

CHINESE CLAYART NEWSLETTER

February 2000, Vol. 7

CHINESE CLAYART

Chinese Clayart is a newsletter emailed monthly to professional ceramic artists 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.

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FEATURES

Shanghai Art Fair 2000. Started in 1997, sponsored by Shanghai Cultural Development Foundation and Shanghai Municipal Bureau of Culture, the 4th Shanghai Art Fair is going to be held from November 3 - 7, 2000. Shanghai Art Fair became one of the important cultural annual events in China and one of the best art fairs in the Asian countries. There will be 8,200 square meters with 200 booths. In Shanghai Art Fair of 1999, there was total about 150 participants included art dealers from many countries and regions, such as France, The United States, Italy, Russia, Ukraine, Belgium, Britain, Australia, Japan, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taiwan and many other places of Mainland China. There were a lot of exhibits showing both eastern and western, traditional and contemporary arts with many mediums.

PROFILE

The Cosmopolitan City - Shanghai. Established in the Warring States period (475 - 221 BC), Shanghai WAS just a small fishing village on the tidal creek by the Yangzi River'S mouth. The city has flourished since the late 19th century and became the largest manufacturing and trading base in China. Under the Treaty of Nanking of 1842, Shanghai opened its' commerce and residence to foreigners. The self-governing foreign inhabitants were established in specific settlement areas so called British, French and American concessions.

Started 1992, along with construction of the Pudong New Area and Special Economic Zone, many skyscrapers, highways and subways have been built in Shanghai. Today, the city is playing an important role in cultural exchange between East and West, and act as catalysts and leader of modern life in China.

ACTIVITIES

American Clay Art Works in Shanghai Art Fair 2000. The Chinese Ceramic Art Council, USA pleased to announce that we are going to organize a group of American clay art works to be displayed and enter the Chinese art market. Shanghai Art Fair Organization Committee office director Qian Jianqun and Secretary General Zhang Ming visited the US recently. Together with

the Clayart China Newsletter editor Guangzhen "Po" Zhou, they discussed about promote clay art in the upcoming art fair. They invited The Chinese Ceramic Art Council, USA to organize a group of American clay art works to be displayed and sold there. Shanghai Art Fair of 2000 will provide a special clay art section. They are also planning to invite many other clay art galleries, art dealers and schools from different countries.

TRAVEL

Shopping in China. In Mainland China, the labor is much lower than that of in Western countries. Many of handcrafts and ceramic wares are collectable with modest prices. All of the prices on the tags of the merchandize are tax included. That means the price you see will be the price you pay. In many stores, you can bargain prices. Most of the antiques markets, you should not pay over the half price which they asked. Just like anywhere in the world, some sellers may ask for very higher prices from tourists. Do not hesitate to bargain with them. For our 25 days Mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan ceramic trip details, please check Web Site.

EXHIBITIONS

Juror's statement of the Chinese Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition, Denver, 2000.

It was a great pleasure to be able to review the works submitted for the Chinese Contemporary Ceramics exhibition. Art is produced from the vantage point of the artist, seen from the vantage point of the viewer, and mitigated through a support structure that always favors work with particular characteristics at particular times. Trade and International exhibitions help intermingle traditions and contemporary approaches. There are so few insolated pockets in the world but even as cultures mesh still there are issues and forms unique to specific artists and regions. Having grown up on the West Coast of the United States, so much of my own history as a ceramic artist is wrapped up in the artistic traditions of China, Japan, Central and South America, and the Southwest United States. Personally, color is increasingly important to me as patterns and textures always have been. In my travels I am always struck by how the palettes of artists are in large part determined by the environment around them. I never understood color in much California painting until I was here to see the space. I'm glad to have been to Jingdezhen, to Taipei, and others sites in the PRC and Taiwan to see where and how artists work there. Ultimately, artists and viewers alike are looking for integrity over uniqueness; truth to oneself, truth to a tradition; truth in innovation. I believe integrity can be found in this show.

Robert Milnes, Director

School of Art and Design - San Jose State University

OPPORTUNITIES

American Clay Art Works in Shanghai Art Fair 2000 A group of American clay art works to be presented and sold in Shanghai China. We will invite some clay artists whom we knew, and we would like to open the entry to any clay artists in the U.S. We would like a verity of the clay art styles, and hope this group of works will be an example of American Clay Art Today for Chinese clay artists.

- 1. Dates and Location: Nov. 3 7, 2000, Shanghai Art Fair, Shanghai, China. Total 8,200 square meters with 200 booths.
- 2. No entry fee.
- 3. Eligibility: Ceramic Artists who live in the United States. We have no limitation about the styles, either vessel forms or sculpture, functional or non-functional are welcome. All works must be made primarily of ceramic materials and not exceed 12 inches in any dimension.
- 4. Jury: We admire and based on the works with origination and modest prices, and the quantities of the total works.
- 5. Dead line: Application form must be received before July 1, 2000

- 6. Entry rules: Artists may enter a total of 2 works (up to 2 view slides for each piece).
- 7. Accepted work that differs significantly from the slides will be disqualified.
- 8. All work must for sale. We will retain a 65% commission on works sold.
- 9. Slide requirements: Slides must be 35mm color, standard mount, and should be identified with artist's name, title of piece and dimensions, and indicate top of slide. Slides will not be returned and we will remain the copy rights for all works which accepted by the show.

10. Calendar:

July 1, 2000. Entries slides to be received.

July 15, Notifications mail out.

August 15, Clay works to be received.

Sept. 1, All works to be shipped to China.

Nov. 3 - 7, Show time in Shanghai Art Fair.

Early 2001, All unsold works will be ship back to the artists.

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LETTERS

The web site of Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute, China. http://www.clii.com/keji/kyys/ty/index.htm

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