



4-26 East 8th Street, New York City

“City of Tiles: New York from Subway Stations to the Tops of Skyscrapers”

by Francis Morrone,  
Architectural Historian and Author

Sponsored by Jamie Clarke

Monday, January 13 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4517331757751/WN\\_Z0-THldCT9Ky5xpFD4IWrg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4517331757751/WN_Z0-THldCT9Ky5xpFD4IWrg)

Please join the Connecticut Ceramics Circle on Monday, January 13 at 2:00 p.m., when Francis Morrone will introduce us to the ceramic tiles of all sorts that have been widely used to decorate buildings, both inside and out, in New York from the 19th century to the present day. Following a brief survey of ornamental tilework in European and American architecture, he will focus on New York, and survey the architectural uses of ceramics from Grueby, Rookwood, Mercer, and other producers in a lavishly illustrated lecture that will

show just how much ceramic decoration there is, from subway stations to the tops of skyscrapers.

Francis Morrone is an architectural historian and writer and the author of thirteen books, including *Guide to New York City Urban Landscapes* (W.W. Norton, 2013). With Henry Hope Reed, he wrote *The New York Public Library: The Architecture and Decoration of the Stephen A. Schwarzman Building* (W.W. Norton, 2011), as well as architectural guidebooks to Brooklyn and to Philadelphia. He is the recipient of the Arthur Ross Award of the Institute of Classical Architecture and Art, the Landmarks Lion Award of the Historic Districts Council, and New York University's Excellence in Teaching Award. He is a popular lecturer and leader of walking tours in New York and Europe and was named by Travel and Leisure Magazine as one of the thirteen best tour guides in the world.

Register here for the Zoom Lecture on Monday, January 13:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4517331757751/WN\\_Z0-THldCT9Ky5xpFD4IWrg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4517331757751/WN_Z0-THldCT9Ky5xpFD4IWrg)

Please note that Zoom has instituted updates, so make sure you've updated your Zoom account before clicking on the link sent to you by Zoom for this lecture.



139 East 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan

\*\*\*\*\*

**Save the Date! Connecticut Ceramics Circle  
Seminar Coming Up on February 10!**

On Monday, February 10, 2025, the CCC will hold its annual Seminar, to which invitations will soon appear in your mailbox. The title of the Seminar is "Ceramics in the English Country Houses of the National Trust: Asian Stories (Part I); European Stories (Part II)." We are lucky to have as presenter, Patricia Ferguson, Former Curator, British Museum and Victoria and Albert Museum,

and Honorary Advisor to the National Trust, London, via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Seminar fees are as follows: \$35 for members; \$45 for nonmembers; \$40 for those under 40; and \$75 for a 1/2 year membership and the Seminar.

Please register and pay via your Seminar invitation or at <https://www.cceramicssc.org/patricia-ferguson-seminar>.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Addition to CCC Directory

Please add the following member information to your Directory:

Neil Streets, 123 Richmond Hill Road, Unit 18, New Canaan, CT 06840;  
neil2020@gmail.com, 203.856.1755.

\*\*\*\*\*



CCC Member Visit to Michele Beiny, Inc., New York City. Photo credit: Richard White

### Visit to New York City Gallery

On Thursday, December 19, CCC members enjoyed a spectacular visit to the Upper East Side gallery of our member, Michele Beiny Harkins, proprietor of Michele Beiny, Inc. In front of many fine examples of Meissen, members were treated to a lively lecture about the development of hard-paste porcelain in the early 1700s and were shown and also able to handle several items. The gallery viewing was followed by luncheon nearby. Many thanks to Michele for her generosity in sharing these magnificent works of porcelain!



Marvels of Porcelain, Michele Beiny, Inc. Photo credit: J. Ketay Brock

\*\*\*\*\*|

## Hudson River Museum: Ceramics From the Gilded to the Digital Age Ongoing to March 9, 2025

From antique porcelain vases to contemporary dishware generated by AI technology, the exhibit *Clay Conversations* illuminates the power of ceramics to serve as vessels for personal and political expression. Juxtaposing selections from the Hudson River Museum’s Chinese porcelain collection with the work of seven New York–based artists, among them Adam Chau (former CCC Vice President), the exhibition spotlights how contemporary ceramicists reference and critique the medium’s longstanding ties to themes of exclusivity and exoticism.

*Clay Conversations* explores the resonance of this history for our times. Contemporary ceramicists Adam Chau, Patricia Encarnación, Karen Jaimes, Evelyn Mtika, and Yage Wang utilize archival research, digital technologies, and literary allusions to create narratively driven and functional ceramic forms. Through intricate designs and experimental shapes, the artists craft vessels that express the histories and experiences of communities often relegated to the margins of the art world.

The exhibition also features a large-scale mixed-media installation, especially commissioned for *Clay Conversations*, by Yonkers-based artist Rachel Sydlovski. More information about the Hudson River Museum, including directions, at <https://www.hrm.org/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

### AUCTION WATCH: Results

On December 11, Phillips in New York carried out the first United States single owner sale of the works of early potter, Lucy Rie's, all from an important

Asian collection. The sale results totalled \$8 million. The pre-sale promotional video, "Moved by Beauty," is quite lovely and can be seen at <https://www.phillips.com/Video?VideoId=26517>.

\*\*\*\*\*



Pitcher and Cups by Camille Beckles, Artist Participating in CAC Black History Month Celebration

## Two Intriguing Early Winter Exhibits at Port Chester's Clay Art Center

First, the Rising Stars Annual Student Exhibition will open on Saturday, January 18 at 10:00 a.m., closing at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 15. The exhibit features work from the adult, youth and community arts programs at the Clay Art Center, an example of which is seen below.

Then, midway through that exhibit, from February 1 to March 1, the Clay Art Center will celebrate Black History Month with an exhibit of the works of Camille Beckles, a potter from New York City, an example of whose contemporary style is seen above.

For more information on these exhibits and the Clay Art Center, go to <https://www.clayartcenter.org/events-at-clayartcenter>



Twins by Susan Wortman, in CAC's Rising Start Annual Student Exhibition.

---

## Elsewhere in the Decorative Arts

**January 8:** For the Museum of Royal Worcester, John Sandon give a talk, "A Chip Off the Old Pot," and will share memories and anecdotes of his late father, former Museum Curator and national treasure, Henry Sandon. To book your ticket, go to <https://museum-of-royal-worcester.arttickets.org.uk/?t=1735490289248>.

**Ongoing:** Over the next year, Stair Gallery will be auctioning items from our long-time member James LaBaugh's collection. Go to [www.stairgalleries.com](http://www.stairgalleries.com) for more information.

**Ongoing:** The Gardiner Museum in Toronto, Canada has embarked on their largest capital project in 20 years, with a \$15.5 million campaign for their reimagined ground floor. It will include a new fully equipped makerspace, a Community Learning Center, and an Indigenous Gallery space. Click on <https://www.gardinermuseum.on.ca/> for more information.

**Ongoing at the Everson Museum:** Through March 30, 2025, the Everson presents the exhibit, 'It Came from the 70s,' ceramics from their collection. <https://everson.org> for more information.

**February 10:** CCC Seminar: "Ceramics in the English Country Houses of the National Trust: Asian Stories (Part I); European Stories (Part II)" by Patricia Ferguson, Former Curator, British Museum and Victoria and Albert Museum, London, via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Register and pay at <https://www.cceramicsc.org/patricia-ferguson-seminar>.