

OCTOBER 2016

# The Canberra Potter



The Newsletter of Canberra Potters' Society Inc.

**INSIDE:** Workshops & Special Shorts Members' Exhibition Winners  
Exhibition Reviews **Floriade Wrap** Diary Dates and more...

Liz Crowe, *Untitled*, Southern Ice porcelain, Walkers No.10 clay, Obvara raku firing, wax, sterling silver collars and stems (not made by artist).  
2016 Doug Alexander Award winner. *Image CPS.*

## Your Open Day 2016

Who is excited about Canberra Potters Open Day 2016?

I am! I'm looking forward to a great family day, to promote our fabulous organisation and all that it offers, and to catch up with you all.

Included in the activities is a range of demonstrations. A sneak peek at the line up is porcelain carving by the very talented Liz Crowe—our 2016 Doug Alexander Award winner. Monika Leone will reveal her secrets of altering turned foot-rings into decorative feet, and will hand-build with coloured clays. Ingrid Adler will provide a hand-building demonstration too.

Our friends from Walker Ceramics Clayworks and Keanes will have their trade tables packed with goodies. Please support them, as they are always generous with prizes for our Members' Exhibition that is running in the Gallery during Open Day.

Raku promises to be a treat, with Jennifer Collier leading this popular attraction. She reports that there are many delightful shapes bisqued and

ready to go. Get there early and watch the magic!

Hands-on favourites include Have-a-Go, Have-a-Throw, and hand-building hosted by Alex De Vos and Paul Dumetz.

Our very own Marlene Flanagan is supervising sales of wholesome soups served in hand-made bowls which you purchase for a very reasonable price, while Eden Reni is running the pizza oven to produce delicious bread.

Don't miss our studio holders who will have their doors open, offering their wares, and a peek at the lives of avid ceramicists.

We are hoping for good weather, so join us centre stage for a coffee/barista demonstration by Cherryripe of Watson Shops, the Iron Potter Challenge and the Raffle Draw (*pictured at right*). We anticipate music and song from some talented local amateur performers to add to the atmosphere.

See you there!

Velda Hunter Chair



## CHRISTMAS FAIR

### Call for Participants

This year's fair runs from  
**8-23 December**

If you'd like to participant, email:  
[admin@canberrapotters.com.au](mailto:admin@canberrapotters.com.au) or  
phone **6241 1670**.

You can read the pottery fair  
information handbook [here](#)

## From the Director



What a night! What a show! Congratulations to all the winners in this years Members' Exhibition, especially to our Doug Alexander Award winner for 2016, Liz Crowe. Congratulations too to all who entered. As Richard Baz (The Curatoreum & Undercurrent Art Market) said in his opening address, we all too often under appreciate the act of making. I agree. For every piece that makes it to the wall or plinth how many others litter the kiln shed floor? I was reminded again of the uniqueness of this award where those from all ceramic streams and levels compete on an even field for a chance to win a major award. I posit there are not too many other artforms that afford this opportunity. Thank you to our guest judge Margaret Brown, a potter from Bega on the NSW South Coast and self proclaimed pottery recluse. We're so glad we could coax her away from her wheel long enough to perform what must be an onerous task.

It seems we no sooner complete one event and another is demanding our attention, as we concluded our Floriade participation a week before we mounted the Members' Exhibition. Thank you to artsACT and their generous offer to give us and other KAOs the opportunity to test the water at Floriade. Rainy weather aside, we're still assessing the success of the event but feel if the opportunity were to come again we would run a modified model. Perhaps we could consider a group art exhibition to really excite visitors and locals about what we have to offer.

Well, Open Day is the next big event and planning is going full steam ahead. Please get involved. We always need helpers for what promises to be a great family day event.

Now what's next?

**Richard Thomas**

Director

[director@canberrapotters.com.au](mailto:director@canberrapotters.com.au)



**It's all about the pots**— Ian & Christine, Carol Kenchington, Jackie & Rob at the Members' Exhibition opening. Gosia Pilat (Delve), Cathy Franzi (From the Red Heart), Paul at Floriade.

