



ASP NEWS October 2005

The Newsletter of the
Auckland Studio Potters
Society Inc.
ASP Centre
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Studio Opening Hours

Monday	12.30pm - 5pm
Tuesday	12.30pm - 5pm
Wednesday	12.30pm - 5pm
Thursday	12.30pm - 5pm
Friday	12.30pm - 4pm
Saturday	10am - 4pm

Remember to pay \$2 per hour
up to a maximum of
\$6.00 per day

Guy Fawkes is coming!!

On Sunday night the 6th November we're holding our annual firing extravaganza. This year's kiln is a Telephone Book kiln – 1300C inside a pile of phone books will be something to tell your grandchildren about. Bring them anyway, they can see it for themselves and marvel, take photos on their phones and send them around the world by bedtime at your expense. Bring fireworks, refreshments ... we'll have our BBQ wound up and available. If we start at 7.30pm with a few nibbles and beers and maybe a small bonfire, it should be dark enough by 8.30pm for the official firing.

Be at the Centre on Sunday 6th November

These events are stuff of legends and this year's will produce another.



Sunday December 4th 2005

This notice is to ask you all to start putting aside pots to sell at our Big Sale – last year we sold nearly \$10,000 worth and we are continuing to promote this event and spread the word. You will need to ring us and book your spot.

It's not just about selling pots of course ... we get a lot of response to our courses at the Centre, and we provide fun and games, firings, food and drink, music for the public. So mark it in your calendar and tell your friends. We'll have auctions, competitions, raffles, wheel-throwing and all the enjoyable things that go with end-of-year celebrations.

Final details in next month's newsletter.

End-Of-Year School.

One weekend only with Jill Fanshawe-Kato.

November 26th – 27th 10am – 4pm

Shared lunch, only \$70

Agate and Japanese Nerikomi methods using oxides and underglaze colours.

Friday night 25th November we'll be having a social evening with slides and supper to welcome Jill to NZ. This will be the last Members' night of the year. Her talk will include "Potters in Rural Japan" (including Ryoji Koie whom she's worked with) and during the weekend there will be another slide show and talk about her own work and history.

She is a very interesting and experienced potter from the UK who has lived and worked in Japan. She's having an exhibition at the Green Gallery and they choose their international exhibitors carefully. She will be showing students how to use coloured clay, and there will be advice on slip methods such as hakeme (Japan), paper resist, sgraffito, inlay etc.



Term 4 Class

Graham Ambrose's class - 10 Tuesday mornings – has been advertised to start next Tues 4th Oct. Because we are still looking for numbers and also have a week up our sleeve, we're now starting it on 11th October at 9.30am. Still time to book in for this new class, he's happy to take beginners and will be teaching both wheel work and slab building. He's a specialist in white clay, earthenware firings and gets beautiful finishes on his work. This is a unique class – another early Xmas present.

General news:

Peter Lange



Renton has just joined for a training week and has mastered everything very well – apparently he's fired kilns before. At least that's what he told me while I was showing him how to stack a kiln. The till still catches him in the groin area though.

The Centre is on holiday except for the Diploma class and casual users and it's very pleasant having the time to catch up with repairs and maintenance.

Lex Dawson has been in hospital getting a knee transplant; he's been in pain for a while now and it looks like it will be a great improvement. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Wally is in China and has been to Xi-An and the Terracotta warriors. An amazing place. You walk up an expansive boulevard to get to the entrance and I recall the street traders being kept behind a painted line on the footpath so that it was possible to walk without hassle, but if you got near the line it was lively stuff.

We've bought a brand new compressor with some bells and lots of whistles – it will run two appliances at once and provide a powerful boost to the glaze stirrer. We are not happy about using an electric drill for this – it got stuck in the gunk at the bottom of the glaze bucket once and one of our smaller students ended up going round and round instead of the drill.



