

BROTHER THOMAS: PATHWAYS TO SIMPLICITY



GREEN GALLERY, TOKYO
PUCKER GALLERY, BOSTON

Sharing Gifts From the Fire

A visit to Japan in January 1999; an introduction to Shigenori and Kazuko Itoh of the Green Gallery, Tokyo; an exchange of ideas and an invitation from the Green Gallery, Akasaka to share Brother Thomas' work in Japan - all have led to this extraordinary opportunity to present Brother Thomas' work in Japan.

The ceramic art of Japan is an important and valued presence in the life of the country. Thousands of potters create beautiful works of art and a ready and knowledgeable public responds, owns and cares for these works. Clay objects play an important part in the Tea Ceremony. The tea bowl is a prized possession and becomes a part of a family's legacy.

Brother Thomas' work has found its way into over fifty major museum collections around the globe; it is held in high regard by collectors and patrons; it represents an important access related to the world of beauty and the spirit. We are grateful for this opportunity to share his "gifts from the fire."

We do want to acknowledge the guidance and help of Tatsuzo Shimaoka, potter and Living National Treasure of Japan, Shigenori and Kazuko Itoh for hosting this exhibition; to Jenifer Walsh for curating this collection; Ambassador Thomas J. Foley for his honorary patronage of this exhibition.

May Brother Thomas' creations out of clay uplift the spirits and enrich the eyes for the beautiful.

- BHP & SP, 2000

「炎の贈り物」を分かち合う喜び

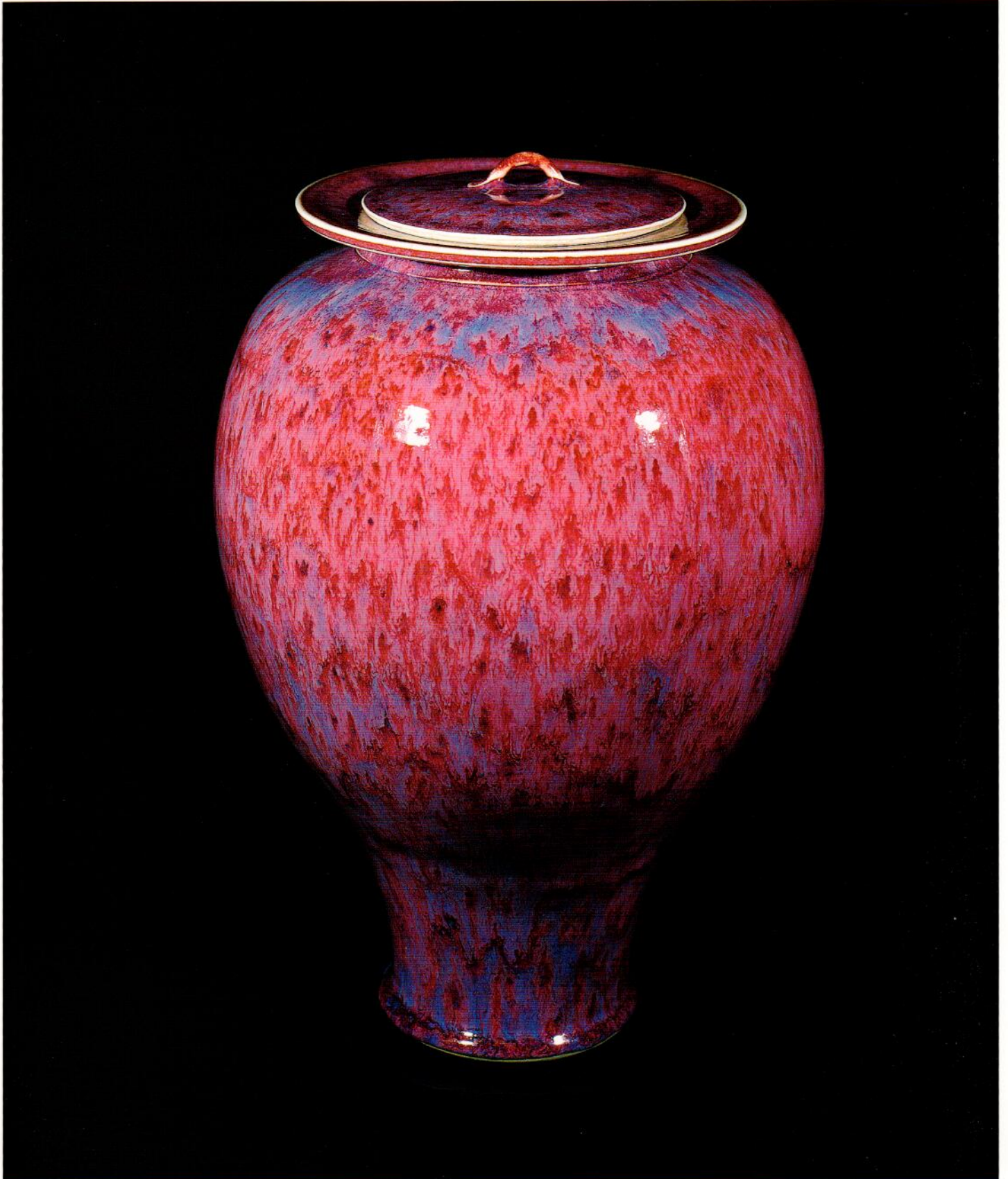
99年の訪日、伊東ご夫妻との出会い、アイディアの交換、グリーン・ギャラリーからのブラザー・トーマス展開催のお誘い、これらが一つにつながり、ブラザー・トーマス展日本開催のはこびとなりました。

日本において陶芸は生活の重要な部分を占めています。多くの陶芸作家が芸術作品を生みだし、見識豊かな大衆が、それに感応し、所有し、愛好します。土から生まれた作品は「茶の湯」で大切な役割を果たします。また茶碗は財産としても尊ばれ、代々一家に受け継がれます。

