

# Chinese Clay Art, USA

Newsletter Vol. 56

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"CHINESE CLAY ART" is a newsletter emailed to professional artists, curators, collectors, writers, experts, educators and students in the ceramic field, who want to know about ceramic art in China and things related. This newsletter will be a bridge between China and Western countries for the ceramic arts. Comments and suggestions are very welcome.

An earlier newsletter is on the Web at:

<http://www.chineseclayart.com>

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in this issue

- [Letters-Price Raise in China](#)
- [China Trip-Mass Produce Your Art Works in China](#)
- [Call Entry-Big Fish, Small Pot 3](#)
- [New Products](#)
- [Conference and Event](#)
- [Three Gorges of the Yangtze River Dam Project](#)

## *Letters-Price Raise in China*

### **Prices Raise in China**

From Guangzhen Zhou, Chief Editor. Most of the prices for raw materials and gasoline have risen, and the currency exchange rate between the US and China has risen from 1:8.27 to 1:7.57 during the past two years. It is a difficult time to be doing business with China now.

When the time is getting close to the Olympics in Beijing 2008, the prices of many tourist areas have risen already compared with travel costs last year, especially the prices for admission tickets and hotel rooms.

Also, starting July 1st 2007, the visa application fee has been changed from \$50 to \$100 for single entry. In the Ceramics China Tour of October 2007, we will not change our prices until next year. This China trip will start in Beijing, then go to Xi'an, Chongqing, the three Goarges, Wuhan, Jingdezhen, Yixing and Shanghai.

Also, we are going to raise some prices of our clay tools products in **October 1, 2007**.

Guangzhen Zhou, Chief Editor

## *China Trip-Mass Produce Your Art Works in China*

 china trip

### **Find a Factory to Mass Produce Your Art Works in China A**

*Trip to Jingdezhen International Ceramic Fair 2007*

During the trip of Oct 2007, we will join one of the largest ceramic events in the world-the Jingdezhen Ceramic Fair 2007.

The participants will be able to contact hundreds of manufactories of China and find someone to help you to reproduce your art works at very lower prices.

The ceramic fair has been held by the provincial and central government since 2004. This year, it will be held Oct. 18-22, when there will be three exhibition halls within twelve hundred booths from all over the nation and other countries. They will include decorated ceramics, dinnerware ceramics, industry / high-tech ceramics, architectural ceramics and sanitary ceramics.

### ***Call Entry-Big Fish, Small Pot 3***

 Big fish-small teapot

**Third International Small Teapot Competition and Show**  
Saddleback College Art Gallery, Mission Viejo, California,  
USA

The First Prize will be a free trip of Ceramics China

Entry Deadline: December 10, 2007

Exhibition: February 21 through March 21, 2008

Artist's Reception: February 21, 2008, 6 to 9 pm

Juror: Guangzhen "Po" Zhou

Contact: Teapot Competition Saddleback College Art Gallery 28000 Marguerite Parkway  
Mission Viejo, CA 92692 USA


### ***New Products***



#### **New Products**

The new textural mat of "Embossed Meaningless English Words" has been just arrived. Please visit our website [www.ChineseClayArt.com](http://www.ChineseClayArt.com) to find out the products. Also, started in September, we are going to get many things for ceramic-jewelry artists; such as cords for hanging pendants, ceramics beads, and some other jewelry art accessories.

### ***Conference and Event***

 travel

#### **International Symposium on Ancient Ceramics (ISAC) 2009 March 2009, Beijing, China**

Sponsored by: Shanghai Institute of Ceramics Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Palace Museum, Beijing China.

The previous International Symposiums on Ancient Ceramics (ISAC) have proven to be high level academic symposiums and become an important platform for academic exchange among ancient ceramic experts at home and abroad. The ISAC

has been held eight times before. At every symposium, there were about one hundred scientists and experts that came from China, Italy, Iran, India, Japan, Malaysia, Russia, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, Thailand, United States, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Hong Kong and Taiwan, and more than 100 research papers were presented. ISAC 2009 is scheduled to be held in March of 2009 at the Palace Museum in Beijing.

This Symposium will invite famous ancient ceramics experts, researchers, preservers and restorers of historical relics for participation. This symposium will reflect and demonstrate recent research achievements in scientific technology, techniques, raw materials, testing methods, kilns, archaeology, imitation, restoration, and other fields in ancient ceramics, as well as discussions on ceramic cultural relics and restoration plus further developments in research on ancient ceramics. Major subjects in this symposium:

- Scientific technology of ancient ceramics
- Testing methods
- Kilns and processes
- Imitation and discernment of the false from genuine
- Preservation and restoration
- Trade of ancient ceramics
- Ceramic archaeology

Application and submission of abstracts of research papers: Deadline of application and submission of abstracts: **Sep. 30, 2007**. Abstract of paper (in 500 to 1000 words in English) should be E-mailed to the organizer. All the abstracts shall be reviewed by academic group of the symposium for acceptance, and the result will be informed to every author.

