



NEWSLETTER VOLUME XXXIII NUMBER 5 DECEMBER 2022



Tea caddy, decorated by Sara Galner (1894–1982) and produced by the Paul Revere Pottery (Boston and Brighton, Massachusetts, 1908–1942). Earthenware, April 1914. Dims. 4 3/8 x 3 x 3 in. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, gift of Dr. David L. Bloom and his family, 2007.365. Photo: Courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Join us for the Connecticut Ceramics Circle December Lecture

“The Saturday Evening Girls”

by Nonie Gadsden,
Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture at
the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

Sponsored by Ellen Brennan-Galvin

Monday, December 12, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

via Zoom -- Register at

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/9016627432837/WN_NGdiN0vYSjyCOy9adTzhw

On Monday, December 12, Nonie Gadsden will tell the fascinating story of The Saturday Evening Girls' club, established in 1899 to provide cultural activities for Italian and Jewish immigrant girls who lived in the tenements of Boston's North End. In 1908, the reform-minded club leaders founded a pottery to provide the girls with a clean and educational venue in which to earn money. They named the enterprise the Paul Revere Pottery in honor of the patriot's home which stood near their clubhouse, and to emphasize their own desire to be seen as Americans, not foreign immigrants. The Pottery exemplified the ideals of the early twentieth-century Arts and Crafts movement, a design reform movement which sought to alleviate the negative social effects of industrialized society by promoting handcraftsmanship, the integration of art into everyday life, and healthy working conditions for artisans.

The Saturday Evening Girls created a range of table and display wares, all decorated using the *cuerva seca* (dry cord) technique that imparted dark black outlines that well-suited their children's book illustration style. The playful ceramics feature barnyard animals, native flowers, and rural landscapes in the stylized manner of the Arts and Crafts style. Nonie Gadsden will tell the remarkable story of the SEG and their Pottery through the life of Sara Galner, a young Jewish immigrant from eastern Europe. The lecture follows Sara's life and career, offering a unique, personalized view into the pottery, the Arts and Crafts movement, and immigrant life in America in the early twentieth century.

Nonie Gadsden is the Katharine Lane Weems Senior Curator of American Decorative Arts and Sculpture at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA). She earned her B.A. from Yale College and her M.A. from the Winterthur Program in Early American Culture at the University of Delaware. At the MFA, she is responsible for a wide range of artwork including decorative arts and sculpture from North, Central and South America, from ancient times through the 20th century. She played a key role in the planning and installation of the MFA's award-winning Art of the Americas Wing comprised of 53 galleries featuring the arts of North, Central and South America (opened 2010).

Gadsden's recent work at the MFA includes serving as lead curator for "Women Take the Floor" (2019-2021), a reinstallation of the Art of the Americas Wing 20th-century galleries that highlighted the work of under-recognized women artists; co-leading the creation of a museum-wide Folk Art Initiative, and mounting an exhibition that starts to question the collecting category of folk art, "Collecting Stories: The Invention of Folk Art" (2021); developing new 20th century galleries, including "Art and Jazz" and "Folk Meets Modernism" (opened 2022); and publishing a book based on the MFA's collection of American modern design, *America Goes Modern: The Rise of the Industrial Designer* (2022). Gadsden heads the Collections Committee of the Nichols House Museum on Boston's Beacon Hill and serves as a Governor for the Decorative Arts Trust.

Register for the lecture at

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/9016627432837/WN_NGdiN0vYSjijCOy9adTzhw



Tile featuring Paul Revere, decorated by Sara Galner (1894–1982) and produced by the Paul Revere Pottery (Boston and Brighton, Massachusetts, 1908–1942). Earthenware, February 1917. Dims. 6 1/4 x 4 1/4 x 1/4 in. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, gift of Dr. David L. Bloom and his family, 2007.374. Photo: courtesy of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

Addition and Correction to CCC Directory

Please add the following information to your Directory:

James Yee, 114A Noe Street, San Francisco, CA 94114
celadon2865@gmail.com, 415.431.2332.

Change of Address for Sarah Lynch: 2510 SE 33rd Place, Apt. 305, Portland, Oregon 97202.

