Continuing Porcelains by Presence BROTHER THOMAS





"Looking at works by Thomas, I see the matchless originality of his imaginings. How can there be, anywhere on earth, pots like Thomas's? Each one a meditation, a singular shape no other mind could imagine. Thomas sees harmony. integration, wholeness, healing: the sublime. Thomas intends Beauty."

- CYNTHIA OZICK American short story writer, novelist, and essayist

Continuing | Porcelains by BROTHER THOMAS

o often I turn to the words and wisdom of Brother Thomas when writing about art, life, and the Gallery. When writing about Thomas, however, it does not feel appropriate.

What has become clear over the 14 years since his death is that he, his art, and his generous legacy are very present in our lives. I often wonder about an afterlife and feel certain that our daily inclusion of Brother Thomas's art and wisdom is that afterlife. Friends and Gallery visitors often ask: "Do you not miss him?" and I can candidly say: "He is very present for me and for all of us every day."

His gift of the spirit is carried on by all 56 Boston artists who have received the Brother Thomas Fellowship. His work, as part of the collections of 75 museums around the globe and in hundreds of private homes, bears out his desire that "the art is not complete until it is shared with others."

His luminous spirit glows in each of us who has been in the presence of his art. Just recently a small group of four visited the Gallery, and we luxuriated in the inner beauty that we each experienced as we moved quietly from piece to piece. A gentle sense of reverence descended and we were all uplifted.

Strange but true. Brother Thomas's path to the beautiful remains open to all who are open to receive it. The light within does burn and our small part of the world is for a moment a holy place.

His is a continuing presence.

-BHP, MAY 2021



Large Decorative Plate Blue and purple on tea dust white glaze 1.5 x 17.5 x 17.5" TH2219



Globe Vase, Inverted Neck Textured copper glaze 9 x 9 x 9" TH58B



Vase Purple on opal white glaze 13 x 9 x 9" TH1172B



Small Vase Night sky blue glaze 12.5 x 3.75 x 3.75" TH2112B





Vase Celadon glaze with fissures 6 x 5.5 x 5.5″ TH1835 (CC) *Vase* Copper red glaze 7.75 x 9 x 9["] TH322B



Small Vase Copper red glaze 11 x 7 x 7" TH2188

4



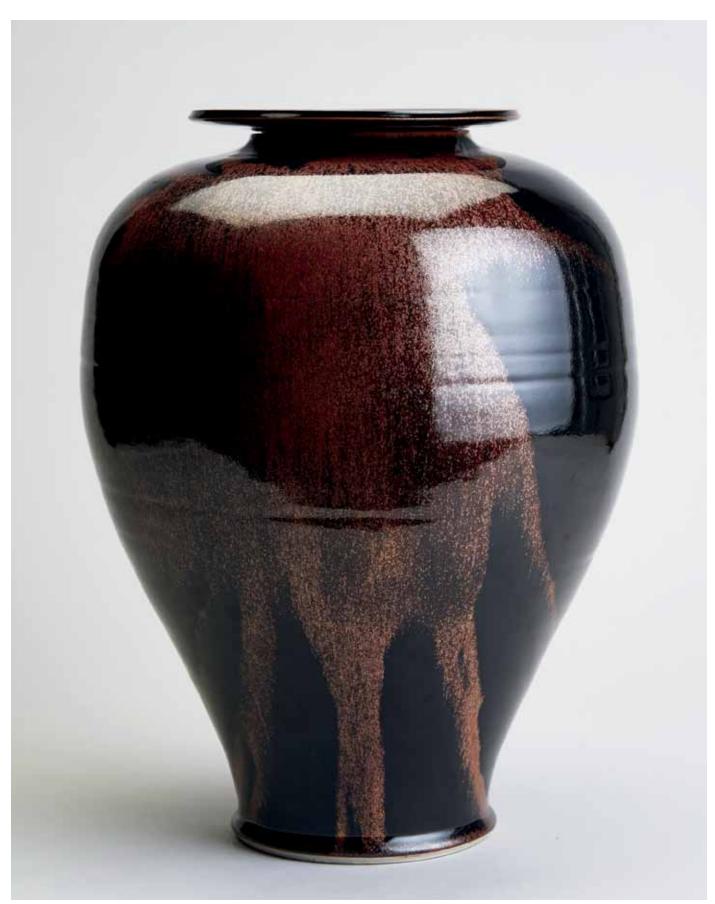
Large Decorative Plate Night sky blue glaze 2.5 x 19 x 19" TH1822B



Tea Bowl Green celadon glaze 3.75 x 4.75 x 4.75" TH401 (CC)



