



# CHINESE CLAYART NEWSLETTER

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## CHINESE CLAYART

"CHINESE CLAYART" is a newsletter emailed bi-monthly to professional artists, curators, collectors, writers, experts, educators and students in the ceramic field, who want to know about ceramic art in China and things related. This newsletter will be a bridge between China and Western countries for the ceramic arts. Comments and suggestions are very welcome. (Copyright 2007, the Chinese Ceramic Art Council, USA. All rights reserved.)

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## NEW BOOK and DVD

**Film: The World Center of Teapot Making—Yixing China**

Producer: Chinese Ceramic Art Council USA

Introduction: Yixing (e-shing in English pronunciation), also known as Yangxian in ancient time, is about three hours' driving distance from Shanghai. Ceramic production in the local areas can be traced to Neolithic time, and the purple sand ("Zisha" in Chinese)-brownish clay is made into palm-sized unglazed stoneware teapots--the best known are from Yixing. Yixing City has been famously named as the "Pottery Capital" of China. Yixing also attracts tourists with its famous bamboo, tea,

and caves. There are over eighty caves in the mountain area.

The Yixing art that amazes Western culture is perfected in the artists' craftsmanship, variation of design, details of decoration (realistic insects, flowers, leaves, tree trunks or wood textures), all hand building techniques. Yixing ceramists join Chinese scholars, literati, painters, calligraphers, poets and patrons--all together creating a rich teapot history.

The film is about 53 minutes and in sections. The first section introduces the environment of Yixing and the history of Yixing teapots. The second section is about the ceramic cultural exchanges between Yixing and the international ceramic world. The last section demonstrates the whole process of Yixing teapot-making techniques demonstrated by well-known artist Meiqun Gu.

From the author: I have been working on this film since 1996. I like to show to audience the huge water jars stacked by the waterfront, and the boats carrying the pots on the canal. I took photos every time I went to Yixing. Change has been so quick in China, many of the sites in my film have gone and are replaced by high rise buildings.

This DVD is available for \$18 each (regular price is \$21), plus shipping and handing fee at [www.ChineseClayArt.com](http://www.ChineseClayArt.com).

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## **TRAVEL**

### **Ceramic China**

20 days. Beijing, Xi'an, Three Gorges, Jingdezhen, Yixing and Shanghai. Oct. 8 - 27, 2007.

Cost: \$4,200. The fee includes international air tickets, local transportation, lodging, three meals a day, workshop tools and materials, and tour guides/interpreters. Please buy your own insurance. \$100 discount if you sign up and pay a 50% payment before August 15, 2007.

Day 1, Leave from the San Francisco airport.

Day 2, Arrive in Beijing in the evening.

Day 3, Visit the Great Wall in the morning and and Lulichang in the afternoon.

Day 4, Visit the antique market of Panjiayuan in the early morning and Tiananmen Square, and the Ancient Palace Museum/The Forbidden City in the afternoon.

Day 5, Visit Tshinghua University and participate in an exchange with the faculty and student. Take the overnight train to Xi'an in the evening.

Day 6, Arrive Xi'an in the morning, visit Chenlu (an historical ceramic village) and Yaozhou Museum.

Day 7, Visit the Terri-cotta Warriors Museum. Take an airplane to Chongqing.

Days 8 - 11, Four days on a Yangtze River Cruise.

Day 12, Take the bus from Wuhan to Jingdezhen.

Day 13, One-day tour in Yaoli Village and Gaolin Mountain.

Day 14, One-day tour in Jingdezhen: the Ancient Porcelain Factory and Museum, Jingdezhen Ceramics Institute, Hutian Porcelain Factory (12' vases are made here), and the Jingdezhen Sculptural Factory. Take the overnight train to Nanjing.

Day 15, Arrive in Nanjing and take a 2-hour bus to Yixing.

Day 16, One day tour in Yixing: artists' studios, Qain-shu dragon kiln site, Yixing Ceramics Museum, and Teapot Market. Slide talk in the evening.

Day 17, Visit clay art tool stores, participate in a hands-on workshop (teapot or sculpture using local clay, tools and techniques--the art works will be fired and shipped to the US within three months).

Day 18, 3-1/2 hour bus ride to Shanghai, shopping and relax in hotel. One-hour cruise on the Huangpu River.

Day 19, Visit Shanghai Museum in the morning and Yu-yuan Garden and the market in the afternoon.

Day 20, Leave from Pudong Airport for home and arrive in San Francisco the morning of the same day.