One of our students and members, Yuko Takahashi, is a Mezzo Soprano, and is giving a concert "From The People" a selection of folk songs in a classical setting, from Spain, France, Italy, Aotearoa and other countries. This will take place at the Music Auditorium, Epsom Campus, Gate 3, 74 Epsom Ave, on Sunday 30th October at 2pm. Many of our members are multi-talented and it will be exciting to support Yuko at this event.

Every now and then the police bring their dogs to the park next door for dog training sessions; that's happening right now and there's a lot of shouting and

running around and my dog Sophie used to get very worried. Here's some good advice – if you are ever on the run from a police dog don't run through a tunnel, along a kid's seesaw or through a flaming hoop because they are trained to do that.

I'm in my last couple of days at the Centre, and that's a bit daunting – it's a very supportive place to be and there's a lot of social contact with people coming and going. My back shed is looking very small and very quiet, and I haven't got a clue what I'll do except for a start I'll assemble bricks, buy them and extrude them. I've bought a grunty second-hand pugmill and a new brick saw and a long pencil to chew.

Last thought from me from the Centre: It's easy to distract fat people. It's a piece of cake.

See you P.L.

Update on the Mad Potter Museum:

Mobile has become the temporary home to one of the nation's most distinctive and valuable pottery collections. Artwork by George E. Ohr, Biloxi's legendary "Mad Potter," will remain in

storage indefinitely at the Mobile Museum of Art in Langan Park. The collection of approximately 250 Ohr pots, a few paintings and papers were removed last week from the storm-damaged Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art in Biloxi. The collection includes artwork owned by the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art and

pieces on loan from private collections. The hurricane, which made landfall around daybreak Aug. 29, pushed 3 feet of water through the first floor of the Biloxi museum. The Ohr pots were secure in the second-floor gallery of the city-run building downtown. Much of the pottery was packed up for the storm, said Anna L. Stanfield, curator for exhibitions and education. The remainder might have been at risk because the storm blew out windows in the first-floor library.

The drive to and from Biloxi took more than three hours in each direction,

according to Patterson. But the group packed and secured everything in the collection, which remains crated and under guard in Mobile. Former Biloxi Mayor Jeremiah "Jerry" O'Keefe also brought several pieces from his collection to the Mobile Museum of Art for storage. The new \$30 million Ohr-O'Keefe Museum designed by architect Frank Gehry did not fare as well as the Ohr pots. The site was ravaged by winds and Katrina's enormous storm surge. The site was under construction on the east beach area of Biloxi. The unfinished museum was damaged when the storm surge dropped the Grand Casino onto the site. Gehry's five-building design, which he said would "dance with the trees," had been scheduled to open July 12, 2006, Ohr's 149th birthday.

Stanfield said she hopes the new museum, when completed years from now, "will be a place of hope and remembrance of the past and looking forward to the future."

"It is the largest loss and damage to this country's cultural patrimony in history. We have never experienced a natural disaster or any disaster that affected so many museums and collections. And many of the collections are irreplaceable."

Ceramic Competition:

On-line NZSP Tertiary Students Ceramic Competition 2005 This competition carries a Premier Prize of \$500 dollars, four Merit awards of \$125 dollars each and a Members Choice Award of \$100. Information about this is on www.nzpotters.com "Apart from the possibility that you may be eligible to enter this competition, I wanted to bring your attention to the Members Choice Award that will be decided by the number of votes cast on-line by members of the society. There are links to the students' competition section on the front page of the web site. Shortly after entries close on October 30th we will have installed the photographs of contestants' work on the web site and you will be able to go and cast your vote for the Member's Choice Award. We hope that this competition will become an annual web site event so when the time comes please support the competition and cast your vote." Lawrence Ewing: lewing@xtra.co.nz

Carla Ruka's Handbuilding Workshop

Helen Perrett

Over 2 Sundays a group of 12 ASP members met to do a sculpture class with the lovely and talented Carla. First we discussed our ideas, talked about the design process, did sketches and then Carla demonstrated how to coil expertly and with great speed and strength. We all got a bit carried away with the ease and speed of the process and coiled works of considerable size. Great fun!