## Board & administration

### Board

- Velda Hunter **Chair**
- Graham Durant **Treasurer**
- Jessica Coates
- Ian Hodgson
- Jennifer Collier
- David Leake
- Zoe Slee
- Russell Eade

### Administration

- Director** Richard Thomas
- Workshop Manager** Chris Harford
- Program Manager** Sara Hogwood
- Education Program Manager**

### Education Office Assistant

Bhavana Moylan

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Next Newsletter Deadline  
Friday 28 October 2016

Graphic Design: Nina Davis

### Contact us

Canberra Potters' Society Inc  
Watson Arts Centre  
Aspinall St, Watson ACT  
**02 6241 1670** general enquiries  
**02 6241 7800** classes

PO Box 7021  
Watson ACT 2602

### Gallery/Shop hours

Thursday—Sunday  
10—4 pm

ABN 65 491 135 689



# Workshops, Classes & Special Shorts



## Curriculum Development

Term 4 enrolments are now open and going strong with most Introductory classes booked out already.

I have been trying to refine the curriculum this year to make clearer steps for our Beginning Students who want to carry on after the Intro courses.

With that in mind, Term 4 has some new offerings:

**Basic Wheel** (Thursdays 6 – 9 pm) and **Basic Handbuilding** (Wednesday morning OR Sunday afternoon), are designed to flow directly on from the Introductory Course. They are all 7 weeks long and completely structured with the beginner in mind. They are designed to develop a good foundation of basic techniques so people can start to improve and develop with confidence.

Following on from that students can enrol in **Continuing** classes. These offer a flexible structure and are responsive to ideas and the skill levels in the group. This offers a bridge into our more **General Classes** – which operate as always as mixed groups and for students who are more independent and have their own projects in mind.

## Jenny Orchard

A Heads-Up on what's on offer over the Summer break so you can plan your time off work now!!

We are pleased to announce Jenny Orchard as our **Summer School** presenter this January! Due to the public holiday, this year's Intensive will start on Wednesday 4 and run through to Sunday 8 January. This will book out so get in quick!

**\$420 for members & \$460 non-members.**

This is a fantastic opportunity to work with a renowned ceramic artist. For 5 days you can immerse yourself in your own practise. Come with a project in mind and Jenny will guide you and mentor you through it. There will be demonstrations and talks as the week progresses and you are bound to learn heaps!

For the Beginners out there we will again be offering our Introductory Intensive during the same period. A 3 and a half day condensed version of the popular **Introductory** course. This follows the same content as the regular Introductory course and will set up the participants to be ready to join us in Term 1 in **Basic Wheel** or **Handbuilding**. It will run on Wednesday 4 to Friday 6 January plus a follow up Raku firing session to be arranged with the group.

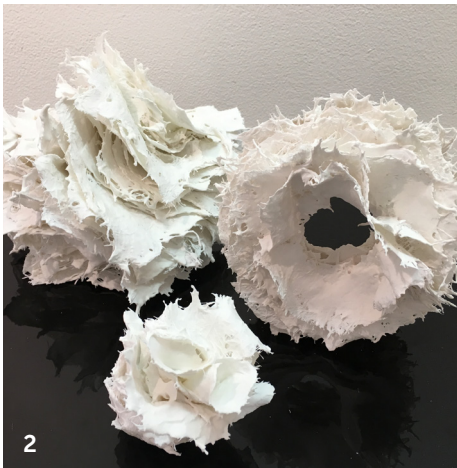
## Kaye Pemberton

Popular teacher Kaye Pemberton has joined our teaching staff as a Special Short expert. Earlier this year she offered a Short-course called *Attention to Detail*. We are very excited that Kaye has agreed to run regular short courses which will focus on Wheelwork. This is suitable for those who are more experienced with their practise and want to refine/hone and further develop their skills.

