NEW ZEALAND STUDIO POTTERS' THIRD EXHIBITION



Ist to 10th OCTOBER, 1959

McLEAN PARK NAPIER This is the Third Annual Exhibition of work by New Zealand Studio Potters. The First Annual Exhibition was held at the Otago Museum by the Visual Arts Association (Dunedin) in November of 1957; the Second Annual Exhibition was arranged in the Architectural Centre Gallery on Lambton Quay (Wellington) in October 1958. This Exhibition presents to the public for the third year, current work by New Zealand craftsmen and craftswomen who have met the challenge of a difficult art. With one or two exceptions the potters represented here work as amateurs in studios and workshops which are commonly located in backyard or basement. Working with equipment which is frequently home-made and makeshift, they use whenever possible local clay and glaze materials. In the colonial spirit of self-reliance, they are developing this ancient craft and thus making a significant contribution to art in New Zealand.

The aim of these exhibitions of pottery is to bring the work of our artist, studio, or craftsmen potters together in a city or town, once each year. By these displays New Zealand hand-made pottery may be seen by a wide public, work of individuals is thus stimulated, and people have a chance to buy some of the best work produced in the course of the year. Although the potters find their reward in the satisfaction of creative work, pottery making by hand methods implies long hours of labour, with the chance of only modest returns. To ensure the highest possible standards, all work submitted has passed a selection committee which has rejected any items which fell below the requirements of good craftsmanship. This collection of pottery should show us that the craftsman can offer a kind of beauty different from the precision of the machine product. In our industrialized age we are inclined to forget the valuable qualities of craftsmanship, and to judge the products of the studio or small workshop alongside those of the machine. This is a mistaken view. Mass products are essential, but the value of handwork, the very irregularities and imperfections of it, provide us with that warmth and human quality which we look for in true works of art.

Pottery as an art medium is only partly under the control of the artist. At each firing the potter finds many effects which are quite unexpected. In countries of the Far East, particularly in China, Korea, and Japan, there has been for centuries the deepest understanding of ceramic art. Perfection is not considered a virtue. 'Happy accidents' caused by the fire or impurities in clay or glaze were esteemed by

emperors, merchants, peasants, and tea masters. They treasured ordinary bowls and common utensils which to European eyes passed for nothing. They possessed an insight into the beauty of common pottery objects, an insight which the Western World is only now learning to appreciate. New Zealand potters frequently achieve in their work the impersonal beauty which grows out of the technique of their craft, and the fact they are making ordinary objects for everyday use. This is largely because they have learned the techniques and spirit of Far Eastern pottery-making from Japanese potters and European potters trained in Oriental methods. For example, people who wish to understand the spirit of pottery made by the human hand should read "A Potter's Book", by the English potter Mr. Bernard Leach, for this work has influenced modern potters throughout the world, and for many of them, has provided a key to a new world of ceramic beauty.

The present Exhibition includes examples of earthenware, stoneware, and porcelain. When we use the word 'pottery' we usually refer to one of these. In simple terms we may say that earthenware is the humblest member of this family, porcelain the most aristocratic, and stoneware, combining the qualities of both. Technically speaking, earthenware is soft and porous, and for this reason it must be waterproofed with glaze, e.g. flowerpots are examples of unglazed earthenware. Stoneware is made from clay which is melted to a stonelike mass, so is naturally waterproof without glaze, which when added is for decorative and utilitarian reasons. Porcelain, which we usually call 'China' is scarcely represented in this Exhibition. The main ingredient used in the making of porcelain is kaolin, or China Clay. When fired to 'white heat', body and glaze fuse to a solid mass which, when cool, is hard, white, and semitransparent.