Please deliver the abstracts to: Ms. Tian Junjing [jjtian@mail.sic.ac.cn](mailto:jjtian@mail.sic.ac.cn) or Mr. Wang Haisheng [wanghaisheng@mail.sic.ac.cn](mailto:wanghaisheng@mail.sic.ac.cn)

Shanghai Institute of Ceramics Chinese Academy of Sciences 1295 Dingxi Road, Shanghai, 200050, China

Registration Fee

1. The registration fee will be included in the next announcement.
2. The accommodations will be arranged by the organizer and paid by the participants themselves.

Liaison

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### ***Three Gorges of the Yangtze River Dam Project***

#### **Major Controversial Construction Project to be Completed in 2009**

The Three Gorges Dam has become a symbol of China's efforts to join the modern world. Dr. Sun Yat Sen first suggested the dam in 1919, but it was not begun until 1994 and will not be completed until 2009. When completed, the Three Gorges Dam will be the world's largest at 7,575 feet long and 594 feet high. The reservoir behind the dam will reach 410 miles (about half the length of California) up the Yangtze to Chongqing. Workers numbering between 20,000 and 30,000 have been working in shifts on a 24-hour schedule since 1994. A rough estimate of the total cost of the projection (including inflation) is as high as \$70 billion.

The dam's main purpose is to improve flood control and navigation on the river. In addition, the dam will increase electric power production in China by 20% in central

China where it is really needed.

The dam will yield the same amount of electricity as 20 nuclear power plants! Finally, the dam will boost fisheries, tourism, and recreational activities in the area, and may be able to be used for irrigation for the drought-prone provinces north of the Yangtze. However, the dam has been controversial since its inception because of the 1.5 million people who will need to be resettled from over 1,000 towns and villages and the loss of precious farmland, endangered animal species, and historical sites. Some opponents also fear that the reservoir will quickly become polluted from the waste that will continue to be dumped directly into the river, with no outlet. The Yangtze also carries a large amount of sediment, so the area will have to be constantly dredged.

The river was blocked in June 2003 at the end of phase 2 of the construction project, and the waters have started to rise. Currently it is 443 feet above sea level, but will eventually reach 575 feet above sea level in 2009. There are markers along the cliff faces of the Yangtze showing the current and ultimate depths of the river. Some of the cliffs over the river will be dynamited to prevent causing future problems to navigation.

**Cruising the Three Gorges** The Three Gorges stretch upriver from the dam 118 miles towards Chongqing. Qutang Gorge is closest to Chongqing and at 5 miles is the shortest and most dramatic with 500 foot cliffs that have Mesozoic limestone peaks topping out at over 4,000 feet. The Wu Gorge is also noted for its sheer cliffs and 12 cloud-covered mountains. The third gorge and the one closest to the dam is the Xiling Gorge. It stretches over 41 miles and its cliffs look much like an elegant Chinese painted scroll. Passengers on cruise ships usually leave their ships behind and board small sampans to tour the Lesser Three Gorges in one of the Yangtze's tributaries. The rising waters have made this area more accessible. Yangtze River cruise ships such as the Viking River Cruises' Century Star leaving Chongqing usually stop in Fuling to allow passengers to ride a hydrofoil up the Wu River to see the beautiful Lotus Cave limestone rock formations. The river cruise ships also stop at Shibaozhai (the Stone Treasure Stockade) on the northern bank of the Yangtze. This stone temple is a 12-story wooden structure built on a huge rock bluff. The Stone Treasure Stockade was built during the Qing dynasty. Fortunately, the temple is high enough that it will survive the rising waters, although its bluff will become an island in the new lake. Passengers cruising of the Yangtze get to stop at the construction site to see the thousands of workers toiling away. The project has an information center with photos and graphics demonstrating the status of the construction and explaining what you are seeing. After cruising of the Yangtze for a week, passengers disembark at Wuhan for the flight to Shanghai. Note that cruises also run from Wuhan upstream to Chongqing.

Sailing the Yangtze at any time has to be a memorable trip. However, with the ongoing construction, visitors today can return in the next decade to see how the scenery has changed! [related photos](#):

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