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Workshop activities and arrangements

Meet and greet: Sunday, March 3rd (5-30 pm -8.30 pm)

We start with an informal slideshow presentation and a discussion of porcelain/pottery in general. Antoinette would like to get to know you; please send her images of your work or bring a piece of pottery along. If you want for Antoinette to evaluate your pottery, it would be in a group setting, unless **you state clearly to do so in private.**

Supper will be served. Arrive at around 5-30 pm. Please inform Antoinette if you have a guest for supper, to make provision for enough food.

Porcelain workshop program:

Artists will begin with a basic pinching technique and then follow it up with either forming bowls on the wheel or forming it by hand. They will also have the option to form an oval vase, either in a press mold or by hand. Altering and carving will follow according to taste and timing.

Antoinette will lead with demonstrations and potters will follow the procedures.

By Wednesday morning most of the making should be complete. Keep the work covered while altering and carving takes place.

The air is very dry, so keep your work moist, but not wet. Do not allow for uneven drying or re-wetting.

Sunday

General get to know each other (through your pottery and otherwise)

Discuss the characteristics of porcelain

Slideshow

Monday:

Demonstrate a pinch pot.

All potters work along to get to know and understand the porcelain clay medium – this is especially important because your weather situations will affect how your clay dries and how you reinfuse water. This exercise will teach you to control the dryness of your clay until you are ready to let go. Remember the Diva has her own way!

I do recommend that you finish a few pinch pots, however, the pinch bowls should not keep you up; move on if needed.

There is a lot of pinching involved in all my work, even if it is wheel-thrown. The process will teach you a lot about how to alter porcelain.

Demo of wheel throwing: I will demonstrate a V-shape bowl and a U-shape bowl. These are the basics from which I begin my sculpted vessels. Pay attention to the design inside and outside. *You do not want your objects to slump in the fire.*

Practice these 2 forms and keep one of each to be trimmed on Tuesday.

Demo of hand building:

I will also demonstrate how to throw slabs. (discuss slabs) Hand-builders will make a V-bowl and/or a U-bowl and sculpted envelope and practice to make these into objects. Keep one of each. Slabs for the envelope sculpted bowl.

Tuesday:

Demo:

Porcelain tools

Trimming right side up.

Join and alter the envelope

First altering of bowls

Hand building

Students who want to hand-build will pay all their attention to slab building and pinching projects. The same V and U-bowl shapes that wheel throwers make, can be made and altered from slabs.

Hand building/wheel throwing

Prepare 2 slabs, no bigger than 40 cm (about 16 inches). Cut 2 forms out, similar in size and form (10" or about 25cm). The rim side should not be wider than 6" (15cm) and the base side 4 " (10cm) Allow it to dry just enough to stand when lifted to a curve. Cut a base 5x5 " (13 x13 cm)

Wheel throwing checklist:

Keep your work covered

Keep practicing wheel-throwing

Prepare slabs

Begin trimming right-side up. (afternoon)

Slabs (if you wish to do this project)

Join slabs and pack away for Wednesday

Finish pinch bowls – if you wish.

Hand builders checklist:

Finish pinch bowls

Finish basic V and U shape bowls

Join the envelope elements and begin to alter.

Wednesday.

Demo: Altering and carving porcelain

Throw wide bowl

Review characteristics of porcelain

Hand builders and wheel throwers

Continue working on 2 bowls and the envelope vase. Altering and carving.

Your work is entering a critical period in which it may want to crack; make sure you have it well covered.

Thursday:

Demo: altering and carving

Question and answering.

All potters work on their projects simultaneously

Practice the various techniques.

Friday

Discuss firing and glazing techniques

Throwing on request

Answer questions

We will visit another artist. **TBA**

Friday night all work goes into the bisque fire

Practice throughout the week:

Classes will be from 9-5 every day, with a break for lunch between 12-1 pm

The studio will close every night at 10 p.m. That will allow you to practice and work independently every night Monday-Thursday. **It is required that there are AT LEAST 2 potters working. Antoinette will NOT be one of the two.**

Food:

You are responsible for your own breakfast and dinner. A simple lunch will be provided (soup or stew) every day. **Please make sure that Antoinette knows about allergies. Your guest is welcome to lunch, but please be sure to let us know.**

The kitchen is available to prepare your own salad or a sandwich for supper, or if you decide to work in the evenings, you may want to go find food and take a break from the studio.

Friday, March 8th: The group will visit a local artist (<http://potterybyhelene.com/>) after which we can decide on eating out.

Anyone that has special needs, please let Antoinette know so that she can be on the lookout for your needs.

Photographs and video clips:

You are allowed to take those. Please share it with me, since I use it for promotional purposes. If you share it on social media, please tag me.

Koos will also take images and video clips throughout the week. If anyone does not want to be included in the imaging, let him know upfront. If you stay silent I consider it as a confirmation from you that it is okay.