Each of the three types of ceramic ware has its own character suitable to particular uses. For example, earthenware is usually bright and colourful because the medium, fired at low temperatures, permits a wide range of variation. Thus earthenware, with its essentially gay mood, is particularly suitable for kitchen and lounge. Stoneware tends to be quiet, restrained, and occasionally austere. It is harder than earthenware. The beauty of stoneware is best seen with flowers such as the chrysanthemum and iris, or when used for Oriental style tea bowls. Studio porcelain is not the cold white 'china' of industry. It is warm and possesses subtle

assymetry. We must always recall that pottery made in small workshops or in individual studios should represent an order of beauty which differs from that of the machine. We must learn to appreciate the essential qualities of craftsmanship, to realize that if a thing is hand-made it is not necessarily good, but to know that when a pot or other craft object comes from the hand of a good craftsman, we may expect in it certain human qualities which are lacking in the products of mass production.

The craftsmen represented in this New Zealand Studio Potters' Third Annual Exhibition offer us objects made in the spirit of creativeness. When we use good pottery from day to day it can influence our senses and mind for in quiet tea drinking, or in looking at flowers, we come to appreciate pottery through use. Through pottery we may learn the need for beauty in common objects, and the way of humility as a path to beauty.

TERRY BARROW -

0				
Λ				
0				
0				
0				
000000000000000000000000000000000000000				
DOREEN BLUMHARDT, Wellington				
0 0 0				
0				

BARBARA VIGOR BROWN, Napier					
25. Brown Pot with Lid 26. Cheese Dish, slip trail		10 N.F			
LEN CASTLE, Auckland		7.			
27. Vase, stoneware, woodash	* 77				
glaze 28. Bowl, stoneware, woodash	£5	5	0		
glaze	£4	4	0		
29. Winebottle, stoneware, Tessha glaze	£2	2	0		
30. Celadon Teapot, stoneware		N.F	.S.		
31. Slab-built Bottle, stoneware 32. Vase, slab-built, stoneware	£4	N.F			
33. Bowl, stoneware, woodash	CO	2	0		
glaze 34. Four Mugs, stoneware, various	£3	3	0		
glazes		N.F	.S.		
ROY COWAN, Wellington					
35. Platter, earthenware	£1 £2	10	0		
37. Bowl, earthenware	£1	10	0		
38. Bowl, earthenware		7	6		
HELEN DAWSON, Dunedin			12		
39. Celadon Vase, stoneware 40. Pot, stoneware, limestone and	£3	3	0		
iron glaze	£3	3	0		
41. Celadon Cheese Platter, stoneware	£1	1	0		
42. Pot, stoneware, limestone and	£3	2	0		
iron glaze 43. Bowl, porcelain, limestone	LS	3	U		
glaze 44. Bowl, stoneware, Celadon	£2 £3	2	0		
	20	0	U		
JOAN A. FORSYTH, Wanganui 45. Coffee Set (7 pieces), stone-					
ware	£3	3	0		
H. FULFORD, Havelock North					
46. Earthenware Jar, unglazed	£1	5			
47. Earthenware Jar, unglazed 48. Earthenware Jar, unglazed	£l	5	0		
49. Earthenware Jar, unglazed	£1	0	0		
50. Earthenware Jar, unglazed 51. Earthenware Jar, unglazed		10 10	0		
52. Earthenware Jar, glazed		N.F N.F			
		14.1	.D.		
WAILYN HING, Auckland 54. Slab and Coiled Pot, clear					
glaze		N.F	-21		
55. Slab and Coiled Pot, salt glaze		N.F	.D.		
Mrs. E. INKERSELL, Wellington 56. Biscuit and Cheese Set,					
earthenware, slip decoration		10	0		
57. Biscuit Dish, slip cast 58. Mug, hand-thrown		5 8	6		
59. Dish, hand-thrown		5	6		
60. Dishes (2), press-moulded		15 10	0 6		
62. Bowls (2), slip trailed		15	Ö		

