



THE OTTAWA GUILD OF POTTERS

LA GUILDE DES POTIERS D'OTTAWA

Fired UP!

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President's Message - Happy New Year! by Barb Minish

By the time you are reading this message, the holiday season will be coming to a close. But as I write, I am still in the throws of last minute preparations for Christmas. The Guild Holiday Sale is now a happy and hectic memory. Congratulations to all the vendors and a huge thank you to the sales committee and all those who helped to make the sale one of the best in recent years.

For those that were there, I'm sure you will agree that our holiday potluck and gift exchange was a lot of fun. At that gathering we also got a peek at some of the beautiful bowls that will be on offer at Great Bowls of Fire this year. Wow. I am always so impressed by the talent and generosity of our Guild members.

I hope you all have spent some enjoyable and relaxing time with your friends and family over the holidays. With 2017 now behind us and 2018 stretching out in front of us shiny and new, I hope you are full of renewed energy and creative ideas to explore with clay this year. Look for new options for exhibiting your work being proposed by the Exhibitions Committee. Let's make 2018 a year to share our passion for clay with each other and with the broader community around us.

 Website  Facebook  Twitter  Instagram	Next Meeting When: Monday, January 8, 2018 Time: 6:30 - 9:00 pm (library is open from 6:30 - 7:15 pm) Where: Hintonburg Community Centre , Laroche Room, 1064 Wellington St, Ottawa K1Y 2Y3
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Great Sales and Good Cheer at the Holiday Sale by Amy Bell

The 2017 OGP Holiday Sale was a great success! Attendance numbers and sales numbers were very high, with over 3000 people through the event. We had 34 potters selling this year, and sales were the third highest out of the last 10 sales. Congratulations!



This year's Sale featured a "Setting the Table" display, showing individual potters' work at the entrance to the sale. Habitat for Humanity Christmas Trees donated a fresh Christmas tree for the sale, to show off ornaments for sale by Guild members.

We joined with the Ottawa Farmers' Market which was at the Aberdeen Pavilion. A pair of gift baskets were raffled off, including Populace pieces and delicious treats from the Market.



Populace set up a lovely Populace Pavilion at the event which raised funds for the Guild.

Potters gathered before the sale and made miniature Populace pieces as Christmas ornaments. 50 were given away, and the remaining 100 all sold. Many thanks to Kim Lulashnyk and the potters that helped make them! This may become a regular feature at Christmas sales, a different ornament each year.

Several potters provided demonstrations, wheel and handbuilding. Michelle Bertrand was featured in the media in Gatineau, including the CBC Television local news.



The Sale has been held for over 40 years, an annual event for many pottery lovers in the area. The Sale is run as a cooperative event and several shifts were very busy with continuous traffic and lines at all three cash registers. I would like to thank all of the members of the Sale Committee who worked together to make this Sale such a success.

Populace by Kirsten Davidson

Populace has wrapped up for 2017! It has also, in a way, been a beautifully wrapped gift to the community of Ottawa and to our Guild. The highlight of December was the great flurry of excitement at the Guild Sale when visitors to the Populace Pavilion spied the sweet miniature



ornaments! They were the inaugural "Ornament Give-away" and shoppers snapped up the 100 that were made available for purchase. What fun! We had numerous visitors to the pavilion who had never heard about the project, and it was nice to be able to revisit it through their eyes. We also had the delight of offering cards made using the sketches of a Populace volunteer, Trish Woolaver. If you didn't get a chance to purchase some of these beautiful cards, let us know! The Special Edition Sets have been on display at the Dust Evans Gallery since October. In December, they were all taken down and packed away. Thank-you to all of our talented vase makers, whose work supported the sculptures so beautifully in

the gallery. A big thank-you also to these same artists, who helped with the packing away of Populace. The artists became the art when it was all over!

We are ending 2017 having experienced a swell in team spirit, a renewal of energy and a widening of opportunity for all those involved. Both of the grant providers, Ottawa 2017 and Ontario 150, have closed our files and sent the remainder of our grant funds. With the tremendous success of both the closing event in September and the Holiday Sale, Populace wraps up the year in good stead, for the benefit of all in our Guild. We look forward to a break from the project for a few months now and will be back with more news in the spring!

