



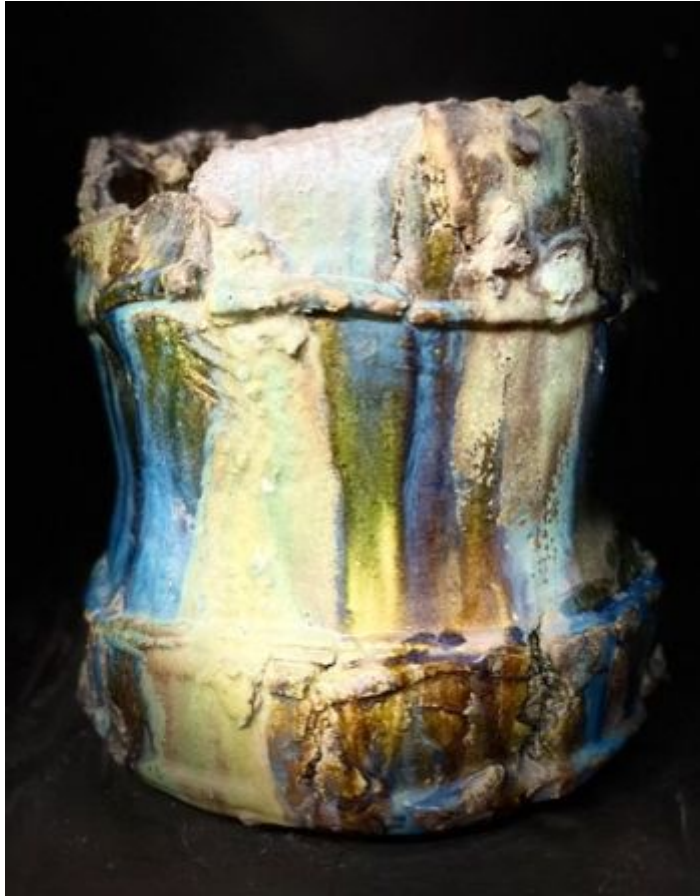
NEWSLETTER

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Join Us for the Connecticut Ceramic Circle June Lecture

"Ceramic Arts and the Inspiration of Japan"

by Jeff Shapiro, Ceramic Artist,
Accord, New York

Sponsored by Joanne Fallon

Monday, June 13 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

The lecture will discuss Shapiro's connection to Japan and the ceramic artists who have informed his work, including anecdotes about his time with a few of those artists. Shapiro will speak about his process of wood firing and show examples of his work from the various kilns he fires in the Hudson Valley.

He will also touch on the concept of the beauty that exists in the imperfections of nature, as well as ceramics and food – the aesthetic presentation.

Jeff Shapiro was born in the Bronx, New York in 1949. He presently works and lives in upstate New York with his wife Hinako. He studied ceramic arts while living in Japan for nine years, from 1973-1981. His work has been exhibited internationally in Germany, France, Italy, Australia, Switzerland, Canada, England, and Japan and can be found in numerous museum collections including the Carlo Zauli Museum, Faenza, Italy; the Museum of Fine Art, Boston Massachusetts; the Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, New York; the Everson Museum, Syracuse, New York; and the Fuller Museum, Brockton, Massachusetts. He has given workshops and seminars in many countries around the world and has built two wood fire kilns in Italy.

The lecture will start at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9. Please register for this Zoom lecture at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/2016524331525/WN_WbBZgTr_TOKkqsaDIBgjNg. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email, along with reminder emails one week and one day before the lecture.



Jeff Shapiro Kiln, Accord, New York

Recipients of the Decorative Arts Trust Failey Grant Program

Members of the CCC will be interested to note that the New-York Historical Society has received a prestigious Failey Grant for their exhibit concerning the Free Black potter, Thomas Commeraw, whom we learned about at the December 2020 lecture by Mark Shapiro, "African-Americans and Potteries in the Early 19th-Century New York Metropolitan Area." The Decorative Arts

Trust's [Failey Grant program](#) supports noteworthy research, exhibition, publication, and conservation projects through the Dean F. Failey Fund, named in honor of the Trust's late Governor.

The 2022 Failey Grant recipients are:

- Author Caitlin Meehye Beach's book, *Sculpture at the Ends of Slavery*
- Historic Rock Ford's John J. Snyder, Jr. Gallery of Early Lancaster County Decorative Arts
- New-York Historical Society's exhibition *Crafting Freedom: Uncovering the Life and Legacy of Free Black Potter Thomas Commeraw*

The Invitations Are In the Mail!

The CCC 2022 Member Tea will take place on Tuesday, June 21, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Greenwich, so look for the invitation in the mail soon! Our generous hostess, Ellen Brennan-Galvin, welcomes us again, and we all look forward to a splendid afternoon with CCC members.

Book of Interest for Your Summer Reading

Birds, Bugs and Butterflies, Lady Betty Cobbe's 'Peacock' China, A Biography of an Irish Service of Worcester Porcelain by Alec Cobbe, was reviewed by dedicated CCC and ACC board member, Letitia Roberts, for the American Ceramic Circle and won the ACC's Book Award in 2020. It is the biography of an "Irish Service of [eighteenth-century] Worcester [Blue-Scale-Ground] Porcelain" reserved with cartouches of birds, insects and butterflies, and made for Lady Betty Cobbe (1736-1806) of Newbridge House, Co. Dublin.

