centre  
23000 116th Ave, Maple Ridge

November 19, 10:00 - 9:00  
November 20, 10:00 - 6:00  
November 21, 10:00 - 4:00  
Chilliwack Arts Council  
Christmas Craft Market  
Chilliwack Heritage Park  
44140 Luckakuck Way  
Chilliwack

December 5, 10:00 - 4:00  
Delbrook Christmas Craft Fair  
Delbrook Community Centre  
600 West Queens Road  
North Vancouver

# ClayLines

Celebrating Success in our community

## Submissions for the November 2010 newsletter

Please get your articles and ads in to Melany by October 20 at the latest for the November 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).

## Crackerjack 2010

Craft sale, Nov. 12 to 14, West Vancouver

At The Music Box, 1654 Argyle Avenue, (on the waterfront in West Vancouver), Fri., Nov. 12, 7 to 9 p.m.; Sat., Nov. 13, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sun., Nov. 14, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

The sale will feature many returning craftspeople and artists such as Leslie McGuffin (fine art), Celia Pickles (prints and decorations), Heather Aston (prints), Kaija Rautainen (tapestry weaving), Lemonpark (jewellery), Carolyn Bruce (decorations), Jill Allan (glass) and Jinny Whitehead (ceramics). Among the many new faces at this year's show will be Heather Cairns (ceramics), Paula

Grasdal (prints), Mary Bentley (weaving), Catherine Nicholls (textiles), Deb Dumka (textiles), Patsy Kolesar (jewellery) and Gloria Shaw (prints). Please come to a meet the artists reception on Fri., Nov. 12; 7 to 9 p.m.

This beautiful show will again highlight and sell many locally hand made and unique decorations, prints, cards, ceramics, hand woven pieces, etc. Time to start shopping for the Festive Season!

For more information email [crackerjack10@shaw.ca](mailto:crackerjack10@shaw.ca)

## Art Crawl

Oct. 23 & 24, Sunshine Coast

The Coast Cultural Alliance (CCA) is pleased to announce the inaugural Sunshine Coast Art Crawl taking place Oct. 23 & 24. The Sunshine Coast Art Crawl offers Crawlers access to participating galleries and art studios (including potters) along the entire Sunshine Coast Highway from Langdale to Lund. We invite Crawlers to come and experience the vibrant arts and cultural community on the Sunshine Coast.

Join friends and take a scenic drive along the Sunshine Coast, stopping at the wonderful community hubs and studio events throughout the weekend. Meet at the community hubs located in Gibsons, Roberts Creek, Sechelt, Madeira Park and Powell River to get started on the Trivia Challenge for a chance to win great prizes. A detailed map and schedule of events will be available soon!

The Coast Cultural Alliance was established in 1998 as a non-profit society to enhance the arts and cultural tourism economies of the Sunshine Coast and to project a single, strong voice for local culture.

For more information on the Sunshine Coast Art Crawl see [www.suncoastarts.com/profiles/artcrawl/about.html](http://www.suncoastarts.com/profiles/artcrawl/about.html)

## Unclassifieds

**METAL ARTS CLAY SILVER Course.**  
INSTRUCTORS CERTIFICATION #1 new innovative medium --Facilitator Carrie Steele...Metal Arts Guild of Canada Oct 16, 17, 18, 19 ----2 full days, 2 full evenings \$850 ---\$300 deposit AT - Clayzone 661 E. 15th ave. Vancouver 604-877-1000/604-720-2174

**FOR SALE:** These items are in excellent condition - seldom used: Giffin Grip, \$150; Northstar Extruder with additional die set, \$350. Call Kathryn O'Regan at 604-569-8354 or 604-831-8429 (Vancouver).



### Delta Potters Christmas Sale

Friday, Nov 12th	10 am to 5 pm
Saturday, Nov 13th	10 am to 5 pm
Sunday, Nov 14th	10 am to 4 pm

South Delta Rec Centre  
1720 56th St. Tsawwassen  
[www.deltapotters.com](http://www.deltapotters.com)  
No HST



## Trial By Fire Pottery

Will be holding it's

### 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Pottery Show and Sale

TO BE HELD AT THE CLEMENTS CENTRE

5856 Clements Street Duncan, BC  
Just west of the Library

Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup> and  
Sunday November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010

For more information check the website at [www.trialbyfirepottery.ca](http://www.trialbyfirepottery.ca)  
or call 250-746-6895

10 am to 5 pm both days

## Exhibition

Oct. 1 to 31, Turkey

*Sevgiler (With Love)*, an exhibition of new ceramic panels by Gibsons artist Katie Janyk, opens at the Istasyon Galerie in Istanbul Turkey, on Friday, Oct. 1. The show runs until Oct. 31, and features about 30 new pieces created by Katie on location in Turkey since Aug. 10. The opening reception begins at 7 p.m. on Oct. 1, in case you're in the neighbourhood: İstasyon Sanat Galerisi, İstiklal Caddesi, Bekâr Sokak No: 19, Beyoğlu, Istanbul. Read her blog and view photos at: <http://salamanderkatie.blogspot.com>.

## AWARDS!

Gillian McMillan and Debra Sloan received Circle Craft Scholarships this past summer. Gillian attended the new Medalta Residency in Red Deer and Debra Sloan and Mary Daniel attended the International Ceramics Studio (ICS) in Hungary.

The B.C. Arts Council gave Debra Sloan a \$5000 Visual Arts Award towards the residency and studying mould making at the ICS. Debra has written an article about the ICS, look for it in the next **Technical Magazine** in October.



## 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 20th of each month for publication the following month. Submissions may be edited for space.

### 2010 Advertising Rates \*:

*All ads are payable upon receipt of invoice*

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

Please submit ads as PDF, TIF, JPG or EPS files. For ad sizes see: <http://www.bcpotters.com/Guild/newsletter.php>. 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 + HST

*\*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>

## Potters Guild of BC Board

**Jinny Whitehead**, President

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

**Sheila Morissette**

604.484.5090 · [sheilamorissette@mac.com](mailto:sheilamorissette@mac.com)

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**Jackie Frioud**, Secretary

604.921.6417 · [jfrioud@shaw.ca](mailto:jfrioud@shaw.ca)

## Membership

### Membership Fees

For 12 months, **not including HST**: Individual, \$55;  
Full-time Student, \$35; Senior (over 65), \$35; Institution/Group/  
Corporation, \$200.

Annual membership is from September. New members joining at other times of the year pay a pro-rated fee the first year. If you are rejoining after a break, please use the new membership pro-rated link. All subsequent renewals will take place in September, regardless of your initial joining date. For detailed information see:

<http://www.bcpotters.com/Guild/membership.php>

### 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

**Amy Gogarty**, Chair · [gogarty@telusplanet.net](mailto:gogarty@telusplanet.net)

**Linda Lewis**, Webmaster · [webmaster@bcpotters.com](mailto:webmaster@bcpotters.com)

**Melany Hallam**, [Maywood Design](#), Editor

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

**Andrea Maitland**, Proofreader

**Jan Lovewell**, Mailings



## EXHIBITION

**MIDNIGHT IN THE NURSERY**  
Marcia Pitch & Debra Sloan

Opening Reception:

Thurs., Oct. 14; 6 to 8 p.n.

Show runs Oct. 14 to Nov. 7

The Arts Centre at Port Moody

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