



NEWSLETTER VOLUME XXXIV NUMBER 4 JANUARY 2024

UPDATE: Thank you for your patience: Our December speaker has yet to regain her voice, but as soon as possible, the link to Dr. Lehner-Jobst's recorded lecture will be sent to members.



Bowl, 13-14th century. Pierides Museum, Larnaka, Cyprus.

Knotted snake incised and painted slipware with lead glaze. Photo courtesy of Henry Pownall Maguire.

"Ceramics From the Vanished Byzantine Empire"

by Eunice Maguire,
Scholar and Art Historian

Sponsored by Janice Rabinowitz

Monday, January 8 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

Register for the Zoom Lecture at

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/8016780466954/WN_3GDIVD2QSSanCmc0B8C43

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Please join us on Monday, January 8 online for Eunice Maguire's lecture when she will discuss ceramics from the vanished Byzantine Empire that existed from 330 CE to 1453. Compared with silver or gold, marble or painted stucco, glazed pottery offered attractive opportunities for relatively inexpensive religious applications. But our ideas today of the tastes and culture of the people of the Eastern medieval empire have been almost exclusively skewed toward the formulaic religious and imperial art that survives in churches or in ruins,

evoking even in spiritual settings the luxury of precious materials. This bias in our own perception makes lead-glazed tableware made of clay for use at home very precious for the insight it can give us through its decoration with seemingly impromptu designs. We see abstract compositions or humorous images of warriors and dancers, ladies and lovers, birds and animals both real and imaginary: rare glimpses into the lively tastes of people outside the palace or the church.

Throughout her life, Eunice Dauterman Maguire has had the good fortune to be surrounded by people who take pleasure in ceramics as part of a broader delight in art, in architecture, and in the history of human living that these things express. She was brought up in New York and New England and then became part of an international English family. With study promoted by the Courtauld Institute of Art, her professional interest in the visual arts grew out of an early astonishment at meanings hidden in the images of medieval literature. Wondering about the sources of European architectural sculpture led her to write a doctoral thesis at Harvard focused on carvings from the early Byzantine empire; in the process she looked for evidence of design contributions from the panoply of arts and crafts that shaped the visual environment of daily life. Soon afterward at Krannert Art Museum at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, she co-curated two exhibitions that, with their publications, became significant milestones on the path to this way of thinking: one in 1989, presenting objects of material art as interdependent with things designed for everyday use, and the other in 1992, introducing a group of Byzantine ceramic tableware in what was acknowledged as the first exhibition of Byzantine glazed pottery anywhere since one in Athens in 1941. Next, she was on the staff of the Metropolitan Museum of Art for a couple of years, preparing a section devoted to ceramics in a major exhibition *The Glory of Byzantium*. In the footsteps of her father Carl C. Dauterman, she has enjoyed a teaching career giving university students in Illinois and at Johns Hopkins access to museum collections through her curatorial work.

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Zoom has instituted updates, so please make sure you've updated your Zoom account before clicking on the link sent to you by Zoom for January 8.



Drinking cup (goblet), 14th century. Pierides Museum, Larnaka, Cyprus.
Incised and painted slipware with lead glaze. Photo courtesy of Henry Pownall Maguire.

RSVP Now for Members January 24 Luncheon and Tour of Greenwich Historical Society's Katherine Choy Exhibit!

Let's have some winter conviviality over lunch, along with an intimate look at the ceramics exhibit by pioneer ceramist Katherine Choy (1927-1958)!

On Wednesday, January 24, 2024, CCC members will join the CCC Research Committee for an in-person tour at 1:30 p.m. at the Greenwich Historical Society's current joint exhibit with the Clay Art Center, *Radical Pots & Cooperative Hands: Katherine Choy and the Clay Art Center*. The tour will be given by GHS curator Maggie Dimock and will be preceded by lunch at 11:30 a.m. at the Coast Seafood restaurant on Putnam Avenue in Cos Cob.

Please RSVP to Jennifer Ketay Brock at ketaybrock@gmail.com or at 401.965.1765 if you would like to join the group for this fun event. We're excited about this get-together and the opportunity to learn more about the nationally recognized works of Katherine Choy!

January 15, 2024 Deadline Approaching for Connecticut Ceramics Circle Grant for 2023-2024

The Connecticut Ceramics Circle ("CCC") is pleased to announce that we will offer a Grant or Grants for research or a project in the field of ceramics. Such research or project must further the CCC's mission "to promote the understanding of pottery and porcelain and to disseminate knowledge about diverse topics in the field of the ceramic arts."

The total funding for the 2023-2024 award or awards will not be more than \$2500. Applications and Terms and Conditions will be available on the CCC website (ccceramicsc.org) beginning September 15, 2023, and completed applications must be received by January 15, 2024. Applications will be reviewed by the CCC Board of Directors, and all applicants will be notified of the results of the review process by March 15, 2024. The final project will be due one year from the date of notification of the award.