During the week between the classes the pieces were dried then bisqued so they were ready for the sawdust firing on Sunday which was done in a large structure Carla built by the raku kilns. It was a nasty day, wet, windy and cold and the sawdust did get damp and the corrugated iron did try to take off a few times but we were impressed with Carla's persistence and although the firing took longer than expected the results were impressive. (If I had realised that Carla was going to remove every single one of our creations with only her gloved hands from the glowing embers to carefully put in the water bath I think I would have made something smaller but she cheerfully insisted that she would not stand in the way of creativity. I can't get over how hard she worked to ensure our success.) Lots of cups of tea got us through and I am thrilled with the lovely smoke effects on the creature I made. I rather like the smell too.

Diploma of Ceramic Arts (Otago)

This course, which is in its third year at the Centre, and which will produce its first graduates this year, has been a huge success from our point of view. There have been a few bureaucratic problems, mainly from Otago (and these are being addressed down there right now) but in the main the students have had good tuition and have produced extremely interesting and creative work at the ASP.

New students are going to be encouraged by Otago to enroll on a part-time basis, making it a 4 year course. We are looking for new enrolments from November on – we have room for only 6 new students and we already have one firm booking and a couple of other serious enquiries.

If you are interested get in touch – over the 4 years you will be taught by 12 of Auckland's best potters, and as well you will be instructed in Drawing



(some on-line and some life drawing), Glaze Technology, History of Art with particular reference to ceramic traditions, and other modules like Professional Practice and Photography will be presented from time to time. It's a great course – the last one in this country and going strong, with several branches like ours now underway. There is talk of a further year's study being set up as well.

The Portage Award.

Terry Manson

Robert Bell has chosen 57 pieces as compared to 39 last year and a broader

mix of styles. There were 50% more entries.

On the day following the opening, Friday the 14th October, we have a Judge's Lunch. This has been advertised at \$45 a ticket but I would like to invite ASP members at \$25 a ticket as this will be an important occasion for networking and of real interest to people working in ceramics.

The lunch will be held at 12.30 at the top of Lopdell House (best views in Titirangi) and will be a two course buffet complete with wine, music and the judge's talk. Robert will talk about international trends in Ceramic Art and his upcoming exhibition at the National Art Gallery in Canberra.

In addition your members who attend the lunch will receive a commemorative cup and last year's catalogue. This year's catalogue will be available at half price. Please let me know how many are coming. (If you are wanting a ticket please ring the ASP and we will send the information on - Ed). We have 20 potters from the Waikato coming, so it will be a good time to meet other potters.

It will be a good chance to see the show with other potters.

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McGregor, model 4 cuft top loader, controller, 3 phase. Reasonable order – offers (\$300-400 would get it!) Phone Neville Allison at Tangaroa College, 2745764.

Gas kiln, 25 cuft, includes EMC controller. Very good condition, make an offer. Phone Robert 3771418

35 cuft top hat fibre kiln, 6 burners, 2 bungs of 24"x20" (4 shelves available) good quality fibre never fired over 1150C. Phone Merilyn 4896044.

exhibitions

Green Gallery (Waiheke Island):

Collection Show – Spring. Oct 6 – Nov 20

Portage Ceramics award:

The Big One for NZ potters! 14th October – 4th December. Lopdell House Gallery. First prize: \$10,000 and other prizes. This exhibition is the most important on the studio potters' calendar these days. There is a chance to meet the judge and those details are in this newsletter.

Titirangi Potters Annual Exhibition

Also at Lopdell House 21st Oct – 13th November

ObjectSpace:

Designs on Antarctica. 22 September to 22 October. In this new installation, maker Raewyn Atkinson alludes to the competing and complex designs – economic, heroic, political, social - that various expeditions and nations have had, and still have, for Antarctica. Raewyn Atkinson first visited Antarctica as an Antarctic Arts Fellow and this new installation builds on works she has created since traveling to Antarctica

in 2000 and 2003.

