

Guild at a Glance

September 2018

www.victoriapotters.ca

Volume 20 Issue 1

September Meeting

Tuesday 7:30 PM September 4, 2018 - Note Special Date

Program: Show and Tell – 'What I Did Over the Summer'

Submissions for Calendar and October Newsletter to helen.pedneault@shaw.ca by September 28, 2018

Did you know?? Long time Guild member **Tobias Tomlinson** has some of his work on display at Carole James' contingency office (1084 Fort Street, Victoria BC) until October 9, 2018.



Samantha Dickie – featured artist at Madrona Gallery606 View Street Victoria BC



Steven Hill: Throwing Relaxed & Gestural Forms (Also Known As: Learning to Let Go) – Sally Manning

Steven Hill was back at MISSA this summer with a five-day throwing workshop for potters with five or more years' experience. I qualified - just. I first met Steven in 2014 at MISSA when I attended his eight-day glazing workshop and then again in 2016 when I took his five-day 'Finding Your Voice' workshop.

Knowing that Steven was once again doing a workshop at MISSA in 2018, I was online at 9:00 a.m. sharp the morning that the website opened for early registration for Friends of MISSA. I secured a spot and then promptly started to worry. How could I possibly measure up to what other more experienced potters would be turning out of their wheels? I knew from Steven's 2016 workshop that I needed to spend more time at my wheel, but life gets in the way and I hadn't been doing that on a regular basis. Still, it was Steven Hill, and I knew that I really needed to take this workshop.



Steven Hill is a warm and friendly man, a great story teller with a self-deprecating sense of humour, but more than that, he is a beautiful potter. As an aside, I once remarked to Meira Mathison at a MISSA workshop that I loved the way pottery instructors shared everything in their workshops. Meira leaned over to me and said, "If they don't, they're not invited back." That epitomizes Steven ... he shares information, including glaze recipes and firing schedules freely.

Having followed Steven's work for five years, I was familiar enough with his work to recognize a big shift in style when on Sunday evening before the workshop, the other students and I, unpacked his store of pots. While the glazing style was still there, the shapes had changed and there was an absence of the slip that is so recognizable in his work; Steven had changed - how exciting! He had a story - one of many - to tell about how the change had happened. Thankfully, all of Steven's stories relate to the workshop that he teaches, which is something that not all instructors have learned to do.

Steven demonstrated the making of his new styles, throwing both small and large forms and explaining along the way why and how he was doing what he did. He encouraged critiques from the students, something that I found endeared him more to me. I am always surprised when experienced potters show what I consider to be their vulnerable side.

I think that it might have been that - Steven's opening himself up to critique - along with the support of the potters around me that helped me to let go. My thrown work has always been very plain, measured, and safe. I have not experimented with making pots of more than two or three pounds. But something happened in this workshop that led me to experiment with different shapes and altering my pots. I was so darned excited when I altered a pot so that it that reminded me of the ocean, I think I actually shouted out something like, "Hot damn, I did it!" (My apologies to my fellow students if I disturbed you.)



Sally's Yunomis with Gestural Lines

And then, by golly, didn't I make my first ever plate and a serving bowl with an altered rim!

On the last day of the workshop, students were invited to show one or two pieces that they had thrown during the workshop and receive critiques from both Steven and the rest of the group. The critiques were insightful, positive and helpful. For me, that part of the workshop was just as valuable as the instruction and demonstrations.



Sally's Bowl

So thank you, Steven and MISSA potters, for helping me to continue to find my voice and learning to let go!
Sally Manning

HOW I SPENT MY TIME AT MISSA – KRISTIN JEFFREY

I did the Debra Sloan weekend which was building sculptures from slabs. We were asked to come with an idea and maybe pictures of what we may like to create. There wasn't a lot of time wasted with introductions and demonstrations as it was just the weekend, so we dug right in with rolling out our slabs and preparing to build.

Debra showed us about how to attach parts, make darts in the clay, and to use paddling as a way to firm up our pieces, and solidify our joins. She was very available and hands on to each student individually when asked for help!

Kris with her pots



I think the best thing I came away with, my AHA! moment, was when she showed how to make lips properly on faces. Technique and detail!

Debra became interested in clay in school when she was 17 and continued on studying it into her early 20's and has continued all her life creating and teaching clay, her passion.