MANUELLON W.				
MAVIS JACK, Wanganui 63. Plate, Maori rafter design £4 4 0	MIREK SMISEK, Stoke			
63. Plate, Maori rafter design £4 4 0	94. Teaset (3 piece), stoneware, salt glaze £5 5 0			
PAULA KING, Auckland	95. Bottle, stoneware, and Five			
64. Earthenware Dishes (set of 4) grey body with iron sand £1 10 0	Beakers £6 16 6 96. Jar, stoneware, salt glazed £12 12 0			
65. Vase, earthenware, grey body	97. Bowl, stoneware, copper glaze £5 5 0			
with iron sand £1 1 0	98. Mugs (6), stoneware, salt glaze £4 10 0			
66. Vase, earthenware, grey body with iron sand £1 1 0	99. Bowl, stoneware, green gravel £5 5 0			
HELEN MASON, Wellington	100. Vase, stoneware, salt glazed £2 2 0			
Bbs 60 8 42 1 5 9 1	O G CHEDILENG D well's			
67. Bowl, stoneware, Tenmoku and woodash glaze £4 4 0	O. C. STEPHENS, Dunedin 101. Dish, stoneware, copper glaze £2 2 0			
68. Liqueur Set (5 pieces) stone-	101. Dish, stoneware, copper glaze £2 2 U 102. Dish, earthenware, woodash			
ware £2 12 6 69. Pot, stoneware, Tenmoku and	mottle £2 2 0			
woodash glaze £5 5 0	103. Dish, earthenware, glazed £2 12 6			
70. Bowl, stoneware, limestone glaze £2 12 6	C. H. TERREY, Wanganui			
71. Coffee Mugs (6), stoneware,	104. Vase, stoneware, manuka ash			
woodash glaze £2 12 6 72. Pot, stoneware, borax glaze £2 12 6	glaze £5 5 0			
73. Bowl, stoneware, limestone	105. Bowl, stoneware, manuka ash glaze £4 4 0			
glaze £4 4 0	106. Coffee Set (3 pieces) stone-,			
ELIZABETH MATHESON, Wellington	ware, tobacco ash glaze £5 5 0 107. Bowl, porcelain, iron glaze £2 2 0			
74. Jar, earthenware £1 1 0	108. Mug, stoneware, wax resist			
HELEN MONAGAN, Napier	decoration £1 11 6			
75. Dish, earthenware, slip trailed N.F.S.	LEE THOMSON, Wellington			
HAZEL McCAUGHERN, Christchurch	109. Honey Pot, stoneware, wood			
76. Platter, earthenware £2 12 6	ash glaze £1 1 0			
PHYLLIS OXFORD, Napier 77. Jug. earthenware £1 1 0	JOCELYN THORNTON, Wellington			
, and ,	110. Vase, stoneware £2 2 0 111. Jar, stoneware 15 0			
YVONNE PERRIN, Auckland				
78. Necklace and Earring Set £3 13 6 79. Necklace, Egyptian paste £2 2 0	HILARY THURSTON, Napier			
80. Necklace, terracotta £1 11 6	112. Necklace and Earring Set,			
81. Necklace and Earring Set £2 12 6 82. Necklace and Earring Set £2 12 6	earthenware, gunmetal and woodash glaze £1 15 0			
83. Necklace and Earring Set £3 13 6	113. Necklace and Earring Set,			
84. Buttons (2) 10 6 85. Necklace and Earring Set £1 11 6	earthenware, lead glaze £1 15 0 114. Earrings, 5 pairs, lead slip			
	glaze (per pair) 7 6			
JULIET PETER, Wellington				
86. Bowl, earthenware £2 2 0 87. Dish, earthenware £2 2 0	JEAN WEIR, Auckland			
88. Fruit Dish, earthenware £2 5 0	115. Bowl, coiled salt glaze N.F.S.			
INEZ RENNIE, Wellington	ALL WAS TRAICOUR A1-1 J			
89. Cookie Jar, glazed £3 3 0	LILYAN WALCOTT, Auckland 116. Bowls (2), earthenware 15 0			
90. Hors d'oeuvre Set on	117. Sweet Bowl, earthenware 10 6			
Mahogany Tray £5 5 0 91. Salt Jar, earthenware, slip	118. Peanut Bowl, earthenware 10 6			
decoration £2 12 6	MADOLA WILVINGON Noning			
92. Bowl, earthenware, glazed £1 1 0 93. Salad Set (7 pieces), earthen-	MARCIA WILKINSON, Napier 119. Brooch and Earring Set,			
ware £6 6 0	earthenware N.F.S.			