In Designs on Antarctica the porcelain becomes a symbol of the human habitation of Antarctica and our conceptions of Antarctica as a desirable commodity. Atkinson makes her own designs on Antarctica by marking her porcelain cans with 'designs' that relate to how she sees we have encountered and conceived of Antarctica. Raewyn Atkinson won New Zealand's leading ceramics award, the Portage Ceramics Award in 2004

Bruce Martin:

"Retrospective" pieces from decades of anagama firings. Hastings Exhibition Centre opening 5.30 p.m. on 16th September 2005.

Masterworks Gallery (Viaduct):

John Parker ceramics previews October 12 at 5.30 pm. The cut surfaces in these new works signify a continuing development in this 2005 show. We anticipate another elegant, resolved exhibition – a must-see for John's enthusiastic following. Until October 29.

Anna Bibby Gallery:

Martin Poppelwell: The Undesirables. To 22 October 2004

Diane Stichbury:

Diane will be having a display of her weaving at Huia Lodge, Cornwall Park Info Centre. Sunday 6th November from 10am to 4pm. All pieces for sale.

An Exhibition:

The Victorian Ceramics Group in Australia is calling for entries in "Fruition" and exhibition showcasing utilitarian ceramics. See www.vcglink.com for more details.

Pots of Ponsonby:

Special window display of pottery by Lee Le Grice. 298 Ponsonby Rd.

The Studio Gallery:

"Memories of Sustenance", an exhibition of cast glass & mixed media by Susan K Louie, through October, Kingsland.

FhE Galleries:

Elizabeth McClure Exhibition of blown glass until 31st October.

Eighth Manukau Vessel and Sculpture Exhibition:

Entries and entry forms to be delivered to Nathan Homestead on 27th October 2005. Forms available from Vic Leilua, Nathan Homestead, 70 Hill Rd, Manurewa. Phone 2670180. Premier award: \$2,500, 2nd prize: \$1,000, 3rd: \$750. Selector: Brett Graham.

Brandan Adams:

"journeys home" An Exhibition by Brendan of wall sculptures, garden sculptures and some thrown pieces! Exhibition: October 15 - October 28. Preview: October 15 - 4.30pm 30 King Edward Pde. Devonport Auckland. Ph: 09 445 6665 email: passionart@ihug.co.nz www.passionart.co.nz

Corban's Estate Arts Centre:

Sea Secrets and Searching for Fossils in Gondwana

Ceramics by Len Castle

Exhibition Dates: Friday 7th October – Sunday 13th November

Ceramic artist Len Castle has always been fascinated with geology and paleontology. Since he was a child he has explored the landscape searching out ancient clues to our past and throughout his career has referenced the patterns and workings of our landscape in his work – geothermal pools, volcanic landscapes, and textures of the land. Over the past five years, stimulated by memories of student days he has built up a collection of small sculptural works that celebrate the joy of discovery, and make reference to fossils and 'sea secrets' from ancient and modern seas. For this exhibition he presents a selection of these fascinating works.

Len Castle will be in the gallery to give a slide presentation on Sunday 9th October at 11am.

Japanese Pottery Exhibition

From November 11th, the Consulate-General of Japan is holding a Pottery Exhibition at Lopdell House Gallery in Titirangi. This is an invitation to any person who would be interested in volunteering to help set up and supervise the exhibition. It is an excellent chance for those with an interest in ceramics to have a firsthand experience with some of the world's most famous ceramic masterpieces. The exhibition is a world class showcase of the work of some of Japan's most famous ceramics, featuring work from Junkichi Kumakura, Kaneko Jun, Takako Araki, Osamu Suzuki, and Yamada Hikaru.

Exhibition Details:

Dates: November 7th - December 2nd
Venue: Lopdell House Gallery, 418 Titirangi Road, Titirangi

Time: Volunteers will be needed to supervise the exhibition from 10am-4pm from 11th – 30th November. Some help with setting up the exhibits (7-11 November) and repacking them (30th November – 2 December) would also be helpful.

Please contact:

John Paton Ph: 09 917-3422 Email: jpn@cgj.govt.nz

if you are interested. Your contribution would be much appreciated!

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