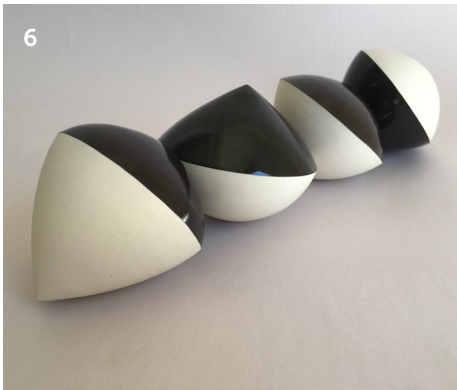
Her first course for 2017 will be on the 7, 14, 21 & 28 January. Kaye will be presenting *Thrilling Throwing*. Check our website closer to the time for further details.



# Members' Exhibition 2016 Images Ian Hodgson & CPS



**1. Doug Alexander Award:** Liz Crowe *Untitled* Southern Ice porcelain, Walkers No.10 clay, Obvara raku firing, wax, sterling silver collars & stems. **2. Craft ACT Award** Jo Victoria *Biomorphs* Imperial Porcelain constructed slip cast forms. **3. Walker Ceramics Brian Privett Award for Surface Decoration** Cathy Franzi *Billy Buttons* porcelain wheel-thrown and altered engobe sgraffito. **4. Jane Crick Memorial Award for Hand Building** Eden Reni *Attraction* hand-built ceramics, multimedia. **5. Craft ACT Award** Caroline Walker-Grime *End of the Line* wheel thrown-porcelain, photographic decals. **6. Clayworks Award for Wheel-throwing** Robyn Campbell *Four Tops* 4 pieces, wheel-thrown, diamond-cut ceramics.

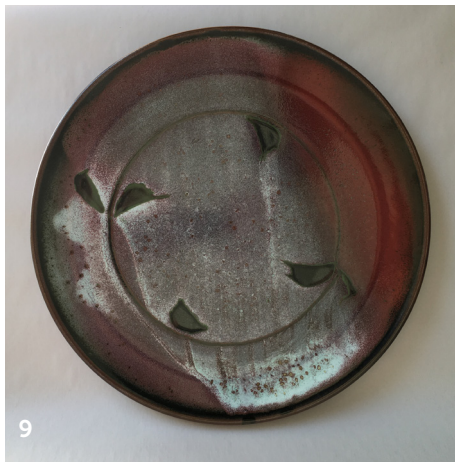






7

**7. TACA Tertiary Merit Award**  
Henrietta Farrelly-Barnett *Nature Nurture* slab built transfer pieces. **8. TACA Merit Award** Anne Langridge *Coraline* stoneware clay with slips, engobes, dry glaze. **9. TACA Merit Award** Chris Harford *Vine Platter* wheel-thrown stoneware clay, Tenmoku, copper red & chrome glazes, latex and wax resist. **10. Keane Ceramics Tertiary Student Award** Katrina Leske *Woodfired Collection* set of 5 wood-fired stoneware bowls, two golden, three darker purple.



9



8



10



Mel George & Caroline Walker-Grime



Joanne Searle & Margaret Brown



Katrina Leske



## Floriade Wrap

Canberra Potters and several other Key Arts Organisations were generously given the opportunity by artsACT to participate in Canberra's ever popular festival of flowers.

A big thank you to those members who in turn accepted our offer to join our pop-up-shop and demonstration space for our nominated week.

Our Director Richard Thomas and Program Manager Sara Hogwood donned the safety vests and completed a Friday evening bump in and set-up. This included the purchase of shelving units and locking cabinets that will be used at Watson Arts Centre at the completion of the Floriade event.

As Saturday morning dawned the clouds gathered. Unfortunately the wet weather conspired to limit the visitors over the week. However, it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of our makers and sellers—Velda Hunter, Jacqueline Lewis, Carol Kenchington, Jenny Harris, Jo Townsend, Maryke Henderson, Marlene Flanagan, Judy McDonald, Paul Dumetz, Sylvia Nilsson.

Thank you again artsACT for the opportunity and we'll see what next year may bring.