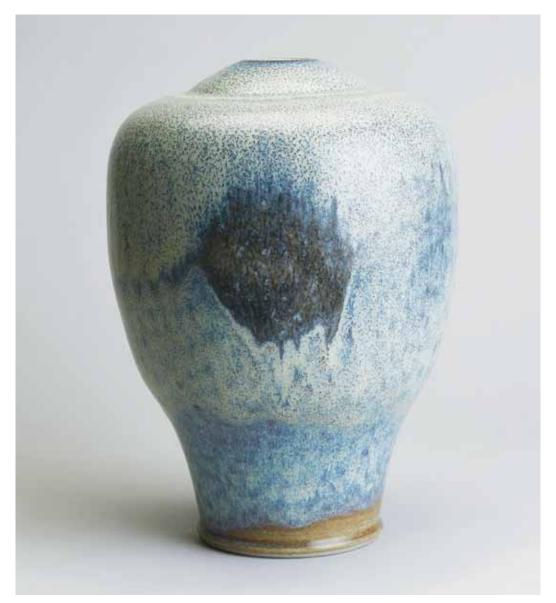
Tea Bowl Celadon glaze 3 x 6.75 x 6.75″ TH837 (CM)



Vase with Alternate Lid Honan tenmoku glaze 16 x 12 x 12″ TH495 (IIA)



Tea Bowl Light celadon glaze with textured interior 4 x 6.25 x 6.25″ TH1084B

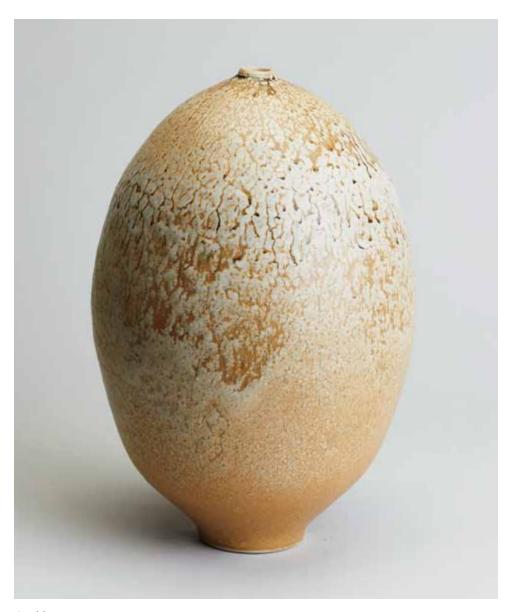


Vase Silver white textured glaze 12.5 x 9 x 9″ TH573B



Tall Vase Peacock glaze 19.75 x 4.5 x 4.5" TH772B

Tall Vase Copper blue on opal white glaze 16.75 x 5.5 x 5.5" TH769B



Ovoid Vase Kairagi glaze 13.5 x 9 x 9″ TH1814B





Tea Bowl Winter white glaze 3.5 x 5 x 5" TH1774B

Tea Bowl Emerald green celadon glaze 3.5 x 4.75 x 4.75″ TH2070 (CC)

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Tea Bowl Blue celadon semi-matte glaze 3.25 x 6 x 6″ TH2062B



Large Decorative Plate Rutile glaze 3 x 19.25 x 19.25" TH2133B



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Vase Claire de Lune glaze 9 x 8 x 8″ TH1646 (CC)

Mei Ping Form Vase with Lugs Dark green celadon glaze 10 x 9 x 9["] TH616B



Large Vase Pale blue chrysanthemum glaze 13 x 11.5 x 11.5" TH286B



Ovoid Vase Iridescent pearl glaze 18 x 9.5 x 9.5[°] TH203B



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Globular Vase Copper red glaze 12.25 x 12 x 12" TH302B



Vase Night sky blue glaze 7.5 x 5.25 x 5.25″ TH2249



Vase Lavender and white matte glaze 7.5 x 7.25 x 7.25" TH369B





Tall Vase Copper red glaze 18 x 5.75 x 5.75" TH771B

Vase Copper red on white glaze 15.5 x 4 x 4″ TH521B





Vase Copper Red Glaze 9 x 7 x 7″ TH2229



Vase Celadon with copper red and purple 11 x 9 x 9″ TH1463B



Vase Copper reds and green glaze 13.75 x 9 x 9" TH764B



Millennial Egg Vase Silver honan tenmoku glaze 18.75 x 9 x 9" TH410B





Vase with Lid Textured copper glaze 12 x 8.75 x 8.75″ TH765B



Vase Purple copper glaze 10.75 x 9.5 x 9.5″ TH1160 (IC)