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## **LETTERS**

## **Relocation of Chinese Clay Art and ClayGround**

Chinese Clay Art / ClayGround Studio

1155 S. De Anza Blvd., San Jose, CA 95129

Huntingdon Village Shopping Center, near highway 85, next to Nob Hill Foods.

Office hours:

Monday -- Friday, 9 am -- 6 pm,

Saturday 10 am -- 5 pm;

Sunday, Appointment only.

Phone: 408-343-3919, Toll free: 800-689-2529

[www.chineseclayart.com](http://www.chineseclayart.com) Email: [chineseclayart@hotmail.com](mailto:chineseclayart@hotmail.com)

Effective April 28, we are moving to our new address at 1155 S. De Anza Blvd., San Jose, CA 95129, in the Huntingdon Village Shopping Center, near highway 85, next to Nob Hill Foods. This is across street from the original location of ClayGround.

Our phone number and toll free number will stay the same: 408-343-3919 and 800-689-2529. The phone number 408-777-8319 will be reserved for residential use only, and the PO Box 1733, Cupertino, CA 95015 will be kept.

**Chinese Clay Art**, our online store, was established in 2001, as our nation-wide clay art supplies business. In our new location, our studio and clay supplies store will be merged together.

**ClayGround**, the ceramic art studio, was established at 1253 Kentwood Ave., San Jose in 1999 as a ceramic art school teaching clay techniques to children and adults. At the new location, the sign will read "ClayGround" only, and occupy a space of 1475 square feet. The clay studio and clay art retail store will be together and we will be able to provide better services and more products to our valued customers.

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## **ACTIVITIES**

### **at ClayGround, San Jose, California**

Yixing Teapot Exhibition Opening Reception and Yixing DVD

April 27, Friday 7 am – 9 pm; free admission

Movie 8-9 pm: DVD: The World Center of Teapot Making – Yixing, China

The exhibition will be on display from April 27 – May 28, 2007.

Teapot Workshop with Meiqun Gu

April 28, Saturday; 10 am – 5 pm.

Building your own Yixing Teapots with visiting Yixing artist Meiqun Gu. Everyone will be able to make a teapot with Yixing purple sand clay and Chinese traditional tools. No experience needed.

Fee: \$80 payable to CCA. (\$20 off for ACGA members). Instruction and 3 pounds of Yixing clay are included.

Open House

April 29, Sunday, 10 am – 5 pm.

Free admission and hands-on activities for children and adults.

Grand Opening Sale

All clay supplies, books and the DVD will be available at our retail store with 15% off purchases made at our retail store from April 27 to May 31, 2007.

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## **OPPORTUNITIES**

Job Opening: Clay Instructors and Marketing Manager

Clay Instructor, part-time

Job Description: Teach YMCA summer camps for children from 5-12 years old and after school programs. The teaching job may extend to a long term position.

Location: 1155 S. De Anza Blvd., San Jose, CA 95129 (west San Jose near highway 85)

Requirement: Instructors need to have experience with clay materials and know techniques of hand-building as well as using a pottery wheel. Must be patient with children.

Teaching Hours: Hours are based on business needs. Regular classes will be in the afternoons from 2:30 pm to 6:00 pm Monday – Friday, and all day Saturday and Sunday. The summer camps will be on weekdays, either in the morning or afternoon. The summer camp will be in session from 10 am-12 noon, Monday – Friday, June 25 – August 17, 2007.

Salary: \$50 per two-hour class.

Manager of Marketing Department, full-time

Chinese Clay Art Corporation is a developing company based in San Jose, California. Due to its business needs, we are looking for a marketing department manager to further increase our sales.

Job description: Manage advertisements through internet, magazines, emails and other media.

Location; 1155 S. De Anza Blvd., San Jose, CA 95129 (west San Jose near highway 85)

Requirements: bachelor's degree with at least 2 years of experience related to business management; good communication and people skills, comprehensive computer knowledge (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.), and a desire to work in a multicultural environment with growth opportunities.

Salary: \$2,000/ month and up based on experience.

Please send resume through email to

[ChineseClayArt@yahoo.com](mailto:ChineseClayArt@yahoo.com).

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## **CONFERENCE AND EVENT**

### **The 2nd International Wood Firing Conference, Foshan, China**

June 23-28, 2007

Contents:

Grand Opening of the "International Wood Firing Institute of the Shiwan Nanfeng Ancient Kiln" and the "International Ceramic Artists Village of the Shiwan Nanfeng Ancient Kiln";

International Ceramic Art Exhibition – Shiwan;

American Raku Firing and Demonstration, film screening of "International Wood firings."

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