



Art in Action

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CERAMICS at ART IN ACTION 21-24 July 2011

The ceramics marquee in 2011 will present its largest ever showing at Art in Action, with 27 British and international artists. This year, the artists have been challenged to respond to a theme entitled 'The Elements: Beneath this changing cycle of forces, what doesn't change?'

Curator Sherry Moran explains: 'The elements are at the heart of creating pots. And the unknown outcome, of the effect of the elements on the pots keeps a potter forever in awe. The question posed is what is unchanging beneath these changing forces could bring some interesting revelations.'

This year, there will be eight artists who are new to Art in Action, including four from Japan whose work will be displayed in a Japanese gravel garden. The ceramics marquee includes potters from Spain, Germany, France, Australia and Japan as well as the UK and features a photographic exhibition by Ben Boswell.

The artists for this year include:

- Raku expert **Tim Andrews**, who will demonstrate the power of the elements through the dramatic firing process
- **Gwen Bainbridge** will give an insight into the creation of her nostalgic 'stitched' porcelain and bone china work
- **Emili Biarnes** from Spain returns to demonstrate slab building and moulded ceramic pieces
- Another returner, **Linda Dangoor** will be showing how she constructs clay vessels using coils, loops and flat-shaped 'ribbons'
- Newcomer **Carys Davies** will demonstrate thrown porcelain, inspired by her home between sea and mountain, history and modernity
- Familiar face **Richard Godfrey** uses an unusual 'thin slab' technique to create decorative yet functional, landscape-inspired teapots
- **Ashraf Hanna** (Best of the Best winner 2008) from Wales returns to demonstrate the hand building techniques he uses in the creation of individual vessels and forms
- **Sue Hanna** also returns to demonstrate the making and decorating of her figurative, sculptural ceramics
- **Paul Jackson's** abstract imagery and life drawing will be applied to a variety of thrown and moulded pots

- **Charlotte Jones** returns for a third year to demonstrate her techniques using coloured coils, hand building and scraping and burnishing once clay is leather hard
- Also in her third year at Art in Action, **Juliet Walters** uses contrasting techniques of burnishing and carving and will be showing the construction of her 'containment' pieces
- New in 2011, Japanese artist **Masahiro Kumagae** will be demonstrating the clay slab technique he uses in the creation of functional tableware
- Well-known name **Tony Laverick** returns to demonstrate throwing and turning methods
- Another familiar face, **Lawrence McGowan** uses the traditional majolica technique in the brush decoration of his stoneware pots
- **Keith Munro** will be coiling and burnishing bowls and vases
- Newcomer **Reiko Nagata** from Japan will demonstrate cobalt decoration and red enamel on glaze painting
- Also from Japan and a new face in 2011, **Tomoko Okuda** will be making cut ceramic work
- **Fritz Rossmann** employs some unusual methods in throwing and structuring different porcelain bodies. He will also talk about the history of porcelain
- New to Art in Action, **Peter Seabridge** will demonstrate the throwing and making of altered functional pieces
- Potter **John Stroomer** from Australia is known for his creation of classical curves and fine-necked bottle forms. He will be hand throwing various pots on the wheel and working with the elusive and volatile crystalline glaze
- Another new entry for 2011, **Penny Withers** explores forms created by interaction with spinning clay to throw her ceramic ware
- **Francoise Dufayard** will be using slip decoration and 'slab' techniques in his work
- **Jeremy Nichols** returns to demonstrate his open handle teapots and jugs made using components thrown on the wheel and cast in moulds
- Returner **Ruthanne Tudball** will be demonstrating her methods of manipulating and assembling forms whilst wet before lifting them off the wheel
- **Ben Boswell** is a photographer who has taken portraits of some of the most important ceramicists in recent years. His exhibition which is featured in the 250th issue of Ceramic Review includes David and Margaret Frith, Clive Bowen and Svend Bayer.

Notes for Editors

Art in Action is a festival of fine art and master craftsmanship started in 1977 and staged in the grounds of Waterperry House, Oxfordshire. Each July artists set up their studios in one of the many marquees and work in front of visitors, giving them the rare opportunity to observe the creative process at first hand.

One of the many unique features of Art in Action is the large selection of practical classes on offer. There are opportunities for over 3000 visitors to take a class in a wide and eclectic number of subjects from mosaic making for 3-7 yrs to etching for the over 16s. Half of the classes are run by some of the UK's most prestigious and established colleges and institutions, including City and Guilds, West Dean College,

the Prince's School of Traditional Art and the Guild of Glass Engravers. A number of classes can be booked in advance online (www.artinaction.org.uk), but demand is high. Following a class, enthusiasts can purchase art materials and publications to refine their skills or just get started. There is also the Craft Market where more than 100 designer-makers sell quality goods.

In addition, Art in Action offers fine music, performing artists and storytelling for children. There are lectures organised by NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies) and visitors can take guided tours of the beautiful Waterperry gardens and the exquisite frescoes on the walls of Waterperry House that were completed in 2006 - a 10-year project. There is a wide range of refreshments: cream teas from the Pear Tree Teashop, a good selection of wines, champagne and Pimm's and numerous organic and artisan food stalls throughout the site. Art in Action is truly a celebration of creativity as well as a great day out for families and art lovers.

Watch a short film about Art in Action on the website: www.artinaction.org.uk

Event details

Venue: Art in Action
Waterperry House, Near Wheatley
OXFORD OX33 1JZ

Website: www.artinaction.org.uk

Tel: 020 7381 3192

Date/time: 21-24 July 2011, open 10am-5.30pm daily

Tickets:

Adults	£15 (Booked online £14.00)
Senior citizens	£12 (Booked online £11.00)
Concessions	£8 (Booked online £7.00)
Child (9-17 years)	£5 (Booked online £4.00)
Under-9s	Free

Family and season tickets available
Car parking free
Party rates for pre-booked minibuses and a limited number of coaches by arrangement – contact the office (020 7381 3192) in advance