Globular Form Vase Magenta copper glaze 9 x 9.25 x 9.25" TH60B



Tall Narrow Vase Honan tenmoku glaze 19 x 3 x 3″ TH889 *Tall Vase* Honan tenmoku glaze 19.25 x 4.25 x 4.25″ TH635B

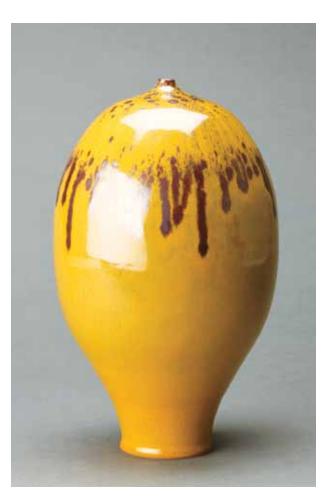




Canteen Form Vase Iron yellow glaze 10.25 x 8.5 x 4" TH1136B



Millennial Egg Vase Oil spot glaze 13.25 x 9 x 9["] TH922



Small Vase Saffron yellow iron glaze 11 x 6.5 x 6.5" TH661B



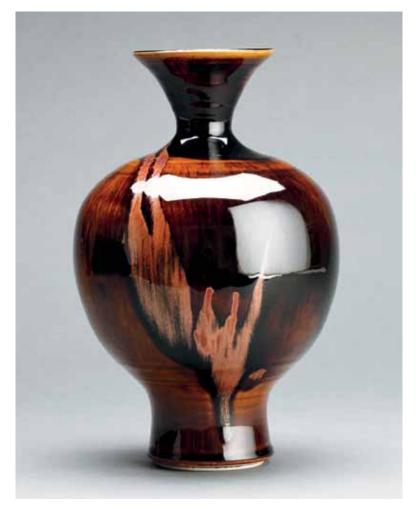
Platter Tenmoku with kaki glaze 1.75 x 16 x 16″ TH2207



Canteen Form Vase Silver tenmoku glaze 10.5 x 8.75 x 4.25" TH1941B



Canteen Form Vase Honan tenmoku glaze 10.5 x 8.75 x 4″ TH2230



Vase Honan tenmoku glaze 11.5 x 6.75 x 6.75″ TH1041 (CC)

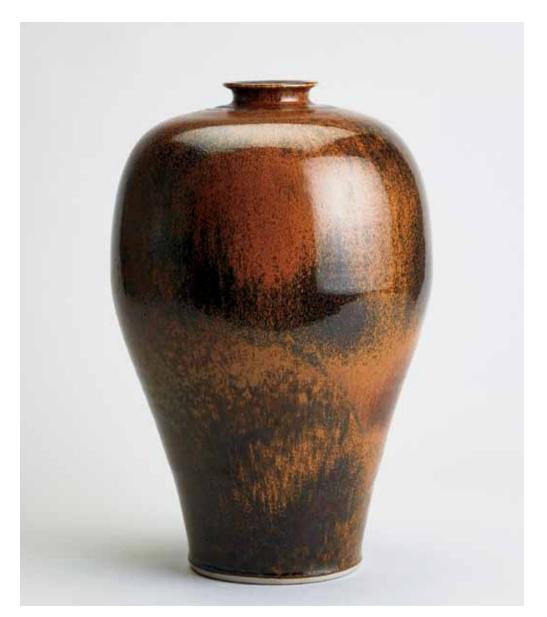


Vase Honan tenmoku glaze 19 x 9 x 9″ TH1296B





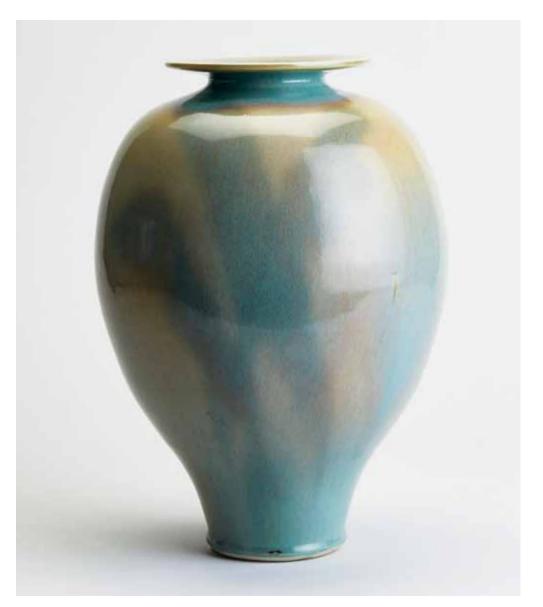
Tea Bowl Celadon with iron yellow glaze 3.75 x 5 x 5″ TH1100B



