



NEWSLETTER    VOLUME XXXI    NUMBER 2    SEPTEMBER 2020

## Update on the Connecticut Ceramic Circle's 2020-2021 Season

We are very much looking forward to sharing the upcoming season of lectures via Zoom, beginning with Eric Zetterquist on October 12 at 2:00 p.m. Details about the lecture and about Zoom are below. Yes, we will miss seeing each other in person and sharing tea and sweets at a seasonally decorated table! However, this Zoom season does offer our members several advantages:

- Members may watch from the comfort of their homes, not just on October 12, but up to two months afterward while the lecture recording is available. Weather and health are no longer impediments to participation!
- Several other ceramics organizations are reciprocally offering our members free access to their own Zoom lectures, as we will be doing for their members in November and December.
- We will be doing the maximum to keep our members safe from Covid-19.
- All members will be telephoned by a board member to ascertain their level of comfort with Zoom; tutorials will be offered to any members needing help.

To our new and renewing members, thank you for your support under these different and difficult circumstances. We look forward to sharing a stimulating year of ceramic exploration with you.



*Goblet-shaped Vessel (possibly censer), Northern Song Dynasty 960-1127 AD,*

China. Photo courtesy of Eric Zetterquist

## "Transitions of Taste in China: Fundamental Esthetic Shifts as Seen Through Tang, Sung and Yuan Dynasty Ceramics"

Tastes in material culture in China have changed over the centuries according to dynastic rule and influences of religion, technology, materials and adoption of foreign styles. At no time were these transitions more exciting than during the periods between the 7th and 14th centuries. From the Tang and through the Song and Yuan Dynasties, China experienced great wealth, cosmopolitanism, leaps in technology, political upheaval and unprecedented contact with Western world, all of which was reflected in their ceramic traditions.

Using examples from his own inventory, Zetterquist will illustrate these stylistic transitions in the ceramics of those periods, while also discussing the changes in technology that allowed these new styles to be more fully expressed.

Eric Zetterquist studied in Japan for two years before graduating from New York University. He began his career working for Mingei Gallery (later Sugimoto Works of Art) in New York in the 1980s. In 1992 he opened his own gallery -- Zetterquist Galleries -- in New York. While most Asian antiquities galleries choose one country and show several different media from that country, Zetterquist chose to show one medium, ceramics, and cover all of the Near and Far East. The flow of materials with stylistic and technical influences around the region over the past 2000 years tells a fascinating story that gets more exciting with time.



Pair of Boar Head Tureens, China, ca. 1760-70, private collection, Spain.  
Photograph courtesy of William Sargent

## Access to Thursday, September 24 Zoom Lecture at the Pottery and Porcelain Club of Rhode Island

On Thursday, September 24 at 11:00 a.m., William Sargent, former H. A. Crosby Forbes Curator of Asian Export Art, The Peabody Essex Museum, Salem, Massachusetts, will speak about "Boar's Head on the Table: 18th Century Porcelain Tureens" to the Pottery and Porcelain Club of Rhode Island. CCC members have been invited to attend via Zoom, the link and other information for which follow:

## Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88388788957?  
pwd=akUzbDBmQlhxcjVsWXdqbnVLY29Zdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88388788957?pwd=akUzbDBmQlhxcjVsWXdqbnVLY29Zdz09)

**Meeting ID: 883 8878 8957**

**Passcode: 737880**

### Auction Corner

From the publication Artnet News: "A small, unassuming vase estimated to sell for between \$7,000 and \$9,000 at a Sotheby's auction in New York yesterday sold for a startling \$431,250 after a fierce 45-minute bidding war. (Final prices include buyer's premiums; estimates do not).

The object, a glazed ceramic vessel produced around 1900 by the Grueby Faience Company, set an auction record for a work by the Arts and Crafts-era design firm.

"The work exhibits a highly unusual and rare glaze coloration for Grueby pottery, with terrific proportions and crisp modeling, which helped drive the intense competition between at least two collectors," a representative for the auction house said in a statement to Artnet News. "It is unlikely that another work with this particular glaze coloration will be discovered."

One lot prior, another vase by the same company went for \$72,500—more than six times its high estimate of \$12,000." By Taylor Dafoe.



The vase on the right is the record setter. Vase, Grueby Faience Company, Revere, Massachusetts, circa 1900. Glazed earthenware, 6 3/4". Courtesy Sotheby's.

### More on Zoom: [Tutorials, Link and Registration For October's Lecture](#)

As stated above, every member of the CCC will be telephoned by a board member to inquire if she or he is comfortable using Zoom. And there will be tutorials for those who need a little help becoming comfortable. We want the greatest participation possible!

In order to make our Zoom meetings safe and secure, **registration** will be required. This will be easy: for the October 12 lecture, just look for the **Please Register** sentence below, click on it and enter your information. You'll be sent multiple reminders containing the Zoom link, so if you lose track of this newsletter in your Inbox, do not despair!

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Oct 12, 2020 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: **Transitions of Taste in China: Fundamental Aesthetic Shifts as Seen Through Tang, Song and Yuan Dynasty Ceramics with Eric Zetterquist (Proprietor of the Eric Zetterquist Gallery, New York City @Eric Zetterquist Gallery, New York City)**

**Please Register in advance for this webinar by clicking the link below:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_3nPUoNuXSPyg6ar7vWlxOg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3nPUoNuXSPyg6ar7vWlxOg)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the Zoom webinar and, again, you'll receive several reminders prior to the date of the lecture.



Foliate-form Northern White-ware Plate, Five Dynasties 907-960 AD, China.  
Zetterquist collection, photo by Eric Zetterquist.

## Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

Although museums are opening up to small numbers of attendees, there are many ways to learn about ceramics online. A number of fascinating videos about different aspects of ceramics exist on various websites, please enjoy exploring them.

The potter Michelle Erickson was in residence in December 2018 at Philadelphia's Museum of the American Revolution during which time she reproduced an item on loan to the museum from 2017-2019, a Bonnin and Morris Pickle Stand. The stand was made in the 18th century by Gousse Bonnin and George Anthony Morris in America's first porcelain factory, the American China Manufactory, during the colonial boycott of British goods. Go to [amrevmuseum.org/collections/making-bonnin-and-morris-pickle-stand](http://amrevmuseum.org/collections/making-bonnin-and-morris-pickle-stand) to watch the video of her reproduction of this amazing item.

Christie's auction house has a video on "A History of Modern Ceramics in Nine Pieces." [christies.com](https://www.christies.com).

The Wadsworth Atheneum <https://www.thewadsworth.org/> in Hartford has two videos of interest on its website. There's a video made by Jeffrey Munger that explores the current exhibit, Savor; and there's a video by Ivan Day that talks about one aspect of the Savor exhibit, the history of ice cream as it relates to the creation by Sèvres and other producers of tableware, some of it magnificent, for serving this rare and prestigious food item in the 17th century and beyond.

---