The review, lightly edited and quoting the book's dust jacket, follows: "Lady Betty's descendant, 'Alec Cobbe's discovery of family papers listing the purchases over a period of years of a particularly beautiful and ornate table set have enabled him to give a vivid glimpse of how the [Worcester] factory interacted with its customers.' This is significant because the factory's own eighteenth-century records (before the early 1790s) no longer exist. 'He is able to describe the commissioning...by Thomas and Lady Betty Cobbe for Newbridge House, Co. Dublin,...of perhaps the largest [dinner and dessert service of first period Worcester porcelain on record, numbering at least 500 pieces]. It was bought in stages from 1763 as the family traveled from Dublin to Bath each year, stopping at Worcester *en route*...The Cobbe service, uniquely...was accompanied by a full set of Irish silver and steel cutlery fitted

with Worcester porcelain handles matching the service. The various pieces,... their historical context [and the sources of their painted decoration] are described.' In the final chapter, the author outlines 'the later history of the service,...its gradual dispersal in the nineteenth century, culminating in a final sale of the remaining [150 pieces in 40 lots at] a Christie's sale in 1920,' and then records his own personal journey, beginning in 1986 with the emergence of tantalizing details and recognized pieces, to reassemble at least '160 pieces of the original service over a period of more than thirty years, and their return to Newbridge,' where the Cobbe family still resides among many of the Georgian house's original contents.

The book is distinguished by its extraordinary illustrations, not just of the 'Peacock' service pieces and superb details, but also of pieces from related services, portraits of significant people, images of localities, reproductions of prints, documents, trade cards, invoices, the Christie's 1920 catalogue, and early family photographs, etc. The illustrations are essential to, and an enhancement of, the text..."

Published by the Boydell Press, Woodbridge, Suffolk, 2019 – Price \$80.00 (less on Amazon.com); 133 pages, and 121 high-quality illustrations, most in color. The book presents a fascinating ceramic history about a strikingly beautiful service!



Vase, Frederick Hurten Rhead, Arequipa Pottery, 1912.
Glazed squeezebag-decorated earthenware, H. 7½ in. × Diam. 5 in (19 × 13 cm)

[Auction Corner](#)

This month's Auction Corner focuses on ceramics of the 20th century auctioned recently by Rago of Lambertville, New Jersey and by Christie's in London, England.

The vase pictured above sold for an astonishing \$200,000, more than twice the previous Rhead vase sale price at Rago. Other 20th-century ceramics by artists as Bernard Leach, David Roberts, John Ward, Sara Flynn, Gabrielle Koch, Alice MacFarlane sold at Christie's London on May 25, and you can admire these works and their sale prices at [Christies.com/en/auction/auction](https://www.christies.com/en/auction/auction).

In addition to the 20th-century pottery from the collection of Sir Nicholas Goodison sold at that auction, a number of very attractive vases and chargers from 1890 by William de Morgan were sold as well.

Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

Ongoing: Until August 28, an exhibit of the work of potter Alina Hayes at the AMOCA (Americian Museum of Ceramic Art) in Pomona, California. Podcast and further information at https://www.amoca.org/current-exhibits/bloop-alina-hayes/?mc_cid=30150f1c62&mc_eid=5608ff9fd4

Ongoing: At the Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse, Sharif Bey, Professor at Syracuse University, has an exhibit of works in ceramics and glass. View a video at [everson.org/exhibitions](https://www.everson.org/exhibitions).

June 9 - 19: The Gardiner Museum in Toronto will host the International Ceramic Art Fair (ICAF) with British potter Magdalene Odundo as Honorary Patron. For more information, visit <https://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca/event/international-ceramic-art-fair-2022/>.

Ongoing to June 26: The Luxury of Clay: Porcelain Past and Present at Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens, Washington, D.C., an exhibit that traces the development of hard-paste porcelain in Western Europe with examples from Meissen, Du Paquier and KPM, as well as a selection of Russian and French porcelain and works of contemporary artists from Hillwood's permanent collection of ceramics. A short film with interviews by contemporary ceramists may be viewed on Hillwood's website. For more information, please visit <https://hillwoodmuseum.org/exhibitions/luxury-clay-porcelain-past-and-present>.

July 1 and 2: French Porcelain Society Symposium, Everyday Rococo: Madame de Pompadour and the Arts, will be held at The Wallace Collection in London.

With two days of papers, this will be the first reassessment of Jeanne-Antoinette Poisson's artistic patronage since the landmark exhibition, *Madame de Pompadour et les Arts* of 2002.

Commemorating the Tercentenary of her birth, and marking the publication of Rosalind Savill's book *Everyday Rococo: Madame de Pompadour and Sèvres Porcelain*, this conference will welcome international experts discussing her interests in the fine and decorative arts.

More information and registration link

at <https://www.thefrenchporcelainsociety.com/news/fps-symposium-dinner-everyday-rococo-madame-de-pompadour-arts/>.



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