Mei Ping Form Vase Golden tenmoku glaze 13.75 x 8.75 x 8.75″ TH292B



Large Vase Honan tenmoku glaze 19.5 x 15.25 x 15.25" TH620B



Vase Tender green celadon glaze 13 x 9.25 x 9.25″ TH1319B





Tea Bowl Dark northern celadon "Suribachi" glaze 4.25 x 5.75 x 5.75″ TH1015

Tea Bowl Elm ash glaze 3.25 x 5 x 5″ TH2014B

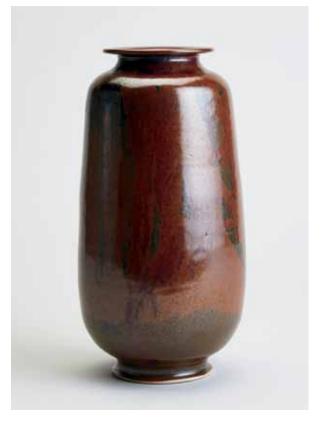


Ovoid Form Vase Tenmoku glaze 21 x 9.5 x 9.5" TH2255





Small Vase Copper blue and grey glaze 10.5 x 7 x 7" TH1433B



Vase Tessah glaze 11 x 5.25 x 5.25″ TH315B

Vase Blue green on opal white glaze 11.75 x 9.25 x 9.25″ TH719B



Brother Thomas Bezanson

rother Thomas Bezanson was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 1929. In 1950 he graduated from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design and in 1968 he received a Master of Art Degree in Philosophy from the University of Ottawa. He began working as a potter in 1953 and later entered the Benedictine Monastery in Weston. Vermont. In 1976, he was a visiting lecturer at Alfred University School of Ceramics and was awarded a National Endowment for the Arts grant in 1983. He lived and worked in the monastery for twenty-five years but, feeling the need for greater artistic freedom, left in 1985 to become artist-in-residence in the community of Benedictine Sisters in Erie, Pennsylvania. Brother Thomas's elegant forms are completed by a vivid array of glazes, which he created from natural materials. He has had numerous exhibitions in galleries and museums and his works are included in over 80 international collections including: the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York; the Art Institute of Chicago; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. He has been featured in numerous publications, including the recently published fourth edition of his Book of Days, and a biography entitled Tales of Thomas. Brother Thomas died in Erie, Pennsylvania in 2007.

The Brother Thomas Fund

he Brother Thomas Fund was established at the Boston Foundation in 2007 to honor the legacy of Brother Thomas, who wanted the sale of his work to support struggling artists. The goal of the biennial Brother Thomas Fellowship program is to support and celebrate a diverse group of Greater Boston artists working at a high level of excellence in a range of disciplines and to enhance their ability to thrive and create new work. Each Brother Thomas Fellow receives an unrestricted award of \$15,000. Fellowships, given without stipulation as to how the funds are spent, match the needs of artists as well as the wishes of Thomas, who wanted to help other artists as his friends had helped him. Brother Thomas Fellows are selected in alternate years based on an inclusive process of nomination and panel review by a diverse group of nominators from Boston's arts leaders. The fellowships are awarded to individuals who have made a firm commitment to their art and are working at a high level of achievement. The Fellowship program acknowledges that even established artists often struggle for the resources needed to advance their art. Over time, as former Brother Thomas Fellows welcome the new award winners, the awards create a community of artists of recognized excellence.



Pucker Gallery 240 Newbury Street, 3rd floor 617.267.9473 contactus@puckergallery.com

Gallery Hours: Monday through Saturday 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM

all and taking necessary precautions for visitor and staff safety as recommended by current public health required, appointments are available.

Pucker Gallery is a member of the Boston Art Dealers Association and the New England Appraisers

Credits: Design: Leslie Anne Feagley

Editors: Jeanne Koles and Jacqueline Belfield Gertner

Photography: John Davenport

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Please visit www.puckergallerv.com to view current and past exhibition catalogues and subscribe to the Pot of the Week email list.



ABOVE AND COVER: Large Vase with Cover Copper red on opal glaze 12.25 x 11.5 x 11.5" TH1742

Continuing Porcelains by BROTHER THOMAS



Dates:

11 September through 24 October 2021

Public Opening Reception: Saturday 12 September 2021, 3-6 PM

Online Events:

Please visit www.puckergallery.com for a list of virtual gatherings and events accompanying *Continuing Presence*.