A Fun Read Submitted by Carol Holmes-Kerr

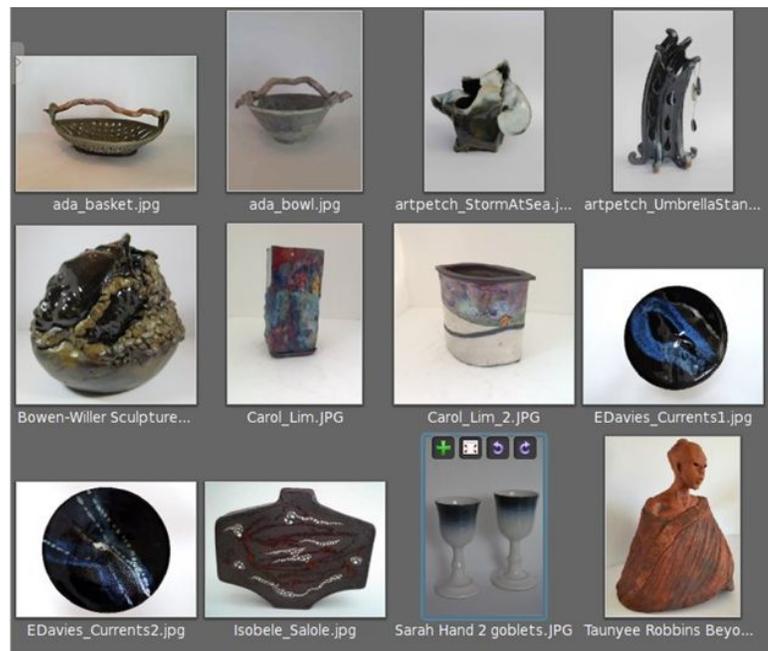
Carol has sent in this little tidbit from the New York Times. Please click on the link for the story:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/30/style/anxiety-crafts-pottery-embroidery.html>

Celebrating Clay Review by The Exhibitions Committee

The vernissage was held December 7 with the festive season in mind with drinks and appetizers. There was quite a crowd as usual at 7:30 to hear the potters speak about their pieces. Isobel Salole as Exhibition committee chair presented the group, and asked Elizabeth to start.

Elizabeth Davies: *Currents 1 and 2*. She said that when she glazes, she nearly always uses slip trailers with which to add contrasting trails of glaze to her pieces. She likes people to handle her pieces, see how the light plays on colours, here reminiscent of currents and white caps on the high seas She had been pleased to see some bowls at a Svend Bayer exhibition at the Greenwich Pottery in New York, with multiple trails of glaze snaking across their inner surfaces; he sets a high standard...



New Guild member Taunye Robbins : *Beyond Measure*. She said her sculpture of this tall, pensive, robed woman, personified for her the following quotation from Nelson Mandela: 'Our greatest fear is not that we are inadequate; our greatest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.' Taunye speaks of meeting the people she creates: she never knows who is going to appear. Stoneware, with brushed on iron oxide stain.

Arthur Petch: *Umbrella Stand* and *Storm at Sea*. Both these pieces are created using an extruder. He explained how he works with the shapes that the extruder templates make with

clays of different plasticity and how he reworks the extruded clay in response to the shapes that the clay defaults to. The rough waves of *Storm at Sea* are enhanced with Stephen Hill's strontium crystal magic glazes and a decal of a floundering ship that helps express the narrative suggested by the initial extruded forms. The *Umbrella Stand* also uses Stephen Hill glazes and the mirrored positive and negative forms of falling raindrops.

Isobel Salole: *Kimono Vase*. She described the careful process involved in attaching all the pieces of this attractive hand-built vase, the slow drying, and the use of contrasting crackle glaze for decoration. Stoneware, with crackle glaze.

Carol Lim: *Aurora Borealis* and *Deep Summer*. These two pieces came from a particularly successful raku firing, where the firing had taken place in a pit in the earth, lined with aluminium foil, to hold out the wet of a very wet summer. She stamps designs into the clay, and then paints the raku glaze to create a narrative. *Aurora Borealis* shows a dark multi-coloured sky over crackle-glaze snow; *Deep summer* shows small cottages perching on hills above fields of grain.

Unfortunately this vernissage coincided with the set-up timing for the Guild's Holiday Pottery Sale, meaning that Donna Bowen-Willer, Ada Brzeski and Sarah Hand were not available to present their pieces.

