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CONNECTICUT CERAMICS STUDY CIRCLE

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXI

NUMBER 5

FEBRUARY 2019

"Boars Heads on the Table: 18th-Century Porcelain Animal Tureens"

By William R. Sargent, Independent Curator; Senior Consultant in
Chinese Art, Bonhams; and Consulting Curator,
Asian Civilizations Museum, Singapore

On February 11, William R. Sargent will discuss the brief period in ceramic history from about 1748 to the 1780s when animal form tureens were produced in Europe and in China. They ranged from small sauce tureens of setting birds to large, fully modeled geese, to heads of boars and ox. At first glance, these undeniably beautiful and exquisitely sculpted



Pair of Carp Tureens, 1760-80, with arms of Olza family, China,
Peabody Essex Museum, Museum purchase, 206, AE86557.

porcelains might seem a little unusual, maybe even bizarre. They are that, but we now view them as individual works of art. Each also illustrates a complicated story of cross cultural trade and 18th century dining habits in Europe: they reflect economic, social, cultural and religious forces that brought these tureens into existence, saw them fade from use, and then rise to status of art objects today.

William R. Sargent is an independent curator and is the former H. A. Crosby Forbes Curator of Asian Export Art at the Peabody Essex Museum (1978-2009). He is a senior consultant in Chinese Art with Bonhams (2014-present) and a consulting curator with the Asian Civilisations Museum, Singapore (2015-present). He had previously been with the collections at PEM, considered the largest and most comprehensive of its type in the world, for over thirty-one years. He has given several hundred lectures around the world, consulted with multiple museums in Europe and America, and contributed over 43 chapters or articles for various publications, including *Chinese Ceramics: Neolithic to Qing* (Yale University Press, 2014). His publications include *Treasures of Chinese Export Ceramics at the Peabody Essex Museum* (2012, winner of The American Ceramic Circle Book of the Year Award 2013), and *Chinese Porcelain in The Conde Collection* (2016).

1:15 p.m., with tea following, at the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, 108 Sound Beach Avenue, Old Greenwich, Connecticut 06870.

Early Valentine's Day Gift -- Bring a Guest -- Free!

CCSC's gives an early Valentine's gift to its members with an invitation to bring a guest to the February 11 meeting without fee. Do please bring a friend!

Treasure Sale on March 11

Please bring your excess or unwanted items of ceramics, glass, and costume jewelry to the February 11 meeting so that they may be included in the Treasure Sale following the March 11 meeting. The sale benefits the CCSC grant to promising young scholars in the field of ceramics. Jane Connochie or Natalie Robinson will gather items at the February meeting for the sale next month.



The Clay Art Center Celebrates the Chinese New Year

The Clay Art Center will host a Chinese New Year celebration for the Year of the Pig on Thursday, February 5 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The special and intimate dinner will be held in the center's gallery at 40 Beech Street in Port Chester, New York, surrounded by the current exhibit, sculptural artworks celebrating the 12 animals of the Chinese Zodiac, along with the story of how the 12 found their place on the calendar.

Dinner of Peking duck and other signature dishes will be catered by Asiana Café of Greenwich and will be served on dishes handmade by CAC Artist-in-Residence Zikki Lan, dishes you may take home at the end of the dinner as a party favor. Special guest exhibiting artists Sin-Ying-Ho and Adriel Tong will give a brief artist talk during the cocktail hour, discussing their approach to bringing to life the animals they created.

Art, delicious food and stimulating conversation -- the evening can't miss! To register and for more information, go to <https://www.clayartcenter.org/workshops/chinese-new-year-dinner>.



Pair of Boar Head Tureens, China, ca. 1760-70, private collection, Spain.

Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

February 4: "New Approaches to the Hudson River School." Lecture, Elizabeth Mankin Kornhauser, Alice Pratt Brown, Curator of American Paintings and Sculpture, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York City. Greenwich Decorative Arts Society, 1:15 p.m. at The Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich, Connecticut. To register, email greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com.

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

February 21: "From Celadon to Black, Brown, and Red: Iron Oxide as a Glaze Color and as a Pigment for Underglaze and Overglaze Painting." Lecture, Robert D. Mowry, Alan J. Dworsky Curator of Chinese Art, Emeritus, Arthur M. Sackler Museum, Harvard Art Museums. Providence Porcelain and Pottery Club, 11:00 a.m. at the RISD Museum of Art, Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island. For information and to register, contact Daisy Schnepel at daisy.schnepel@verizon.net.

February 28: Bits and Pieces: Members are invited to bring an object for discussion. Ceramics Study Club of Boston, 1:00 p.m., King's Chapel Parish House, 64 Beacon Street, Boston. For information and to register, go to chinastudentsclub.org.

March 13, 20, 27: Chinese Export Porcelain and Its Global Impact, Historic-Deerfield Museum Course from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on three successive Wednesdays and given by Amanda Lange, Curatorial Department Director and Curator of historic interiors. For information, contact Julie Orvis at jorvis@historic-deerfield.org or call 413.775.7179.

April 10-13: Wedgwood Society of Boston International Seminar, Boston and Salem, Massachusetts. For information, go to www.wedgwoodsociety.org.

Ongoing to March 31: MAD Collects, exhibition: The Future of Craft Part 1. **Also, to March 17,** The Burke Prize 2018, The Future of Craft Part 2. **And to March 17,** Sterling Ruby: Ceramics. Exhibitions, Museum of Arts and Design, 2 Columbus Circle, New York City. For information, go to madmuseum.org.

Ongoing to September 22: Masterpieces of French Faience, Selections from the Sidney R. Knafel Collection. Exhibition, The Frick Collection, 1 East 70th Street, New York City. For information, go to www.frick.org.



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