Trouble Finding Your Zoom Link?

Please remember that Zoom sends a confirmation email after you register and several reminder emails, so if you believe you've registered, and have checked your Inbox and your Spam folder for a confirmation and link from Zoom without finding one, please contact Zoom administrator Sally Saunders at connecticutceramicscircle@gmail.com during the week before the lecture so that she can help you before it becomes an emergency!

If you have the link but are having trouble accessing the program, email Sally Saunders and she will help you join the lecture. Or email Linda Green, our Zoom back-up person, at greenlinda@me.com, and she will be happy to help you.



Clay Art Center's Clay Holiday Market!

Ongoing to December 24, In The Gallery and Online

The Clay Art Center in Port Chester offers a wide range of functional pottery and ceramic sculpture by national and regional artists at their Holiday Market both in their gallery and online at clayartcenter.org.

And there will be a special Holiday shopping event on Saturday, December 17 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Did you know there are weekly exhibition and studio tours? They occur every Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

Finally, register online to participate in a virtual meet and greet of three Artists in Residence: Avery Wells, Jon Green and Jess Levin. The link to register is as follows: <https://www.clayartcenter.org/clay-virtual-workshops-lectures/virtual-meet-and-greet-artists-in-residence>

Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

December 2: "Total Indulgence: The Legacy of Chocolate Through Pottery in Mexico and Spain," lecture by Margaret Connors McQuade, Deputy Director and Curator of Decorative Arts, The Hispanic Society Museum and Library, New York City. Given by the Pottery & Porcelain Club

of Rhode Island at their holiday event, with reception at 6:00 p.m., dinner at 6:45 p.m. and program at 8:00 p.m. at the Hope Club, \$80 per person. Reservations immediately to Daisy Schnepel at daisy.schnepel@verizon.net, with check sent to Marguerite Schnepel at 109 Transit Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02906.

Currently on WIS YouTube Channel: Wedgwood International Society's lecture of October 7 by Patricia Ferguson, "A Cabinet of Illustrious Ladies: Josiah Wedgwood's Portrait Medallions of Women, 1770-1795" is on their YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQ1CO5Db6_CQDparCGyobIA.

Ongoing to February 5: Hear Me Now: The Black Potters of Old Edgefield, South Carolina, an exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. For more information, go to <https://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2022/edgefield>

Ongoing to February 5: Young Lords and Their Traces, an exhibit of works by Theaster Gates at the New Museum, 235 Bowery, New York City. More information at <https://www.newmuseum.org/exhibitions/view/theaster-gates-young-lords-and-their-traces>.

Ongoing to December 17: Betty Woodman: Conversations on the Shore, Works from the 1990s, at the Kordansky Gallery, Video narrated by Ms. Woodman at <https://www.davidkordanskygallery.com/#3>. The Gallery is located at 520 West 20th Street, New York City.

Ongoing to March 12: Replicas and Reunions: Ancient and Contemporary Ceramics From Ecuador, an exhibit at the Gardiner Museum, Toronto. More at <https://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca/event/replicas-and-reunions-ancient-and-contemporary-ceramics-from-ecuador/>.

Ongoing to April 9: Common Ground, an exhibit of works by Neil Tetkowski at the Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York. Tetkowski gathered clay from all 188 member countries of the United Nations and with these clay samples, he created a suitably monumental work that debuted at United Nations headquarters in New York City—the Common Ground World Mandala. Measuring seven feet in diameter and more than nine feet high, Tetkowski's sculpture is a testament to the artist's ability to think beyond boundaries—of scale, of geography, and of politics. Information at <https://everson.org/explore/current-exhibitions/common-ground/>.

Ongoing to May 7: Housewarming, an exhibit at the Gardiner Museum, Toronto of Karine Giboulo's 500 charming clay miniatures. Information at <https://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca/event/karine-giboulo-housewarming/>. Video tour on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/reel/CkthN0hjtfC/?hl=en>.

Ongoing: A resource to discover events in the field of Decorative Arts is the "Events in the Field" listing generously provided by the Decorative Arts Trust at <https://decorativeartstrust.org/eventsinthefield/>. Bookmark this site and refer to it often!



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