# Exhibitions



Lia Tajcnar Zoophyta II 2016. Image: CPS

**Delve: a review by Zoe Slee**

ANU School of Art Gallery  
 Until 01 October  
 Gallery open Tue-Fri 10.30am-5pm  
 Sat 12.00-5pm

One of the exhibitions on at the ANU School of Art at the moment is Delve, featuring the works of Helen Braund, Leah Bullen, Tiffany Cole, Gosia Pilat and Lia Tajcnar. The artists have themed the exhibition on a shared creative longing for the sea. Being Canberra based, visits to the sea offered them an escape and fed their ideas of the sea as a metaphor of the imagination. They focused particularly on the idea of a 'constructed' representation of the sea, examining their personal responses to the aquatic life and environments, as well as how the sea is imagined and interpreted culturally.

CPS Studio holder Lia Tajcnar



Lia Tajcnar Zoophyta series 2016. Image: CPS

produced a series of sculptural vases for Delve, which she titled Zoophyta. This was inspired by the 18th century term Zoophytes, which was used to describe plants and animals whose hybridity meant they alluded easy classification. This is an apt description of Tajcnar's work, as its aesthetic easily references many organic aquatic forms and is combined, through surface treatment, decoration and augmentation, with more constructed notions of the seaside, such as ice-cream cones. These easily recognizable elements enhance the strangeness of the work when looked at in the context of a vase, with the high level of decorative detail that has been added.

Of her work Lia has said "My work does not set out to represent particular organic forms but seeks to capitalize on the strange, complex, richly-patterned and brightly-coloured beauty of the natural world...I chose to make work that engages with the environment through a shared sense of delight and wonderment with the natural world". In this she has been successful as the multiple and somewhat contradictory associations one thinks of when viewing her work create a sense of the fantastic, playfully preventing the work from any direct representation of nature. It sits in a liminal space, refusing to be one sole thing, and thus being capable of referencing many ideas simultaneously.

Overall Lia Tajcnar's work is engaging and enticing because of its multifacetedness. As Victor Shklovsky said "Art makes the familiar strange so that it can be freshly perceived", and this work does just that. It can be used to question preconceived notions of functionality in vases, or cultural norms surrounding the idea of visiting the sea. It references the natural aquatic life while defying true representation and emerges as a wonderful series of sculptural vases that can engage a wide range of people by reminding them of the sea.

**Claybodies: a review by Sue Hewat**  
 Octagon ArtSpace  
 Bungendore Woodworks Gallery  
 Until 03 October  
 Gallery open 7 days 9am-5pm

This exhibition is the first time the Bungendore Woodworks has ventured into the realm of a complete showing of ceramic works. Well known for its high end contemporary furniture and wood art, the gallery also supports and showcases art and craft from different

genres. Nine ceramic artists from the Canberra based Claybodies group have presented a range of functional and sculptural works. The artists are Rick Beviss, Mel Brouwer, Liz Crowe, Linda Davy, Velda Hunter, Anne Langridge, Monika Leone, Jacqueline Lewis and Suzanne Oakman.

Rick Beviss displays a timeless selection of functional teapots and tea bowls. A wide assortment of bodies, spouts, lids and handles have been executed to show endless possibilities of form. The teapots are a perfect accompaniment to a selection of tea bowls.

Mel Brouwer's work is both graphic and tactile. The balanced combinations of form, glaze and decals give a rich insight into elements of the natural world contained within the Kosciusko



Exhibition opening Image: CPS

National Park.

Liz Crowe has created sensuous pears adorned with silver and bronze components by Susan Moore and Michael Nordsvan respectively. The combination of the Obvara firing of porcelain forms sits beautifully with just the right amount of bling to accentuate the subtleness of the sepia mottled surfaces.

Linda Davy explores sculptural birds. A seemingly life size collection of brightly coloured birds seeks to discuss the fragile balance between community and the natural environment.

Velda Hunter's work is a sumptuous collection of functional forms highly decorated in layers, abstractly referencing the landscape. Combinations of primary and pastels colours together with lustre accents frame each work.

Anne Langridge has produced sizeable garden pots. Each vessel is individually strong in stature but softened by fluid patterning in a complimentary colour palette.

Monika Leone's treasure boxes are a *(continued over)*

mix of conventional and altered shapes. Lustrously bright coloured surfaces combined with fanciful birds and plants embellishing the lids create elements of surprise.

