

Continuing
Presence

Porcelains by
BROTHER
THOMAS



Pucker Gallery | Boston



Continuing Presence

Porcelains by
**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*

ALL WORKS ARE PORCELAIN.

So 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
Copper red glaze
7.75 x 9 x 9"
TH322B



Vase
Celadon glaze with fissures
6 x 5.5 x 5.5"
TH1835 (CC)



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



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)



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



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



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

Brother 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

The 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

ESTABLISHED 1967 BOSTON

GALLERY

Pucker Gallery

240 Newbury Street, 3rd floor
Boston, MA 02116
617.267.9473
contactus@puckergallery.com

Gallery Hours:

Monday through Saturday
10:00 AM to 5:30 PM
Sunday 10:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Pucker Gallery is open to all and taking necessary precautions for visitor and staff safety as recommended by current public health guidelines. Though not required, appointments are available.

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

Credits:

Design: Leslie Anne Feagley

Editors: Jeanne Koles and
Jacqueline Belfield Gertner

Photography: John Davenport

© 2021 Pucker Gallery
Printed in Canada
by Friesens, Inc.



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

Continuing
Presence

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*.

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