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# CONNECTICUT CERAMICS STUDY CIRCLE

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXI

NUMBER 4

JANUARY 2019

## "Glazed Expressions: Discovering Architectural Ceramics"

By Susan Tunick, Studio Potter and President,  
Friends of Terra Cotta, New York City

On Monday, January 14, 2019, at the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, Susan Tunick will explore both tile and architectural terra cotta. Understanding their distinct methods of manufacture and use in buildings is important for the appreciation of these ceramic works. One of the unique aspects of ceramics is their ability to provide permanent exterior color. As a case in point,



*American Encaustic Tiling Company Building, 16 East 41<sup>st</sup> Street, New York City. 1908, terra cotta.*

the ways in which this quality is exploited during the Art Deco period will be investigated. In addition, several examples of Ms. Tunick's own work will be shown, reflecting how she has been influenced in the studio by historic tiles and terra cotta.

Susan Tunick is an artist and president of Friends of Terra Cotta. One of her publications, *Terra-Cotta Skyline* (1997) won that year's New York Society Library Award and the Brendan Gill Award from the Municipal Arts Society. She recently completed a commission that included three outdoor clay and cedar sculptures for a property in Vermont. In addition, she has worked on a number of public projects including the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Station, Bayonne, New Jersey; murals in PS 222, Jackson Heights, Queens; and varied works for three locations in the New York City Subway. Her work has been featured in numerous books including *Public Art for Public Schools*, *Ceramics in the Environment* and *Along the Way: MTA Arts for Transit*. She has received grants, as well as the Historic Districts Council's Landmarks Lion Award (2018); the International Ceramics Award, presented by Ceramic Arts Foundation; the Tile Heritage Foundation Award; and the Municipal Arts Society Award for Advocacy.

1:15 p.m. at the First Congregational Church of Old Greenwich, Greenwich, Connecticut, with tea to follow. Information at [ctcsc.org](http://ctcsc.org) or call 203.912.7226.

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## February is "Bring a Friend for Free" Month!

Bring your valentine or someone else who would enjoy the engaging William Sargent on February 11, speaking about 18th-century porcelain animal tureens, which for a time were *de rigueur* on the tables of the fashionable. Your guest will be admitted without any fee, the CCSC's Valentine's gift to its members.

## Time to Gather Items for CCSC's March 11 Treasure Sale

Once again, Jane Connochie and Natalie Robinson will happily take any ceramics, glass and costume jewelry items that you care to donate for the CCSC's Treasure Sale.

The sale benefits the CCSC grant to promising young scholars in the field of ceramics. Please bring your items for the sale to the January meeting and give them to Jane or Natalie, so that they may price them and make them available at the Treasure Sale on March 11.

## CCSC Grant Being Offered in 2018-2019

CCSC is once again offering a grant of \$2,000 for use by a scholar in the field of ceramics. This grant is meant to grow the knowledge and understanding of ceramic and ceramic history and its ties to art, culture, and the humanities. Grant restrictions are limited to travel, publishing expenses, and conference-based fees. The deadline to apply is December 31, 2018, coming up soon!

If you know of anyone who would be interested in applying, please urgently direct them to the CCSC website, [ctcsc.org](http://ctcsc.org), where the application form can be found and downloaded.

The grant's most recent recipient, Sequoia Miller, has now assumed the very prestigious position of chief curator at the Gardiner Museum in Toronto, Canada. His lecture to the CCSC in December 2016 about the exhibit of contemporary British ceramics he curated at the Yale Center for British Art, "Things of Beauty Growing," was very well received and sparked a trip to New Haven by many CCSC members to see the exhibit .

## Symposium at Sotheby's, January 15

Sotheby's has invited CCSC members to attend a free, day-long seminar on American decorative arts on Tuesday, January 15, 2019 at their headquarters at 72nd Street and York Avenue in New York City. Among the featured speakers are those familiar to CCSC

members: Glenn Adamson, Angelike Kuettnner and Letittia Roberts. The symposium, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., with a reception following to 8:00 p.m., celebrates three collections of important Americana to be auctioned from January 17 to January 20, those of Anne H. and Frederick Vogel III, Nelson and Happy Rockefeller, and David Teiger. Silver, ceramics, American furniture, folk art and needlework in these collections will be highlighted. For further details and to RSVP, go to [sothebys.com/americana](http://sothebys.com/americana).

## New Members to be Added to CCSC Directory

Please add the following names to your directory:

Judi Linton  
36 Intervale Place  
Rye, New York 10580  
914.067.3496  
ryekiwi@aol.com

Linda Roth  
600 Main Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
860.838.4097  
linda.roth@wadsworthatheneum.org

## New Member Tea in Spring 2019

There will be a tea for new members this coming spring, giving members who joined in 2017-2019 a chance to get to know one another better. If that describes you, please keep an eye out for your invitation!

## Bow Porcelain Book Published

CCSC collectors of British ceramics will be interested to learn of the recent publication of *Bow Porcelain: a Narrative*, by Mike Noble. Using primary sources, Mr. Noble has traced the fascinating story of the 18th century Bow Porcelain manufactory. To order your copy, contact [couchant.publisher@btinternet.com](mailto:couchant.publisher@btinternet.com).