Jacqueline Lewis has produced a quiet range of bowls, vases and wall work. All sitting within a calm Japanese aesthetic, the work takes inspiration from the organic influences of nature.

Suzanne Oakman's sculptural work is indicative of the wondrous colour, texture and shapes of the sea. This has been expanded to include wall plaques that define the sea bed.

This large diverse exhibition is an eclectic mix of clay based art. The artists should be congratulated for promoting Claybodies in such a fine manner.



Image: Fran Romano & Sharon Field & Cathy Franzi

**From the Red Heart**  
Review by Fran Romano

Cathy Franzi and Sharon Field

Australian National Botanical Gardens  
Visitor Centre Gallery

Until 09 October

In this beautifully cohesive exhibition Cathy Franzi exhibits her most recent work. Commissioned by the Botanical Gardens to respond to their Red Centre Garden, both artists have responded by creating a series of works in their chosen medium.

Cathy's ceramics show her continuing development of her signature carving technique reminiscent of linoblocks. Her forms and decoration exist in perfect harmony. At no stage does it seem that the decoration is simply added to the vessel. It is clear that both vessel and decoration have evolved together. Cathy's considered approach to her work, the result of many, many hours of research and development, is delightful viewing.

Her works in harmony with Sharon Field's botanical illustrations make

for a lovely exhibition. It's interesting to view each artist's response to the same plants, and the curation of the exhibition has created a harmonious whole.

## 2016 Indigenous Ceramic Art Award Winner Announced

The Shepparton Art Museum has announced that the 2016 *Indigenous Ceramic Art Award* has been awarded to Gallery Kaiela Artists, Jack Anselmi and Cynthia Hardie, Yorta Yorta (VIC).

The winner of the \$20,000 acquisitive prize was announced by Mr Rupert Myer AO during the exhibition official opening event, Saturday 20 August 2016.

Judge's comments:

*The 2016 ICAA showcased an outstanding calibre of entrants reflecting the sophistication of Indigenous ceramic art practice around the nation. This made judging difficult, requiring a very considered approach.*

*While the award is a ceramic award, it is also an Indigenous ceramic award. This meant that works needed to extend the ceramic medium, and also reflect the artist's perspective as an Indigenous person and their cultural expression. The ceramic medium needed to enhance the telling of this story. Each of the works in this year's award tells a unique story that is very personal to each of the artists, arts collectives and the community they come from, generously sharing aspects of their lives, identity, country and creation stories.*



Image: Belinda Briggs

Yorta Yorta artists Jack Anselmi and Cynthia Hardie, as a collaborative group, are the winners of the 2016 *Indigenous Ceramic Art Award* for their installation "Midden"

## Diary dates

**Workshop Orientation for Members**

**4 September 2.30pm**

Free but bookings essential

**Canberra Potters Term 3**

**Finishes 23 September**

**Canberra Potters Term 4**

Bookings Now Open

**Last Friday Supper Club**

Tim Andrews

**07 October**

**Canberra Potters Open Day**

**23 October**

**Design Canberra @ WAC**

**6-7 November**



Ceramic Accord: Marjo Carter Sea Breeze

**Watson Arts Centre** is a Key Arts Organisation supported by the ACT government and run by Canberra Potters' Society.

We offer:

**Classes** for children and adults across all levels of ceramic practice. Workshops, Summer Schools and Kids' Holiday classes are available too.

**Studios** where tenancy applications are always welcome from emerging and established ceramic artists.

**Artist-in-Residence** program including studio and residence facilities to national and international visiting artists.

**Gallery** hosting a ceramic focused exhibition program.

**Shop** with a range of pottery and ceramics to suit all tastes and budgets.

The gallery and shop are open Thursday to Sunday 10am-4pm and most public holidays.