ブラザー・トーマス作品は世界で50もの主要な美術館に収蔵され、収集家や後援者から高い尊敬を得ています。それは美の世界と精神を結ぶ手がかりともいえます。私たちは彼の「炎の贈り物」と題された作品を皆様とともに分かち合うことができますことを非常に喜んでいきます。

本展覧会開催にあたり、ご指導下さった陶芸家で人間国宝の島岡達三氏、展覧会主催者の伊東成憲、和子ご夫妻、コレクション管理のジェニファー・ウォルシュ氏、ご後援をいただいたトーマス・J・フォーリー大使に深く感謝いたします。

ブラザー・トーマスの土からの作品が皆様の精神を高揚させ、美への興味を豊かにしてくれることを願ってやみません。 BHP, SP 2000



2. *Vase with Lid*, Textured Rose Red Copper Glaze, 13 x 9¹/₂ x 9¹/₂", TH761

“When I work, I simply work. I look upon it as even the remotest idea that I am now going to create a masterpiece, even if I knew what a masterpiece was.”



3. *Decorative Plate, Lavender Copper Glaze*
1 x 12 x 12", TH427



4. *Small Decorative Plate, Purple Copper Glaze*
1 x 12 x 12", TH701



5. *Small Decorative Plate, Saffron Iron Yellow Glaze*
2 x 11½ x 11½", TH870



6. *Decorative Plate, Textured Black and Yellow Iron Glaze*
1 x 10 x 10", TH533

“The potter’s art is a process of constant change. It is a life projected on the big screen of time and matter and change.”

a daily process I enter. I do not go into my studio with an agenda. I do not enter the working process with Or, what a 'master' was for that matter."



7. *Plate, Oil Spot Glaze*
3/4 x 12 x 12", TH579



8. *Small Decorative Plate, Oil Spot Glaze*
3/4 x 11 1/2 x 11 1/2", TH703



9. *Plate, Copper Red on White Glaze*
1 1/2 x 9 1/2 x 9 1/2", TH138



10. *Square Plate, Copper Red on Opal Blue Celadon Glaze*
2 3/4 x 12 1/4 x 12 1/4", TH1338

e, physically and spiritually. Art, after all, is not a history of things but of persons, not a history of art but of



11. *Tea Bowl*, Opal Blues and Red Glaze, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 6 x 6", TH1281

12. *Tea Bowl*, Dark Celadon with Iron Blue Glaze, 3 x 6 x 6", TH1282



13. *Tea Bowl*, Iron Yellow Glaze, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", TH1093

14. *Chalice Form Tea Bowl*, Oil Spot Glaze, 4 x 4 x 4", TH1072



15. *Tea Bowl*, Iron Yellow with Kaki Glaze, 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 4 x 4", TH1220

16. *Tea Bowl*, "Rose Red" Copper Glaze, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 5 x 5", TH867



17. *Tea Bowl*, White Glaze with Turquoise and Red, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 x 6", TH1280

18. *Tea Bowl*, Celadon Glaze, 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{16}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{16}$ ", TH836

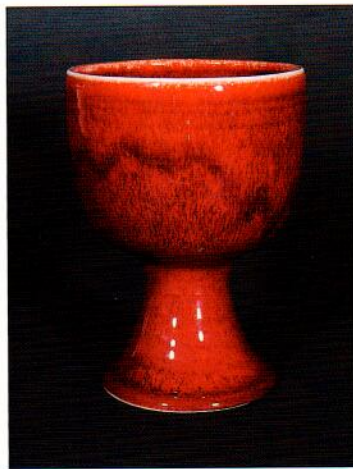


19. *Tea Bowl*, Celadon Glaze, 3 x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", TH1286

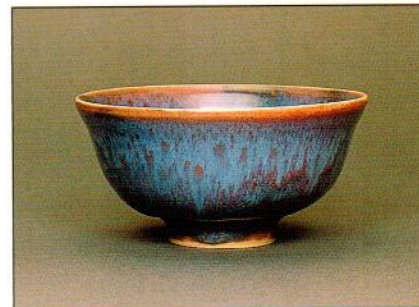
20. *Tea Bowl*, Celadon Glaze, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{8}$ ", TH1279



21. *Chalice and Plate, Iron Yellow Glaze, TH1196*
chalice - $6\frac{5}{16} \times 5\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{7}{8}$ ", plate - $1 \times 9\frac{3}{8} \times 9\frac{3}{8}$ "



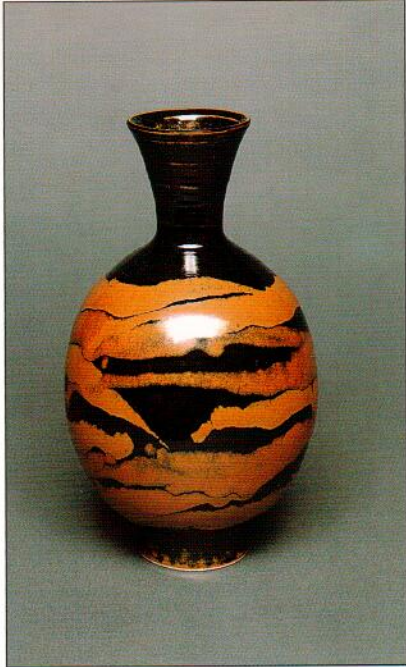
22. *Chalice, Copper Red Glaze*
 $6\frac{3}{4} \times 5\frac{7}{8} \times 5\frac{7}{8}$ ", TH1199



