



# CONNECTICUT CERAMICS STUDY CIRCLE

NEWSLETTER

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## **Global by Design: Chinese Ceramics from the R. Albuquerque Collection**

**By Denise Leidy, Ruth and Bruce Dayton Curator at the Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut**



*Figure 1 - Dish with Dragons, China, Ming Dynasty, Jaijing period (1522 - 1566), porcelain painted with cobalt blue under a transparent glaze. Diameter 26 1/2", R. Albuquerque Collection.*

On Monday, November 14 at 1:15 p.m. at the Bruce Museum, and based on a recent exhibit of never-before-seen Chinese porcelains, Denise Patry Leidy, the Ruth and Bruce Dayton Curator at the Yale University Art Gallery, will give a lecture on the period – from the late 16th to the 18th century – when Chinese porcelain became a global luxury.

Illustrating her lecture with exquisite and unusual pieces originating from the private Brazilian collector, R. Albuquerque, that were recently exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Dr. Leidy will focus on shapes and designs that reflect the long history of exchange between China and the Islamic world. These works were then introduced and incorporated into Europe and the Americas during the fascinating period known as the “Age of Exploration.”

This is a nuanced story, beginning with the Portuguese discovery in the late 1500s of China's porcelain manufacture, particularly in the kiln complex of Jingdezhen. Portuguese rulers were the first Europeans to order specific pieces from China and distribute them for general trade. Seeing the visually imaginative pieces for the first time, Europe's courts quickly coveted the light and bright porcelain for their royal dining and diplomatic trade. The 17th century Dutch traders capitalized further on China's seemingly endless range of spectacular pieces, and the race was on for Europe to discover the secret of fine, white porcelain manufacture.

Dr. Leidy, a renowned scholar, popular speaker and prolific author, was formerly at the Metropolitan Museum of Art and was co-curator of the recent exhibit. She received her Ph.D. from Columbia University and has also served as curator at The Asia Society and at the Museum of Fine Arts,



Figure 2 - Garniture with Scenes from West Lake, China, Qing dynasty (1644-1911), about 1700, porcelain painted with cobalt blue under a transparent glaze. Covered jars, height 40 3/4"; vases, height 36 5/8". R. Albuquerque Collection.

Boston. Her publications include *How to Read Chinese Ceramics*; *Silla: Korea's Golden Kingdom*; *The Art of Buddhism: An Introduction to its History and Meaning*, and *Global by Design: Chinese Ceramics from the R. Albuquerque Collection*.

## **"Core Sample": Alfred Ceramic Art Museum's Opening Exhibition**

In celebration of the Alfred Ceramic Art Museum's move to a magnificent new facility, the museum will open its doors on October 28, 2016, with an exhibition entitled "Core Sample." This exhibition will feature highlights from the permanent collection. A number of these works have not been on view in years. "Core Sample" is the first of many ambitious projects slated for the museum, which will reveal essential aspects of the museum's collection as well as chart new directions in ceramic art and scholarship. The museum holds 8,000 objects, a treasure trove of ceramic art. Currently under the direction of Wayne Higby, ceramic artist and educator, construction of the Museum began in 2014, replacing the college's previous museums, the first of which was actually a study collection started in 1903 by Charles Fergus Binns.

The name of Alfred University is inseparable from the history of the American studio ceramic or American studio pottery movement. Charles Fergus Binns was the founding director of what was first known as the New York State College of Clay Working and Ceramics. Binns's name will be familiar to CCSC attendees at previous lectures by Ezra Shales on Binns and his influence on the American art pottery and later the American studio pottery movements.

"Core Sample" Gala Opening Reception is Friday, October 28, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The exhibition will be on view from October 28, 2016 to March 5, 2017. For more information, go to <http://ceramicsmuseum.alfred.edu/>



Figure 3 - Rocking Pot, Peter Voulkos, Museum of Arts and Design

## **Fairfield University Art Museum Exhibit Opens October 28: "Crafting the Elements: Ceramic Arts in Modern Japan" from the Collection of Carol and Jeffrey Horvitz**

Formerly the Bellarmine Museum of Art, the now renamed Fairfield University Art Museum presents a choice selection of contemporary Japanese ceramics from one of America's most distinguished private collections. Located in Bellarmine Hall Galleries, the more than 30 works on view highlight the creative dynamism and innovation that enlivens this most traditional art form as practiced by Japanese ceramic artists today,

who boldly bend and stretch artistic conventions to create or incorporate new forms and ornamental language.



Figure 4 - Swan Song, Coille Hooven, 1979, Kohler Art Center

Interesting programs complement this exhibit, with a traditional Japanese tea ceremony on October 28 at 1:00 p.m. and a lecture by Ron Labaco, former senior curator of the Museum of Arts and Design in New York on November 29 at 5:00 p.m. All events are free and open to the public, but require advance registration at [www.fuam.eventbrite.com](http://www.fuam.eventbrite.com). For more information, consult the museum's website at [www.fairfield.edu/museum](http://www.fairfield.edu/museum).

This exhibit is but one of three exhibitions in Connecticut highlighting Japanese art this fall. West Hartford's University of St. Joseph presents from September 23 to December 18, "HANGA NOW! Contemporary Japanese Printmakers" in their Art Museum. In addition, and closer by, the Bush-Holley House of the Greenwich Historical Society presents "An Eye to the East: The Inspiration of Japan" from October 12, 2016 to February 26, 2017.

