

Alfred Ceramic Museum exhibition features "New Gifts"

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From the Collection: Selected New Gifts will be on display at the Schein-Joseph Museum of Ceramic Art at Alfred University beginning Friday May 2, through July 27. An opening reception will be held at the Museum at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 8. From the Collection: Selected New Gifts, curated by the Museum's Collections Manager Susan Kowalczyk, a 1976 alumna of Alfred University, includes work by various ceramic artists from the United States with additional work from China, Finland, Japan, Russia, and Wales. The majority of pieces were donated in 2002-2003 and none has been shown at the Museum prior to this exhibition. G. David Shaner, a 1959 AU alumnus who died in 2002, was an avid collector of ceramics, and pottery surrounded him in his home; even part of the floor was made of clay. Thanks to his and the Shaner family's generosity and desire to share the collection with others, 39 pieces were added to the David and Anne Shaner Collection at the Schein-Joseph International Museum of Ceramic Art in 2002. Selected New Gifts will draw from these new additions. Also included will be work by Ken Ferguson, a 1958 AU alumnus; Wayne Higby, currently a professor of ceramic art at Alfred University; Karen Karnes; Howard Kottler; Ruth McKinley, a 1953 alumna of AU; Don Reitz, a 1963 alumnus; Daniel Rhodes, who received his degree in 1943; James Secrest, and Robert Turner, who earned his MFA from Alfred in 1949 and is a professor emeritus of ceramic art at Alfred. Native American Pueblo pottery, Japanese Shigaraki ware, and a Chinese Song Dynasty piece are also among the work featured. Visitors will be able to view two new Mark Burns sculptures, one donated by the artist and Helen Drutt: Philadelphia and the second by Dr. Stanley H. Shapiro. Burns is a 1983 alumnus of Alfred University. They will get a first look at "Parquet," a tile piece by Robert Winokur, who received his AU degree in 1958, donated by Paula Winokur and Helen Drutt: Philadelphia and see Friedl Kjellberg's copper red plate made at Arabia in Finland, donated by William Pitney, a 1950 AU alumnus. Also included will be a ceramic piece by Howard Kottler from the Howard Kottler Testamentary Trust. Two sculptural vases by Kirk Mangus, donated by Robert and Rae Gilson; a Kyllikki Salmenhaara vase donated by Jenny Floch, a 1957 alumna; a piece from the short-lived Andover China Company, Andover, NY, donated by William Emrick; and a bottle by Welsh potter Phil Rogers, donated by the Pucker Gallery in Boston, will also be exhibited. The Gloryhole Collection will be represented by MFA graduates from 2002 Christina Cordova and Sanam Emami. The Museum is open to the public, free of charge, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except Mondays. More information about the exhibition may be obtained by calling the Museum offices at 607-871-2421 or visiting the Museum web site: www.ceramicsmuseum.alfred...