23. *Tea Bowl, Copper Blue Glaze*
 $3 \times 6 \times 6$ ", TH1380



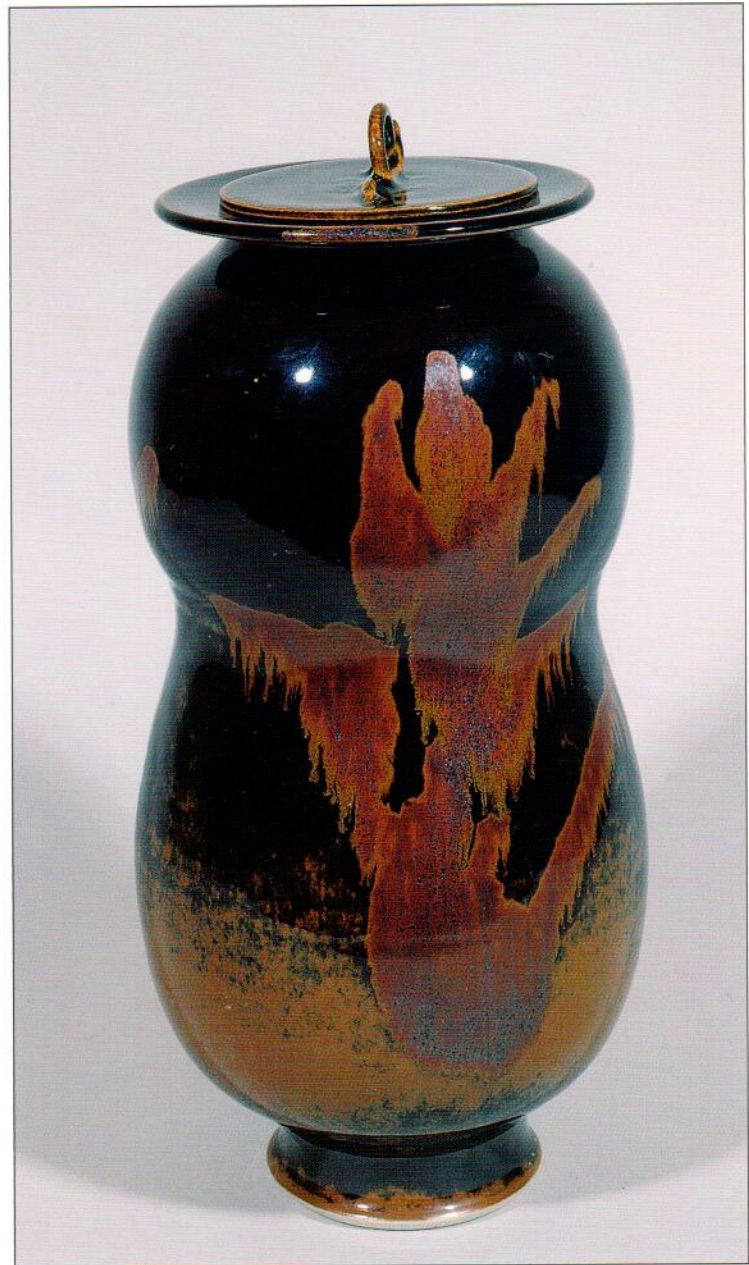
24. *Four Seasons Yumomi Set, $2\frac{7}{8} - 3\frac{1}{2}$ ", TH1191*



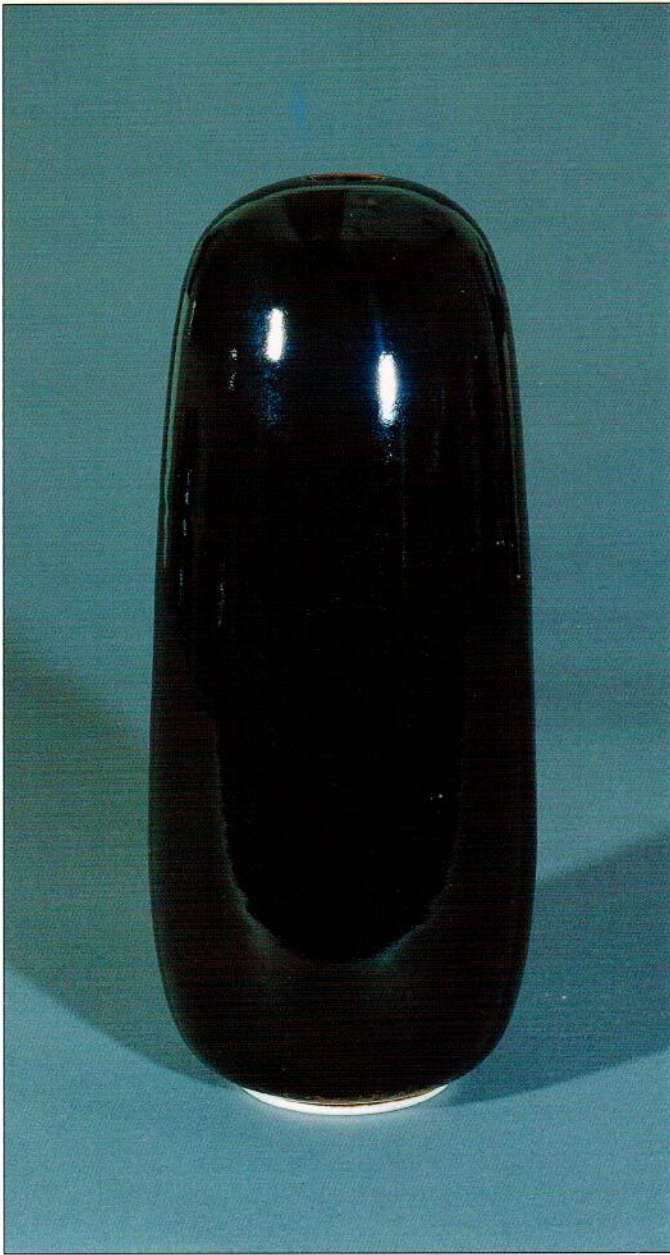
25. *Small Vase*, Tenmoku with Kaki Glaze
11¹/₄ x 6¹/₂ x 6¹/₂", TH1314