### **Ceramics Bonanza at the Museum of Arts and Design, New York City**

Works by three exciting 20th and 21st century potters are currently on view at the Museum of Arts and Design in Columbus Circle, New York. "Forbidden Fruit" by Chris Antemann and "Tell it By Heart" by Coille Hooven will be at the museum until February 5, 2017. Both exhibits are replete with bisque porcelain works of beauty, humor and social comment. In addition, and from October 18 to March 15, 2017, "Voulkos: The Breakthrough Years" will be on exhibit, with works of Peter Voulkos (1924-2002) made between 1953-1968. Voulkos was a major figure in contemporary ceramics, both as an artist and as a teacher at University of California, Berkeley, where he was professor of art emeritus.

### **Exhibits of Interest at the Frick Collection: Du Paquier Porcelain Gift and "Pierre Gouthière: Virtuoso Gilder at the French Court" Plus One at the Bard Graduate Center Gallery**

The Frick is pleased to announce the gift of fourteen examples of Du Paquier porcelain from the collection of trustee Melinda Martin Sullivan and her husband, Paul. Du Paquier porcelain from Vienna was one of the first manufactures to attempt to rival Meissen in the 18th century and are characterized as having "very exuberant forms...and a real sense of

whimsy” by the Frick’s director, Ian Wardropper. The Du Paquier have been on exhibit since September 28 at the Frick.

In addition, The Frick Collection has organized the first exhibition to focus on Pierre Gouthière (1732-1813), the great French bronze chaser and gilder who worked for Louis XV and Louis XVI, along with members of their courts. The exhibition, from November 16, 2016 through February 19, 2017, will shed new light on the artist’s production, life, and workshop through the presentation of twenty-one objects from public and private collections.

Attributed with certainty to Gouthière, these works include clocks, vases, firedogs, wall lights, and mounts for Chinese porcelain and hardstone vases. The exhibition is organized by Charlotte Vignon, Curator of Decorative Arts, The Frick Collection. Based on new art historical and technical research, the exhibition and catalogue promise to transform our understanding of one of the greatest artists of eighteenth-century France. Go to [frick.org](http://frick.org) for more information.

On November 16, the Bard Graduate Center Gallery will open the exhibit "Charles Percier, Architecture and Design in an Age of Revolution" in their Gallery. It will be there until February 5, 2017. through February 19, 2017. For more information, consult [bgc.bard.edu/gallery](http://bgc.bard.edu/gallery)

## **Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts**

**November 2:** Lecture, "Objects of Fashion and Seduction: Mounted Asian Porcelain and Lacquer." Lecture by Rufus Bird, The Royal Collection Trust. Free of charge at The Frick Collection, 1 East 70th Street, New York, NY. For further information, go to [frick.org](http://frick.org).

**November 3-6:** Symposium, American Ceramic Circle (ACC), Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut. Information and registration at [www.americanceramiccircle.org](http://www.americanceramiccircle.org).

**Now to December 4:** Exhibit, “Della Robbia: Sculpting with Color in Renaissance Florence.” 46 freestanding sculptures and architectural elements gathered from more than two dozen public and private collections in the United States and abroad, among them six pivotal loans from Italy seen in the U. S. for the first time. Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; then from February 5 to June 4, 2017 at the National Gallery, Washington, D. C.

**November 7:** “Georgia O’Keeffe and the Women Artists, Photographers and Collectors of the Stieglitz Circle.” Lecture by Lisa M. Messinger, independent scholar and retired curator of Modern Art, Metropolitan

Museum of Art, New York. Greenwich Decorative Arts, 1:15 p.m. at the Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich, Connecticut. For reservations, email [greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com](mailto:greenwichdecorativearts@gmail.com).

**November 12:** "Archeology, Climate Change and Human Society, or How the Past Can Help Us Understand the Present." Lecture by Andrew M. T. Moore, President of the Archaeological Institute of America. Archeological Associates of Greenwich, 2:00 p.m. at the Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich, CT. Non-member admission \$20. Information and registration at 203.663.4654.

**November 12:** "Ceramics and the Art Nouveau and Art Deco Movements." Lecture by Nicholas M. Dawes, vice-president of Special Collections, Heritage Auction Galleries. Pottery and Porcelain Club, 2:00 p.m. at the Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art, Benefit Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Information at [www.potteryandporcelainclub.org](http://www.potteryandporcelainclub.org).

**November 14:** "Global by Design: Chinese Ceramics from the R. Albuquerque Collection." Lecture by Denise Leidy, Ruth and Bruce Dayton Curator at the Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut. CCSC, 1:15 p.m. at the Bruce Museum, 1 Museum Drive, Greenwich, Connecticut. Information at 203.912.7226 or at [www.ctcsc.org](http://www.ctcsc.org).

**November 16:** "Pierre Gouthière, Virtuoso Gilder at the French Court." The Frick Collection, 1 East 70th St., New York, NY through February 19, 2017. Information at 212.288.0700 and at [frick.org](http://frick.org).

**November 18:** "Charles Percier, Architecture and Design in an Age of Revolutions. Bard Graduate Center Gallery, New York, NY through February 5, 2017. Information at 212.501.3023 and at [bgc.bard.edu/gallery](http://bgc.bard.edu/gallery).