



NEWSLETTER VOLUME XXXI NUMBER 7 MARCH 2021

"Apotheosis of the Toiler: Robineau, Resilience and #CeramicCasualties"

by Garth Johnson, Paul Phillips and Sharon Sullivan Curator of Ceramics, Everson Museum, Syracuse, New York

Sponsored by Margro Long

On Monday, March 8 at 2:00 p.m. EST, Garth Johnson will deliver a lecture via Zoom about Adelaide Alsop Robineau and the creation of her extraordinary Scarab Vase.



Adelaide Robineau working on her scarab vase.

As anyone who has ever worked with the material knows, clay is a harsh mistress. Although the legendary ceramist Adelaide Alsop Robineau was almost preternaturally gifted as a potter, she experienced profound failure over the course of her career. Her most legendary creation, *Apotheosis of the Toiler (Scarab Vase)* emerged from its bisque firing with significant cracks that were only mended through a combination of determination and luck. Johnson will share rare close-up footage of the Scarab Vase, including an endoscopic examination of the vessel's interior, which reveals significant details about its creation.

Writer, curator, and educator Garth Johnson is the Paul Phillips and Sharon Sullivan Curator of Ceramics at the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, New York. Johnson is a self-

described craft activist who explores craft's influence and relevance in the 21st century. His research interests range from 1960s and 70s artist-led movements in the field of ceramics to the intersection of clay, video, and performance. His recent exhibitions at the Everson include *Renegades & Reformers: American Art Pottery*, *Earth Piece: Conceptual and Performative Works in Clay* and *Key Figures: Representational Ceramics 1932-1972*. His writing has been published nationally and internationally, with recent contribution to the books *Repositioning Paolo Soleri: The City is Nature* and *Victor Cicansky: The Gardener's Universe*. Garth Johnson has recently joined the Board of the American Ceramic Circle.

You are invited to Register in Advance for a Zoom webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ubvB5KW2TXWLIsoAWUBbBA

Register in advance for this Webinar

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.



Apotheosis of the Toiler (Scarab Vase), Adelaide Alsop Robineau, Porcelain, 1910. 6" Diam. x 16 5/8",
Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York

Additions to CCC Directory

Please add the following telephone number and new member information to your CCC Directory:

Celia Curnow: 11.441.31556.5596
Janet Lloyd: 850.572.2669

Anne Goldrach: 917.669.1907
Barbara Hanley: 508.333.2626
Ellen Martin: 914.262.1864
Jeffrey Munger: 917.539.8745
Andrew Schirrmeister: 713.205.2293

New Address, Telephone Number and email address:

Sarah Lynch, 3815 East Bellerive Lane, Spokane, Washington
99223; 509.990.7002, slynch1190@gmail.com.

New Member:

Laura Beach, 76 Library Street, Mystic, Connecticut, 06355, 860.917.5716, info@laura-beach.com

Time to Sign Up for the 2021 April Seminar!

Gifts Worthy of the Shogun: Nabeshima Porcelain and Other Wares in the Macdonald Collection, Gardiner Museum

Sponsored by Marylin Chou, Jane Connochie, and Janice Rabinowitz,

From the CCC January 2021 Newsletter: As members might expect, the Connecticut Ceramic Circle April Seminar will be different in form this year of Covid. Nonetheless, it will be a stimulating, deep dive via Zoom, with three lectures on a fascinating topic, early Japanese porcelain, how it developed, and how its motifs were then copied and popularized by European ceramics firms.

Gifts Worthy of the Shogun: Nabeshima Porcelain and Other Wares in the Macdonald Collection, Gardiner Museum, Toronto, by Daniel Chen will be held on Monday, April 12 with three lectures from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The fee for members is \$45, payable online at cceramicsc.org or by check made out to the Connecticut Ceramic Circle and mailed to Marylin Chou, 20 Church Street, Greenwich, Connecticut 06830. Most exciting: the nonmember fee is \$75, and it includes a 1/2 year membership from the time the nonmember fee is paid through May 2021, a very good deal! Please let your nonmember friends know about this excellent bargain so that they may take advantage of it beginning with the March lecture, including recordings of the March through May CCC lectures.

Daniel Chen (M.Litt.) is a ceramic art historian and curator with the Brian Haughton Gallery in London. Until 2019, he was the Adjunct Curator of Asian Ceramics at the Gardiner Museum in Toronto, where he continues consulting curatorially, with a forthcoming publication on Japanese porcelain in the Macdonald Collection, as well as a digital interpretation of the Gardiner Museum's Japanese collection. For more detailed information about his three lectures, please go to cceramicsc.org and click on Seminar. Questions? Call Marylin at 203.863.9655 or email her at marylin.chou@gmail.com.



Peach-Shaped Cup and Saucer, Chantilly Factory, France, soft-paste porcelain with overglaze enamel decoration, circa 1730-1740. H. of cup 1 3/16 " (3 cm.), L. of saucer 5 11/16" (14.5 cm).
The Gardiner Museum, Toronto (G05.12.8a-b), The Macdonald Collection

The Bard Graduate Center's Upcoming Ceramics Lectures

The Bard Graduate Center has announced an exciting and full schedule of lectures and symposia for the spring. Of particular interest to CCC members is a lecture on February 25 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. by Yasuko Tsuchikane of the Cooper Union and a Bard Graduate Center Visiting Fellow entitled, "Disentangling the 'First Global' Standard of Ceramic Art in Early Postwar Japan."

On March 22 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. is "Book Talk - Porcelain: A History from the Heart of Europe," a lecture by Suzanne L. Marchand of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, and Andrew Morrall of the Bard Graduate Center.

RSVPs are required and you may do so by going to the Bard Graduate Center's website at <https://www.bgc.bard.edu>.

Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

The Gardiner Museum in Toronto, Canada has a number of interesting videos on their website under the title, "Gardiner What's On: Artist in Your Home." Go to www.gardinermuseum.on.ca to find these and other options to view their collection, their gift shop and more.

Have you ever wondered about your grandmother's Limoges china? Through their

StoryWorks program, the BBC has provided a brief history of porcelain and how the city of Limoges, France became a great center for its design and production. Go to <http://www.bbc.com/storyworks/stories-of-craft/the-storied-past-and-present-of-limoges-porcelain>.

Not only is Garth Clark a fine contemporary ceramist, his website has numerous links of interest. Go to CFileonline.org to explore and enjoy!

The Paul Mellon Center in England has a series of past lectures on their YouTube channel, some of which are on ceramics topics. To find them, go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7QG0DQkYSsH7I5FRB0wq8Q>.



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Our mailing address is:

c/o Irene Willisch, 14 Bryon Road, Old Greenwich, Connecticut 06870

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