



**The Chinese Clay Art, USA**  
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## Chinese Clay Art, USA

Newsletter Vol. 103

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

An earlier newsletter is on the Web at: <http://www.chineseclayart.com>

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English Editor: Rachel Zhou

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## *The Largest Chinese Group Ever will be in NCECA Conference Seattle*



Project: "Go Aboard, 100 participants for the NCECA conference Seattle 2012", Po Zhou was interviewed by the editor of "China Ceramic-Art" magazine

In September of last year, I was in Tokyo Japan for an international ceramic conference. I met over 40 Chinese educators and students there. I found that the young generation of Chinese students speaks very fluent English. So, I came up with the idea that I could help Chinese artists come over to the US. I have a plan to get 100 Chinese participants to come over to the US for the conference in Seattle in 2012. The participants include ceramic artists, experts, patrons, educators and students. Most participants will be in a self-guided-tour. I have translated and posted information about the conference to almost all of the ceramics-related websites and magazines in China, and sent the information out through text messages and e-mails. Many of them were excited about the ceramic conference.

I have written invitation letters for everyone, due to the visa applications required. So far, we have about 60 participants. The group from China Academy of Fine Arts in Hongzhou is over 20 educators and their students, plus a few professors from Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute. There will also be a group of 12 teapot artists from Yixing; plus some artists, professors and patrons from Beijing and Shanghai.

I think it will be the largest Chinese group ever in NCECA. Many other people stated that they didn't have time to visit the US this year, but they may come over in the future.



## ***Thanks to Mel Jacobson and many others at Clay Art***

I had a question about "Gas and Wood, the Hybrid Kiln Firing", so, I sent an email to "Clay Art" (clayart@lsv.ceramics.org, who is my live "Ceramic Art Dictionary") on January 8, 2012 as following:

*Has anybody ever tried to fire a kiln with both propane gas and wood together?*

You could use propane burners to heat up the kiln until it reaches a certain temperature, and then add some wood in order to get a "natural ash glaze" like with regular wood firing. That way, both the firing costs and pollution will be reduced - at the same time, the firing results would be kept the same as with wood firing.

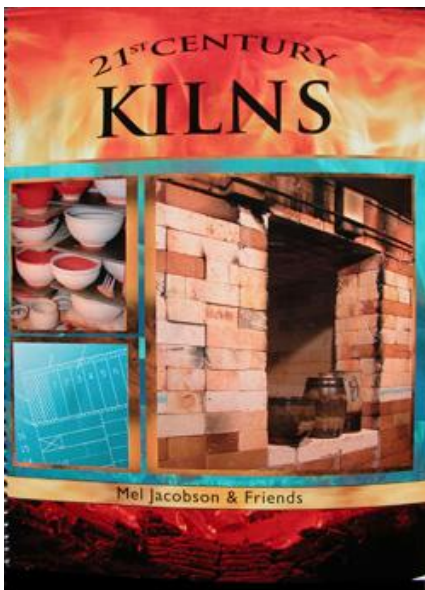
In China, due to higher costs of wood firing as well as the air pollution, many dragon kilns are dying. Sometimes, new wood kilns are built, but are hardly ever used. That's how I got this idea.

By the way, I would like to say thanks for a lot of responses to my early questions. Hopefully, my next book, titled "The Ceramic Art Techniques, Appreciations and Collections" will be published by the end of this year.

Guangzhen Po Zhou, ceramic artist and writer.

After that, I have received many replies from Clay Art, such as Larry Nakanishi, Steve Mills and Mel Jacobson introducing their experiences about dual fuel used for kiln firing. I purchased a wonderful book called "21st Century Kilns" with a DVD that was written by Mel Jacobson and his friends. It is excellent information about all kinds of kilns. I give it my highest recommendation! For purchasing the book, please contact melpots@visi.com, www.21stCenturyKilns.com.

Thanks to everyone at Clay Art.



### **Book "21st Century Kilns", Mel Jacobson and friends.**

"21st Century Kilns" is a complete how to kiln book. It deals with every major fuel kiln design, with complete plans and ideas to build your own kiln. It stresses owning, firing and maintaining your own kiln, even in your own backyard. It includes chapters on gas, wood, salt firing and small one person kilns.

This book has been assembled using the stories of dozens of kiln building experts. Each author has included a specialty that they are well respected for. The final chapter is related to electric kilns and how to repair and maintain them.



## *Tour: Ceramics China, May 27 to June 10, 2012*

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### **Tour: Ceramics China, May 27 to June 10, 2012**

Shanghai, Yixing, Hangzhou, Longquan, Jingdezhen and Beijing

15 days, \$4,250, per person, (\$50 off for signed before March 15, 2012)

The cost may vary if you return to a city other than San Francisco.

**Fees Included:** international air tickets, local transportation, lodging, (Additional \$750 for single supply), three meals a day, and tour

guides/interpreters.

**Fees Excluded:** telephone call, internet, tips, personal expenses. Please buy your own travel insurance.

(The Teapot Town of Yixing, the Caledon Village of Longquan and the Porcelain Capital of Jingdezhen).

Day 1, depart from San Francisco

Day 2, arrive in Shanghai in the next day

Day 3, tour in Shanghai, Shanghai Museum, Yu Garden and the Antique Market, cruise on the Huangpu River in the evening

Day 4, tour in Shanghai, art galleries

Day 5, bus to Yixing (3 hours), tour in Yixing in the afternoon. Visit local national masters' studios.

Day 6, tour in Yixing. Qianshu Dragon Kiln site, Yixing Ceramics Museum, and Teapot Market

Day 7, bus to Hangzhou (2 hours), tour around West Lake

Day 8, bus to Longquan (4 and half hours), Visit local national masters' studios.

Day 9, tour in Longquan, (Longquan Celadon Museum)

Day 10, bus to Jingdezhen (3 and half hours), tour at Ancient Porcelain Factory

Day 11, tour in Jingdezhen

Day 12, flight to Beijing

Day 13, tour in Beijing, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City/Ancient Palace Museum, Art Galleries

Day 14, tour in Beijing, Panjiayuan Antique (Ghost) Market, Great Wall

Day 15, depart from Beijing, arrive home on the same day



## Call for Entry

### Call for Entry

#### **Big Fish, Small Pot V: Fifth International Small Teapot Competition and Show American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, California.**

**Juror:** Guangzhen Po Zhou

Entry Deadline: February 4, 2012

Exhibition: April 14 -- June 30, 2012

Artist's Reception: April 14, 2012, 6pm-9pm

Entry Fee: \$50 (for up to three entries)

Awards will total over \$5000

For information, please click at: [www.bigfishsmallpot.com](http://www.bigfishsmallpot.com)

Click at [Brochure](#)

Contact: Tony Huntley, [thuntley@saddleback.edu](mailto:thuntley@saddleback.edu)



## New Arrival



### **Ceramic Blade Trimming Tools, CN 14** (Patent Pending),

Handle 10" long, Blade 2" wide,  
on sale price: \$22.00 for one, \$38.00 for  
2/set;

Regular price: \$26.00 for one, \$45.00 for  
2/set

Ceramic blades are at the forefront of  
cutlery technology forged from zirconia -

a material second only to diamonds in hardness - the resulting blade is extremely durable and unbelievably sharp. They retain their cutting edge 10 times longer than steel blades, and will not rust, stain, or oxidize.

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