

preview



The 20th century ceramic bowl is by English artist Thomas Samuel Haile. Many of the artists in the show are American and many lived or still live and work in Michigan.

Clay artistry on display at museum

"Power Over the Clay," at the Detroit Institute of Arts, continues through Sunday, April 17.

With 60 ceramics from the museum's own collection and loans from area collections, the exhibition spans the development in America of the studio pottery movement from beginnings in American art pottery to innovative contemporary forms.

The creativity of many artisans surfaced during and after the American Arts and Crafts Movement of 1880-1920, with its rebellion against mass-produced goods.

The Detroit area and the state of Michigan were hospitable territory for ceramists and, consequently, developed a reputation for interested and informed collectors.

Mary Chase Perry Stratton, together with Horace J. Caulkins, established Detroit's Pewabic Pottery in 1903. Pewabic became nationally famous for its remarkable iridescent glazes and specially commissioned architectural tiles.

The exhibition is open to the public without charge in the DIA Textile Gallery during regular museum hours: 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Sunday. Closed Mondays and holidays.

With interest increasing in 20th-century decorative arts, the Modern Decorative Arts Group has been formed as a subsidiary of the Friends of Modern Art of the Founders Society Detroit Institute of Arts. Collectors Jerome and Patricia Shaw co-chair the group.

Its program addresses developments in decorative arts and design in all media (wood, glass, clay, metal, fiber).

Membership in the group is open to everyone (membership in the FMA is a prerequisite). For information, write Davira S. Taragin, Curator, 20th Century Decorative Arts and Design, Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit, Mich. 48202.

Following the showing at the Detroit Institute of Arts, "Power Over the Clay" becomes a DIA Statewide Services Traveling exhibition and will tour for a year. Still housed in its 1908 Arts and Crafts building on East Jefferson, Pewabic has been reinstituted as a working pottery and as a gallery and educational facility.

The Detroit Society of Arts and Crafts, founded in 1906 on Watson Street, exerted tremendous influence on Michigan's art community and provided showcase as well as the opportunity for local, regional and international ceramists.

Cranbrook Educational Community, established in 1920, launched another Michigan contribution to American ceramics. By 1933, Cranbrook had a lively ceramics department. Mike Grotell, its most prominent artist, headed the department from 1938 to 1966. Grotell's powerful designs, experiments with glazes and devotion to teaching marked her as one of America's most influential studio potters.

These institutions and the programs of the Detroit Institute of Arts enabled the Michigan community to follow the rapid changes in ceramics after 1950.

Pewabic Pottery offers classes

Pewabic Pottery, a nationally known, turn-of-the-century pottery facility, is offering a 10-week series of adult and children classes March 28 through June 4.

Classes are offered for both the beginner and advanced student, with special workshops planned for the studio professional. Day and evening classes will meet once or twice a week. Saturday classes for children will meet each week. Class size is limited.

The history and tradition of Pewabic lies in the design and production of architectural tile for public and private use, the manufacture of functional and decorative vessels, the experimentation and development of iridescent and luster glazes, and the advancement of education in the ceramic arts.

Pewabic is funded in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Michigan Council for the Arts.

The education program is being developed and expanded under the new director of art and education, Mary Reehm, nationally known ceramic artist from New York State.

For information, call Pewabic Pottery, 822-0254.



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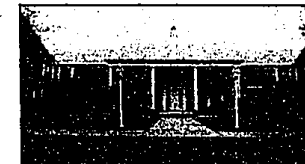
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