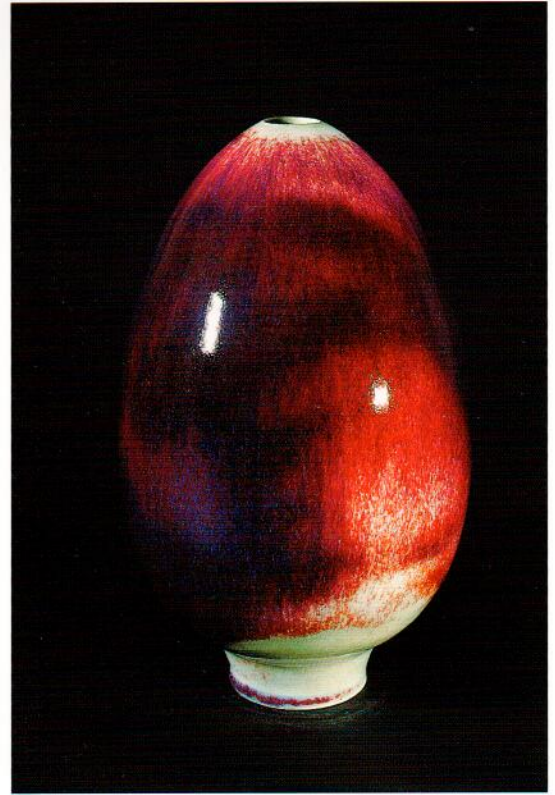
26. *Vase*, Turquoise Blue and Green Copper Glaze
11¹/₂ x 6³/₄ x 6³/₄", TH742



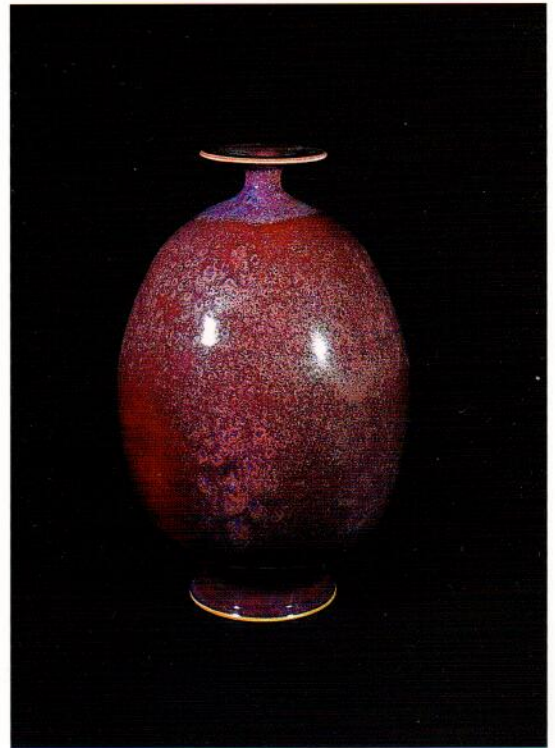
27. *Vase with Cover*, Honan Tenmoku Glaze, 12¹/₈ x 11¹/₄ x 11¹/₄", TH1030



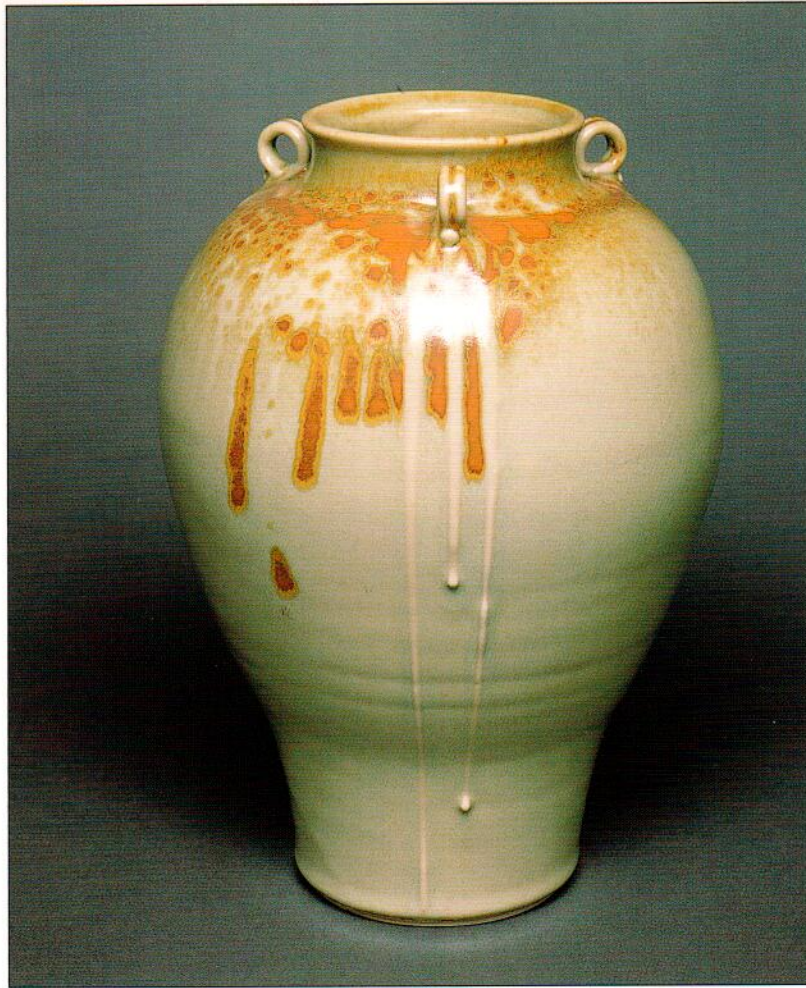
28. *Tall Narrow Vase*, Black Olive Glaze, 12 x 4³/₄ x 4³/₄", TH446