Questions regarding the requirements or process may be emailed to the CCC at connecticutceramicscircle@gmail.com.



Exceptional New Acquisition by Wadsworth Atheneum

The Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art in Hartford, CT, has recently acquired a truly splendid life-sized and intricately detailed Boar's Head Tureen, crafted from tin-glazed earthenware in Delft during the years 1750-60. The remarkable naturalistic painting, executed with meticulous brushwork, reflects an extraordinary dedication to precision and detail. This commitment is notably evident in the depiction of the leaves on the stand, rendered in various shades of green and yellow. The boar's countenance is particularly captivating, its expression appearing almost human as it seemingly comes to terms with its destiny as a vanquished yet delectable creature. Additionally, the tureen's reverse design, resembling a ham, unveils the playful facet of the eighteenth century, a facet that resonates even today.

This acquisition not only enriches the museum's esteemed collection of Dutch Delftware but also provides a captivating exemplar of the era's artistry and wit.



Boar's Head Tureen and Stand, c. 1750-60, Dutch, Delft. Tin-glazed earthenware, 15-7/8" l x 11-1/4" h (40.3 x 28.5 cm) Purchased through the gift of Henry and Walter Keney, 2023.36.1a-c.

World Auction Record Set for Works by Foundational Artist Lucy Rie

Bonham's Cornette de Saint Cyr branch in Paris reports a record-breaking price for a bowl by Lucy Rie, as well as a high price for a piece by Hans Coper, two pioneers in ceramic arts of the 20th century, at their sale on December 6. The Rie piece brought 406,800 Euros and the Coper piece 165,500 Euros. More information on the sale, which included other Rie and Coper pieces, among other artists, can be found at <https://www.bonhams.com/auction/29858/hans-coper-lucie-rie-jennifer-lee-ceramic-masterpieces-from-a-french-private-collection/>.



Footed Bowl, circa 1980, Lucy Rie. Porcelain, inlaid radiating lines, turquoise and manganese bands, impressed with artist's seal. H. 3 and 3/4" (9.5 cm), D. 3 11/16 (22.8 cm)

Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

January 17: "Shopping with Dr. Wall -- A Visit to Worcester's London Showroom in 1755," lecture on Zoom by Worcester porcelain authority and BBC Antiques Roadshow expert, John Sandon. Presented by Museum of Royal Worcester, at 1:00 p.m. ET. Tickets at <https://museum-of-royal-worcester.arttickets.org.uk/museum-of-royal-worcester/2024-01-17-winter-online-talk-john-sandon-on-shopping-with-dr-wall-worcesters-london-showroom-in-1755?t=1703279987954>.

January 18: "The Morse Collection of Historical 'Old Blue' Staffordshire at the American Antiquarian Society," lecture on Zoom by Dr Anne Anderson FSA, Hon. Associate Professor at Exeter University. TCC Nonmembers wishing to attend the Zoom lecture should go to <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/x31P4aP/worldwide> and provide an email address in order to receive the lecture Zoom link.

January 19-28: The Winter Antiques Show takes over the Park Avenue Armory with 68 prominent dealers showing their wares at this 70th annual event benefitting the East Side House Settlement. Tickets at <https://www.thewintershow.org/tickets>.

Ongoing: The Museum of Ceramic Art - New York (MoCA/NY) is pleased to announce their launch of website www.moca-ny.org, a virtual museum dedicated to fostering the appreciation, understanding, and enjoyment of ceramics. Try their interactive Ceramic World Destinations Map (CWD) and Explore Editorial Blog!

Functioning as a nexus for global interchange and uniting the international ceramic community, the website caters to ceramic enthusiasts, art professionals, academics, students and those interested in the arts. Through exhibitions, research, education and scholarship, MoCA/NY aims to increase the visibility and amplify the prominence of clay, while introducing new audiences to traditional and contemporary ceramics. Judith Schwartz, President of MoCA/NY, invites us all to keep up-to-date with the latest exhibitions, contemporary ceramicists, clay technologies and more.

Ongoing: Through February 25: At the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City, 'Outside the Palace of Me,' an exhibit of works by Canadian ceramist Shary Boyle.

Through March 24, Also at the Museum of Arts and Design, not ceramics-related, but for those who want to learn more about the Taylor Swift phenomenon, the exhibit 'Taylor Swift: Storyteller' will help. <https://madmuseum.org> for more information.

Ongoing: Through June 30, 2025: At the American Museum of Contemporary Ceramics (AMOCA) in Pomona, California, the exhibit 'A Traveler's Guide to Mettlach: Villeroy and Boch' presents concepts of life, laughter, relationships, and the day-to-day existence of the German people in the home of Villeroy and Boch.

February 12: "Frozen Treats: The Development of the Ice Cream Cooler," by Ivan Day, Independent Historian of Social History and of the Culture of Food, Cumbria, England. Connecticut Ceramic Circle at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom. Register at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/6016952350637/WN_6RxKSI7QQEKo2THdIj8Aaw.



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