New Ways to Celebrate Clay by The Exhibitions Committee

Objective: To provide a venue for solo show, and/or two to three members shows, all under the banner of Celebrating Clay. Specifically the format would be opened up to include a "Focus On" option. The Exhibition Committee believes this initiative would be a valuable opportunity for members to exhibit their work, at a downtown location, and at an affordable price. It would likely attract new members to the Guild.

Celebrating Clay now has 4 options:

1. The usual Celebrating Clay format; a group exhibition with up to 10 members and a \$30 acceptance fee;
2. Combined 'Focus on' Solo Show/and usual Celebrating Clay format. Half the Galerie Côté Créations' space allotted to Celebrating Clay would be used for the usual format, and the other half for a one member Solo show (approx. 10 plinths each). The poster would be "Celebrating Clay with Focus on Jane Doe". Solo pays \$100 acceptance fee; \$30 acceptance fee for participants in the usual format.

3. 'Focus on' Solo Show. This would replace a regular, monthly Celebrating Clay. Acceptance fee: \$200.

4. Group exhibition of two or three members. We would encourage there to be a theme. The poster would be "Celebrating Clay: Theme". This would replace a regular, monthly Celebrating Clay. Acceptance fee: \$200.

Galerie Côté Créations will be applying a 25% commission on sales, so price your pieces accordingly. Submissions should be emailed to celebratingclayentries@gmail.com

Alpine Clayworks Studio Services Beginning in 2018 by Arthur Petch



Alpine Clayworks Studio has invested in a new colour laser printing system that is now being used to produce coloured ceramic decals. The Alpine Clayworks colour printer uses Chuangjie Ceramic toners and associated materials that can make ceramic decals for Ottawa area artists. These decals can be permanently fired onto ceramics, glass and enamel. Alpine Clayworks also produce sepia decals made from normal laser black toner that contains iron-oxide. All the decals are produced in Alpine

Clayworks Studio in Ottawa using your artwork and made to your specifications, and, if you are interested, with your full participation. All these decals are food safe. They are also safe for those involved in their manufacture and firing something that all artists working with modern materials will appreciate!

There are two computerized kilns at Alpine Clayworks that can be used to fire your ceramic objects: BIG or small. One of the kilns is about half the size of the other (roughly 3.5 instead of 7.0 cu. ft.). One, or both, when appropriate, will be used to suit the size and number of pieces being fired.

In addition to making glaze for you Alpine Clayworks offers guidance, resource books, computer software, glaze-making materials and access to glaze room and all of its equipment for you to make your own glaze. The fully equipped Glaze Room at Alpine Clayworks will be made available to any qualified potter to make the glazes they have always wanted but haven't had access to the equipment to safely and properly make at home. The cost will be negotiated based on the number of hours the facility will be used and the amount of instruction time, if any, that the user requires to acquire missing glaze-making skills.

Visit <http://artpetch.com/about-kiln-services.html> or contact Art Petch for more

information at 613-406-5536 or artpetch@ottawapottery.com. Alpine Clayworks Studio is located at 1002 Alpine Ave., Ottawa, Ontario K2B 5S1

Classifieds

Let us know of any items for you have for sale, services you offer - like kiln repair, or any other items you feel other members would like to know about. Be sure to include your contact information. Please send submissions and suggestions to Trina @ newsletter@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca

Calendar of Events

<p><u>LOAM - New Location</u> January 5, 2018 131 Loretta Ave North, Ottawa, ON K1Y 2J7 e-mail: info@loamclaystudio.ca</p> <p><u>Beginners Class - with Carol Holmes Kerr</u> 8 weeks - January 9 to February 27, 2018 Tuesdays, 6:30pm – 9:00pm e-mail: gladstoneclayworks@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Great Bowls of Fire</u> March 24th, 2018 Glebe Community Centre 175 Third Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2K2</p> 
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Please send submissions and suggestions to Trina @ newsletter@ottawaguilddofpotters.ca

Contact the Newsletter Team by Trina Conboy

Now that the holiday season is behind us, it's time to start thinking of new beginnings. With that in mind, be sure to let us know of any events coming up, such as classes you are offering, and items you may have for sale or trade. Deadline for the February edition of Fired Up! is January 19th.

Life is a one time offer, use it well!
Author Unknown

See you next month!