29. *Small Vase*, Dark Copper Red and Purple Glaze
11 x 6³/₄ x 6³/₄", TH660



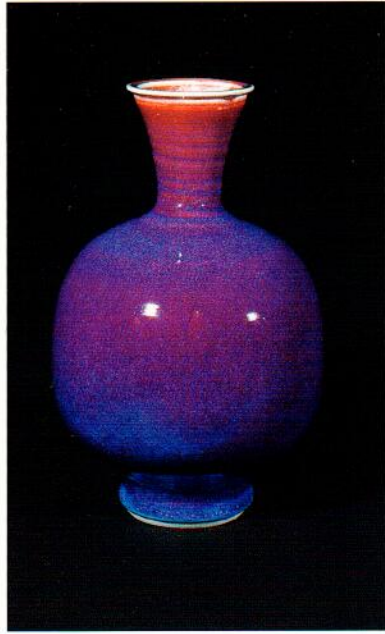
30. *Small Vase*, Ashes of Roses, Copper Glaze
10³/₄ x 7¹/₈ x 7¹/₈", TH617



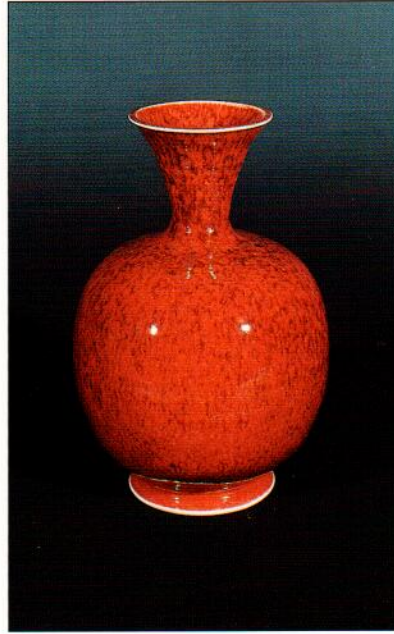
31. *Vase with Lugs*, Celadon with Iron Orange Glaze, 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ ", TH1244



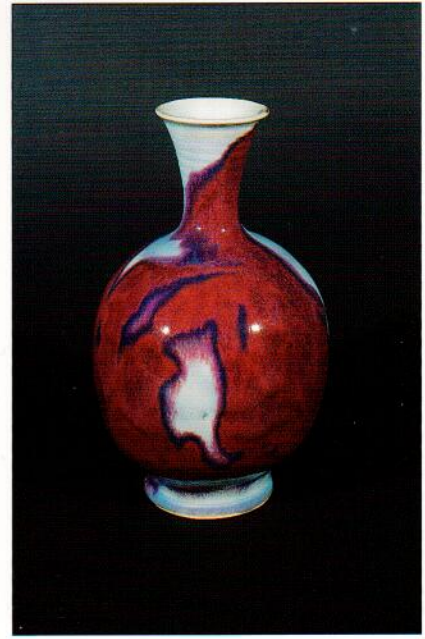
32. *Globular Vase with Cover*, Honan Tenmoku Glaze, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", TH1322



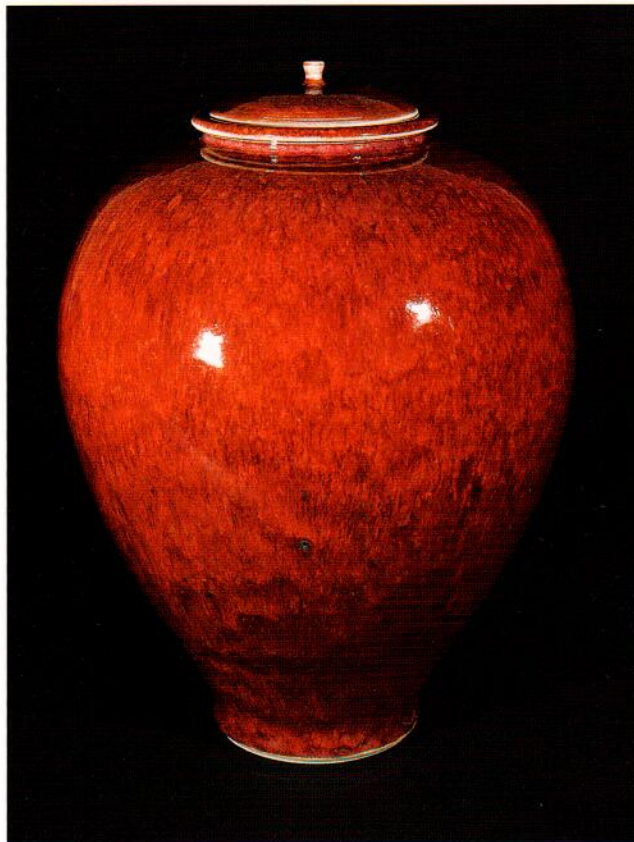
33. Vase, Purple Copper Glaze
10 x 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", TH1042