For further information on all programs, events and available facilities please visit

[canberrapotters.com.au](http://canberrapotters.com.au)



## Exhibitions

### Claybodies

**Octagon ArtSpace  
Bungendore Wood Works Gallery  
until 3 October 2016**  
[www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au](http://www.bungendorewoodworks.com.au)

An exhibition of ceramics by 9 artists from the Claybodies ceramicists' group. Rick Beviss, Melinda Brouwer, Liz Crowe, Linda Davey, Velda Hunter, Anne Langridge, Monika Leone, Jacqueline Lewis and Suzanne Oakman.

**Where the Wild Things Cling  
Ceramic sculpture by Bev Hogg  
Kerrie Lowe Gallery  
Opening Friday 9 September 6-8pm  
until 4 October 2016**  
[www.kerrielowe.com](http://www.kerrielowe.com)

Located for over twenty years in north Newtown in Sydney, the gallery features constantly changing exhibitions of work by Australian artists; clay work is supported by paintings, prints, sculpture and jewellery. The gallery is a great resource for collectors of ceramics and for unique handmade gifts.

**From the Red Heart  
Visitor Centre Gallery  
Australian National Botanical Gardens  
7 September to 9 October  
Official opening 2.30pm 10 Sept**  
Gallery open daily 9.30–4.30pm

In From the Red Heart, ceramic artist Cathy Franzi and painter Sharon Field feature works based on the Red Centre Garden, inspired by an appreciation of Australia's unique desert plants and landscape.

**Anneke Paijmans  
Recent Paintings & Ceramics  
Spiral Gallery  
until 19 October 2016  
Official opening 5pm 23 September**

Anneke is combining her signature smoke-fired ceramics with a body of small new landscapes for this one woman show.

Evening entertainment at the opening on Friday 23rd will be music by the

dynamic local band, "The Go Girls" featuring songs specially created for this show.

**Ceramic Accord  
Watson Arts Centre Gallery  
27 October to 6 November 2016**



Pauline Welfare: Landscape Platter. Image: Courtesy the artist

An exhibition featuring the work of four Central Western NSW ceramicists: Pauline Welfare, Marjo Carter, Valerie Stuart and Margaret Ling and South Coast ceramicist Vicki Passlow. Although coming from diverse backgrounds and experience and primarily working as individual practitioners, they meet regularly to discuss projects and future directions. Opportunities to exhibit together serve to strengthen their alliance, all of which creates a strong sense of accord, hence the title of the exhibition.

**Delicate Touch V  
Contemporary Australian Porcelain  
Narek Galleries  
until 13 November 2016**

Features the work of four potters: Bronwyn Kemp, Cathy Franzi, Sophie

Xarhakos and Shannon Garson.

**Songs From Under the Floorboards  
A Journey Beneath the Cracks of  
Reality with Steve Roper  
Smiths Alternative Gallery  
1 to 27 November 2016  
Open 7 days 7am-Midnight**

The work of Steve Roper covering the ceramic and painting mediums.

[www.narekgalleries.com](http://www.narekgalleries.com)

**Ramesh Nithiyendran: Mud men  
National Gallery of Australia,  
Contemporary galleries  
(lower ground level)  
until 29 January 2017**  
[www.nga.gov.au](http://www.nga.gov.au)

Commissioned specifically for the NGA, Mud men is an installation of monumental ceramic sculptures by exciting new talent Ramesh Nithiyendran.

## Opportunities

**ANCA Mitchell Studio Vacancy  
Spacious 60 square metre studio  
available from October 2016**

Ideal for large and or industrial practices. Shared or sole occupancy, long-term leases are available.

Call Bettina Hill, on 02 6247 8736.

<http://anca.net.au/2016/09/studio-available-now/>

**Abundant Water Trivia Night  
27 October 2016**

Abundant Water (developer of simple clay-pot water filter technology for rural communities in Laos and Nepal) is holding a Trivia Night at Eastlake Football Club, Thursday 27 October from 6.30pm. Tickets are \$20. at Eventbrite.

### Women Potters & Ceramicists

Merlene Fawdry a researcher and writer needs your help in compiling an Australian register of female potters and ceramicists. For further information please email Merlene:

[mfawdry@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mfawdry@bigpond.net.au)

In 2016 the Members' Exhibition is supported by



The family of the late Jane Crick