## 2019 MESDA Summer Institute

The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts in Winston-Salem, North Carolina offers a summer institute from June 16 to July 12 on the subject of The Backcountry: The Cotton South and the Lower Southern Piedmont. This month-long, hands-on material culture field school teaches methods of object-based research, interpretation and analysis by working with and learning from the museum's collection under the guidance of distinguished scholars and curators in the field. If you know a student, museum professional or passionate researcher who could benefit from the Summer Institute, please encourage them to apply. Fellowships are available which can cover the entire cost of attendance, including one for a student wishing to work with ceramics. For more information, go to [www.mesda.org](http://www.mesda.org) and click on Programs.

## Attingham Trust Decorative Arts Programs in the United Kingdom

The Attingham Trust for the Study of Historic Houses and Collections offers four courses of study between July and November 2019. They sound fascinating! More information can be found at [www.attinghamtrust.org](http://www.attinghamtrust.org).

## Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

**January 14:** "Glazed Expressions: Discovering Architectural Ceramics." Lecture by Susan Tunick, studio potter and president, Friends of Terra Cotta, New York City. CCSC, 1:15 p.m. at First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut. Information at [ctcsc.org](http://ctcsc.org) or call 203.912.7226.

**January 24:** "Slither, Flutter and Crawl: Dining with Friends." Lecture by Elizabeth A. Williams, Ph.D., David and Peggy Rockefeller Curator of Decorative Arts and Design, RISD, Providence, Rhode Island. Ceramics Study Club of Boston, 1:00 p.m., King's Chapel Parish House, 64 Beacon Street, Boston.

**February 4:** "New Approaches to the Hudson River School." Lecture by Elizabeth Mankin Kornhauser, Alice Pratt Brown Curator of American Paintings and Sculpture, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York. Greenwich Decorative Arts Society, 1:15, the Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich, Connecticut. Email [greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com) for information and registration. Confirm location at [www.greenwichdecorativearts.org](http://www.greenwichdecorativearts.org).

**February 11:** "Boars Heads on the Table: 18th Century Porcelain Animal Tureens." Lecture, William R. Sargent, Independent Curator, Senior Consultant in Chinese Art, Bonhams; and Consulting Curator, Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore. CCSC, 1:15 p.m., the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut 06870. Information at [ctcsc.org](http://ctcsc.org) or call 203.912.7226.

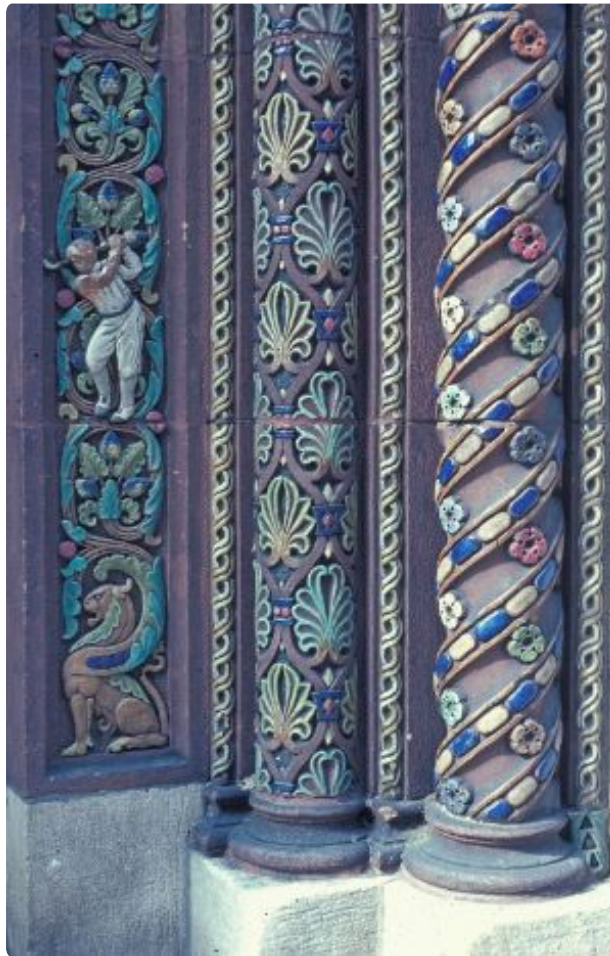
**Ongoing to January 13:** David Harper: Zodiac

**Ongoing to January 13:** Japan Now: Female Masters

**Ongoing to January 20:** Obsession: Sir William Van Horne's Japanese Ceramics.

All exhibits at the Gardiner Museum, 111 Queen's Park, Toronto, Canada. More information at [www.gardinermuseum.on.ca](http://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca).

**Ongoing through April 14:** Tablescapes: Design for Dining. The centerpiece of this exhibit is a magnificent surtout de table, on view for the first time in 30 years. This newly conserved masterpiece, designed by Pierre-Philippe Thomire for the stepson of Napoleon Bonaparte, Eugène de Beauharnais, exemplifies how dining in the highest levels of wealth and power in early 19th-century France was a theatrical performance, bringing architecture to the tabletop in an elaborate arrangement of vessels for food. Cooper-Hewitt Museum, 2 East 91st Street, New York, New York. For information, visit [www.cooperhewitt.org](http://www.cooperhewitt.org).



*Detail from the entry to the 63rd Street YMCA, 5 West 63rd Street, New York City, O. W. Ketcham Company, 1928-30, terra cotta.*



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