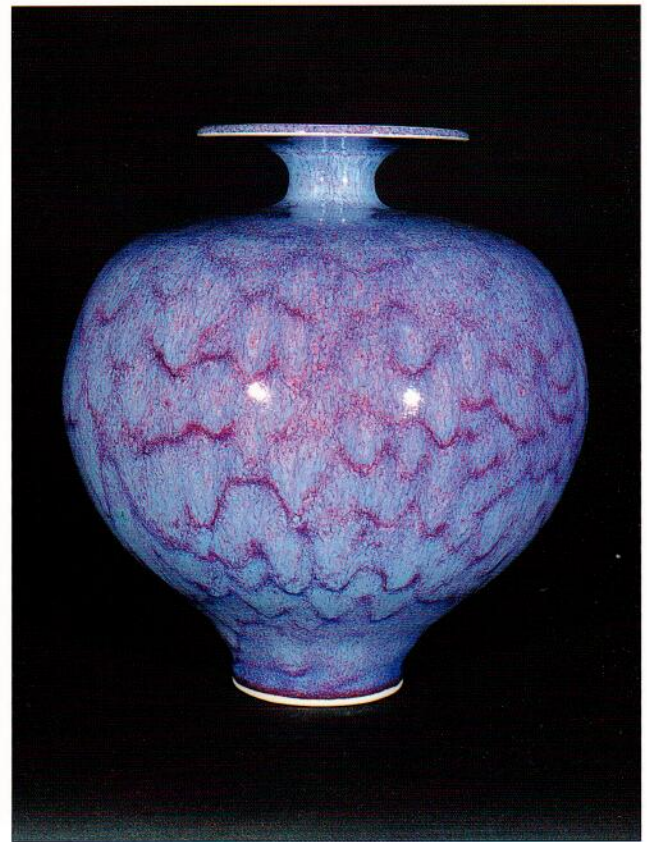
34. Small Vase, Copper Red Glaze
9 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", TH1311



35. Small Vase, Copper Red on Opal Blue
Celadon Glaze, 10 $\frac{5}{8}$ x 7 x 7", TH1306



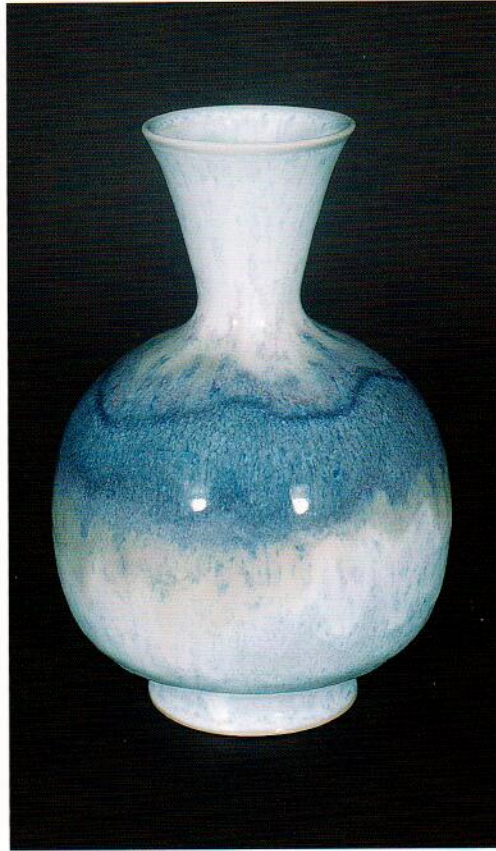
36. Vase with Cover, Copper Red Glaze
10 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ ", TH717



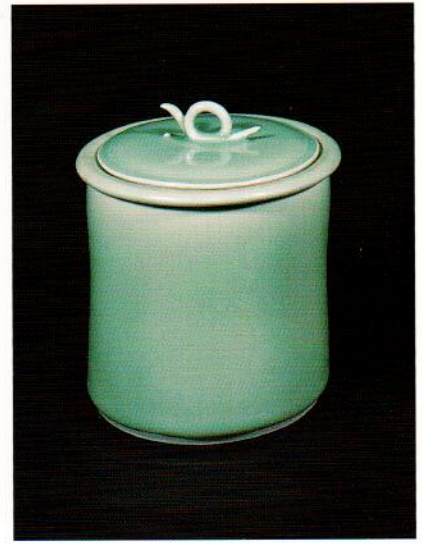
37. Vase, Chrysanthemum Glaze
10 x 8 x 8", TH353



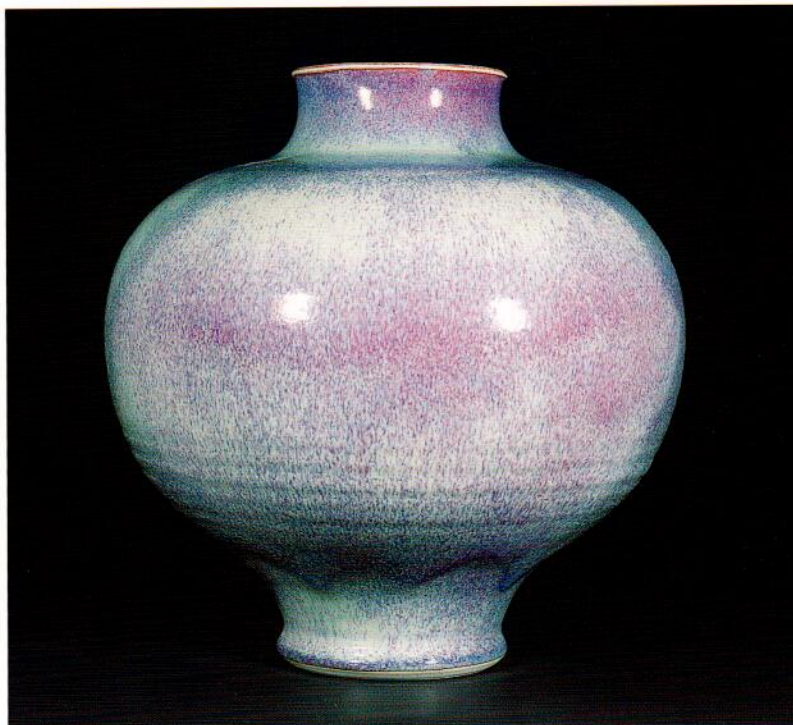
38. *Small Vase*, Opalescent Copper Red Glaze
10¹/₄ x 4³/₄ x 4³/₄", TH706



