

AU alumnus to display work at Museum of Ceramic Art

9/27/00

The Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art at Alfred University will be featuring a special exhibition titled "David Shaner: the gifts he has made," which will highlight Shaner's role as an artist, collector, and philanthropist. The exhibition, curated by Dr. Margaret Carney, director of the Museum, will be on view first at Chicago's Navy Pier Nov. 2 - 5 as part of SOFA (Sculpture Objects Functional Art). The exhibition then opens in Alfred on Nov. 9, with a reception from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Museum, located in the Ceramic Corridor Innovation Center on Route 244 just north of the village of Alfred. It will remain on view until Jan. 18, 2001. Shaner has created a lifetime of inspiring ceramic work, said Carney, including his signature Cirque forms and functional teapots and tea bowls. He received his Master's of Fine Arts degree from Alfred University in 1959 and taught at the University of Illinois in Urbana until a summer residency at the Archie Bray Foundation brought him to Montana. His natural inclination toward collecting and the common practice of sharing work with fellow artists grew his collection, said Carney. In 1997 and 1998, Shaner donated several special pieces from this collection to Alfred. "David Shaner: the gifts he has made" features 20 ceramic objects including five of Shaner's own work and 15 pieces of other artists' work which he donated to the Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art. As a ceramist, Shaner is represented in this exhibition by five pieces, dating from his graduate days at Alfred in the 1950s to a 1993 Cirque form. The donated work includes a selection of pieces by Native American potters, including what Carney calls a "stunning" Lucy Lewis fine-line jar, a Laguna polychrome jar dating circa 1940, two other Acoma Pueblo polychrome jars from the 1920s-30s, a blackware jar dating after 1956 by Maria Martinez, two Hopi Pueblo polychrome bowls, and a selection of other Mexican and Native American pots. The Museum is open to the public, free of charge, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Mondays. More information about "David Shaner: the gifts he has made" may be obtained by calling the Museum offices at 607-871-2421 or visiting the Museum web site: [www.ceramicsmuseum.alfred...](http://www.ceramicsmuseum.alfred.edu)