

CLAY WORKS

POT SHOP & GALLERY

In 1972, CLAY WORKS became the name for twelve potters who rented a warehouse in Richmond. With the help of a Canada Council Explorations grant, they collectively built a 200 cubic foot car kiln, raku kilns and a 100 cubic foot salt kiln and darkroom. They worked, each independently, in this studio for ten years. Simultaneously, a shop/gallery was established on Robson Street which became the exclusive outlet for seven of the CLAY WORKS artists. The POT SHOP & GALLERY became well known and appreciated for innovative pottery priced by the potter. The uniqueness of decoration and forms combined with the extensiveness of the selection, made this shop a legend. There is a full range of work from sculptural to functional--in porcelain, stoneware, raku and earthenware, with photo decals, brushwork and pencil drawings.

In 1982, CLAY WORKS leased a large building from the Granville Island Trust. This provides studio space for nine members and one guest artist, a dark room area for photo decal preparation and a gallery to display unique pieces.

Both the POT SHOP & GALLERY at 1723 Robson Street and at 1359 Cartwright Street display the creative work of a talented group of people who have established themselves as innovative, dedicated and honest artists who look forward to working in a new location and anticipate exciting changes and growth in their exploration of clay.

Something about the originals:

Jack Olive: Founder of CLAY WORKS; born in Thunder Bay, Ontario; BA in Chemistry and Mathematics; 2 years ceramics and graphics at Moorhead State College; present director of CLAY WORKS.

Douglas Taylor: Founder of CLAY WORKS; born in Chilliwack, B.C.; Kootenay School of Art, S.F.U., Emily Carr; part-time t.a. in ceramics at E.C.C.A; present director of CLAY WORKS.

Gail Olive: Born in Charles City, Iowa; B.Sc, MA Science; 5 years teaching; member of CLAY WORKS since its beginning; involved with hand-built fantasy pieces; currently driving taxi part-time.

Brad MacFadyen: Born in Regina, Sask.; studied, worked with M. Levine and M. Bolen in Saskatchewan; taught 2 years in the Extension Dept., U. of R.; joined CLAY WORKS in 1975.

Maureen Wright: Born in North Vancouver, B.C.; worked in private studies in Vancouver, 1971-75; joined CLAY WORKS, 1976.

O'Byrne Taylor: Born in Saskatoon, Sask.; BA B.Ed; 2 years teaching; director of POT SHOP & GALLERY on Robson St. since 1971 and director of POT SHOP & GALLERY on Granville Island.

POT SHOP & GALLERY
1723 Robson St.,
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POT SHOP & GALLERY
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