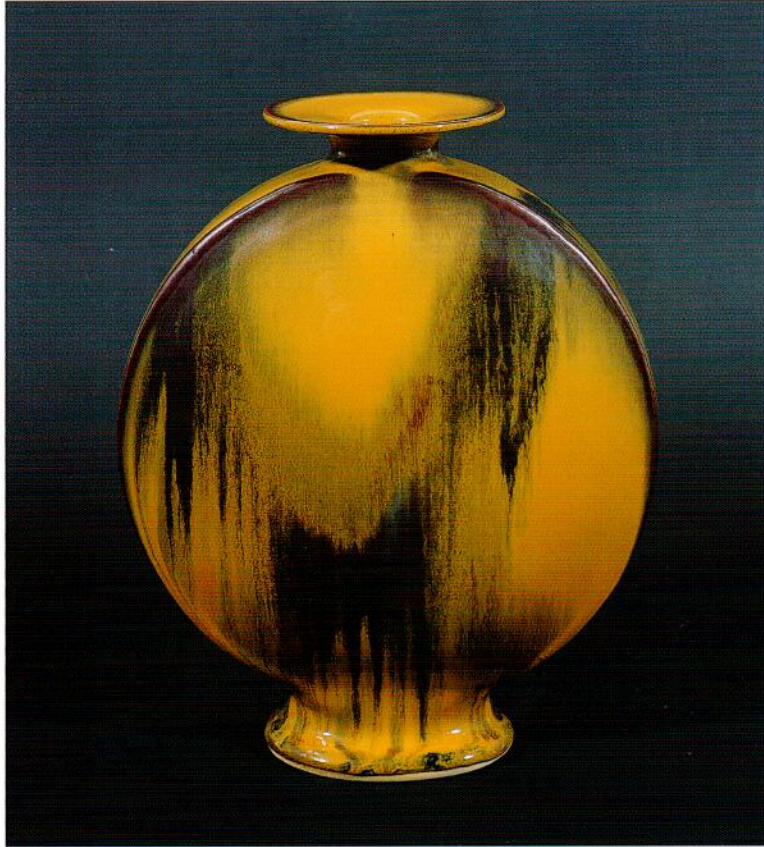
39. *Small Vase*, Opalescent Copper Blue Glaze
10¹/₄ x 7 x 7", TH1347



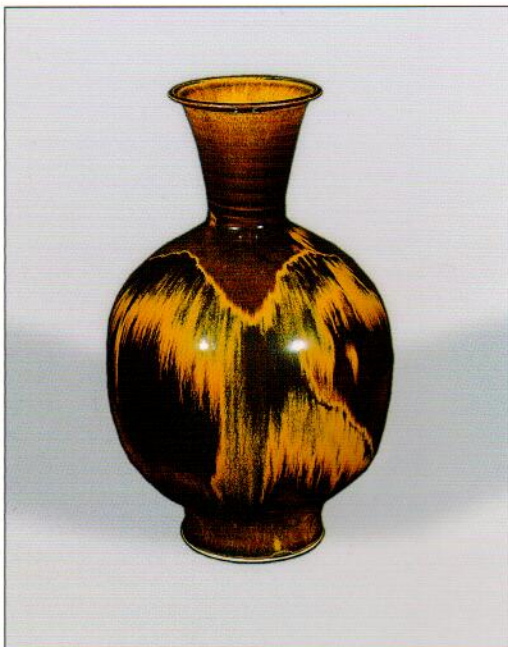
40. *Small Lidded Vase*, Celadon Glaze
6 x 5³/₄ x 5³/₄", TH873



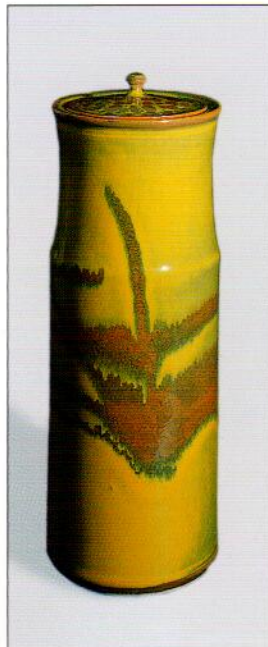
41. *Vase*, Fumed Copper Glaze, 9¹/₂ x 9 x 9", TH848



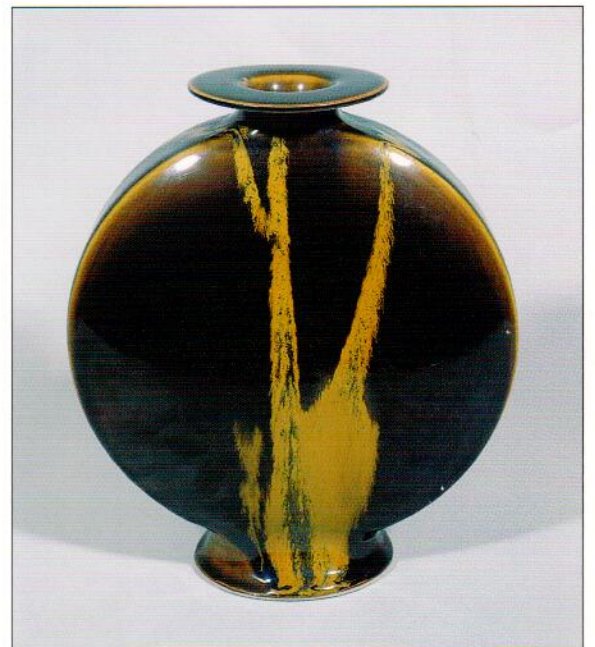
42. *Canteen Form Vase*, Iron Yellow Glaze
10¹/₈ x 8¹/₂ x 3", TH1229