Heidi Roemer

Donna Ruttan

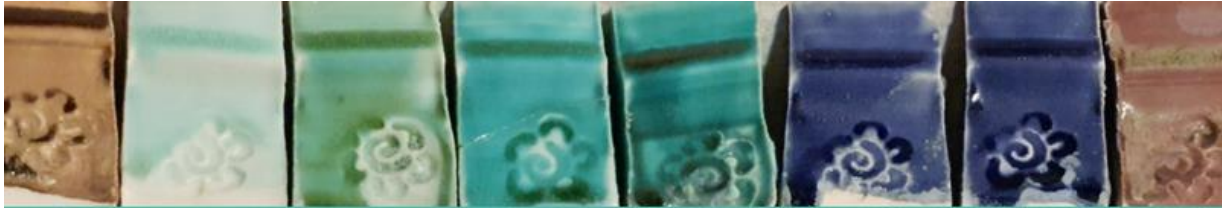


Judith Hale

Ceramics employment opportunity - Saanich

Saanich Municipality is hiring a Program Technician for ceramics at Cedar Hill Rec Centre. For more information go to the following link:

<http://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/local-government/careers-at-saanich/current-employment-opportunities/program-technician-arts-1.html>



Understanding Glazes: GLAZE COLOURS AND CONSISTENCY

Level 2 workshop with Sue at
Coast Collective Arts Centre, Victoria, BC

Nov 11, 2018 12:30-4:30pm

\$60

info@suemcleodceramics.com

www.SueMcLeodCeramics.com

September 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Guild Meeting 7:30 p.m. St. Michael's Church Hall	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Jennifer Ling Datchukas Shadbolt Centre	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
October 2018						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Guild Meeting 7:30 p.m. St. Michael's Church Hall	9	10	11	12 from FLAT to FORM" workshop = Katrina Chaytor Salt Spring Island (pre register)	13 Cedar Hill Rec Centre – workshop Handles and Lugs 9:30 to 12:30 Faro Sullivan (pre register)
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

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Contact the *At a Glance* editor
helen.pedneault@shaw.ca

Guild at a *Glance*

... is the newsletter for the South Vancouver Island Potters Guild.

It is published monthly, September through June. It's distributed by email to all members and some copies are available at Guild meetings. The newsletter is also posted online at www.victoriapotters.ca

Articles and items of interest to members are welcome and will be included as space permits. Items for inclusion are best emailed to the editor
helen.pedneault@shaw.ca

**SUBMISSIONS REQUESTED BEFORE
THE FIRST OF THE MONTH**

The Executive

President:	Daniel Casey	250 418 0814
Vice-Pres:	Pam Truscott-White	250.474.5434
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	Monika Burrell	778 351 3988

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	Ester G.	250.658.4523
	Tobias T.	250.383.3893



**Victoria
Clay Art**

654 Burnside Road W.
Victoria BC V8Z 1M8

Here is a list of my favorite pottery tools, glazes and things. Dan

All available at Victoria Clay Art

Mud Tool Ribs
Amaco PC-20 Blue Rutile [cone 6]
Alphabet Stamp Set
2" Goat Hair Fan Brush
Magic Water
Stroke & Coat SC-74 Hot Tomale [cone 08-10]
MKM Finger Rollers
Xiem Telescoping Sponge on a Stick
Mud Tool Blue Sponge
Amaco Velvet Underglaze V-361 Jet Black
Aardvark Cone 5 BEE-Mix
Mud Tool Clay Cutting Wire [green handle]
MKM Wood Stamps
Paper Clay cone 06, 6, or 10

**Come in and look around, we're open
10:00am to 5:00pm Mon-Sat**

Vancouver Island Pottery Supply

515 Stanford Avenue E.
Parksville, BC
V9T 6V6

Phone: 1-250-248-2314

E-Mail: sales@vipotterysupply.com

Web: www.vipotterysupply.com

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Sicily April 29 - May 17, 2019

At the heart of the Mediterranean, off the toe of the Italian peninsula, the triangular island of Sicily has been dominated by many rulers throughout its 3,000 years history. Greeks and Romans, Byzantines and Arabs, the Normans and the Spanish left a stunning array of artistic masterpieces. Today's artists continue the Sicilian tradition of hand painted majolica ceramics on terracotta vessels and tiles.

Morocco October 7-28, 2019.

Visit the Imperial Cities of Rabat, Fes and Meknes. Explore the ancient Roman ruins and mosaics at Volubilis. Wander the narrow lanes of Chefchaouen with its red tiled roofs and bright blue buildings. Work with the women potters in the hilltop village of D'Har.

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