43. *Small Vase*, Dark Celadon with Iron Yellow Glaze
10¹/₂ x 6³/₄ x 6³/₄", TH1302



44. *Small Vase with Cover*
Iron Yellow Glaze
10¹/₃ x 3³/₄ x 3³/₄"
TH705

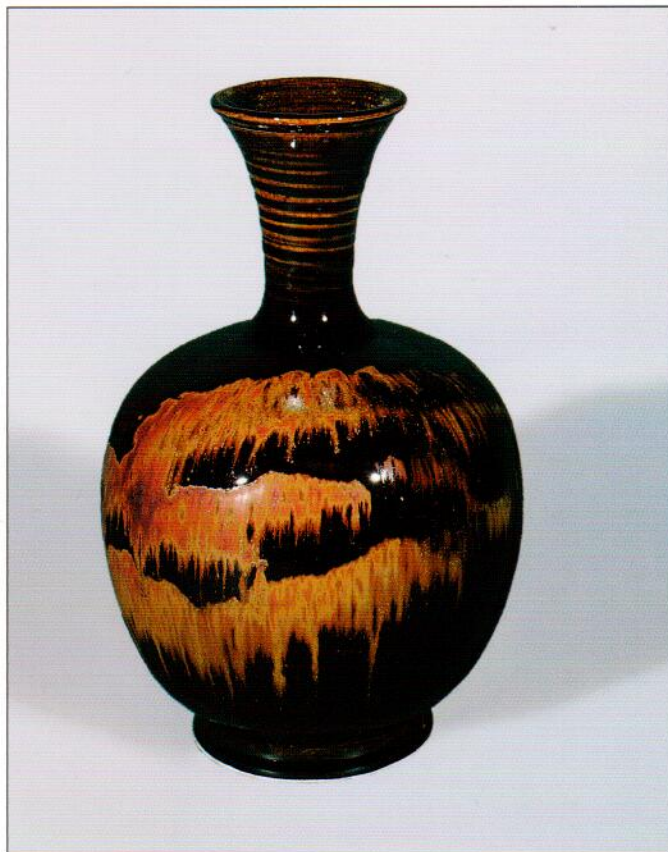


45. *Vase, Canteen Form*, Tenmoku with Iron Yellow Glaze
10¹/₈ x 8¹/₂ x 3", TH1059

"It is a wonder that anything wonderful emerges from a kiln at all. But it does, and often enough to make "mud and fire" addicts of artists working in this medium of fire and clay."



46. Vase, Square Canteen Form, Honan Tenmoku Glaze
10¹/₄ x 8¹/₄ x 2¹/₂", TH1251



47. Small Vase, Honan Tenmoku Glaze
10¹/₄ x 6¹/₄ x 6¹/₄", TH1304



48. Small Vase
Honan Tenmoku Glaze
8¹/₄ x 7³/₄ x 6", TH1467



49. Vase, Mizusashi Form
Honan Tenmoku Glaze
7 x 8¹/₂ x 8¹/₂", TH512

EXCERPTS ARE TAKEN FROM THE FOLLOWING SOURCES:

"Ars, Artis", lecture given at the Erie Art Museum October 22, 1990.

"BIG TIGER/little tiger", lecture given at Walsh College, Canton, OH, September 17, 1993, and at the Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA, October 17, 1993.

"Freedom: First Gift/Last Gift", lecture given to the community at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, Erie, PA, August 3, 1993

"Outer Space/Inner Space: Of Singularities and Spiritualities", written for and originally published in *Studio Potter Magazine's* "Studio Potter Symposium" on *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking, October 1994.

"The Pathways to Simplicity", lecture given to the community at Mount Saint Benedict Monastery, Erie, PA, August 2, 1988.

"Practice Music, Socrates", originally published in *Gifts from the Fire*, Pucker Art Publications, 1993.

"Remembering", *Creation Out of Clay: The Ceramic Art and Writings of Brother Thomas*, Pucker Art Publications, 1999.

"To look for a unifying principle of art in any other place than within the human heart is simply to be on the wrong road."

Brother Thomas Bezanson

- 1929 Born in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
1950 Graduated from Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.
1951-8 Worked in business. Advisor to the Nova Scotia Handcraft Centre.
1953 Began pottery, with the encouragement of friends Foster and Sandy Beveridge, potters, and Fritz Weber, ceramic engineer.
1958-9 Traveled and studied in Europe.
1959 Entered the Benedictine Monastery, Weston Priory, VT.
1968 Graduated from University of Ottawa. University Gold Medal.
1976 Visiting lecturer, Alfred University School of Ceramics, Alfred, NY.
1978 Traveled in Japan.
Met with five "National Treasure" potters.
Traveled to Taipei, guest of Dr. Paul Chiang,
Director, National Palace Museum.
1983 Awarded National Endowment for the Arts grant.
1985 Artist-in-Residence, Mount Saint Benedict, Erie, PA.

MUSEUM /GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

- 1972 G. W. V. Smith Art Museum, Springfield, MA.
1974 St. Mary's University Gallery, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
1980 G. W. V. Smith Art Museum, Springfield, MA.
1988 Olin Museum, Roanoke College, Salem, VA.
1989 Mead Art Museum, Amherst College, Amherst, MA.
Bennington Museum, Bennington, VT.
1990 Erie Art Museum, Erie, PA.
1991 Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA.
1993 Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA.
Queensborough Community College Art Gallery, Bayside, NY.
Canton Art Institute, Canton, OH.
Benedicta Art Institute, College of St. Benedicta, St. Joseph, MN.
Dimock Gallery, George Washington University, Washington, D.C.
1994 Catherine G. Murphy Galleries, College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, MN.
1997 St. Vincent's College, Latrobe, PA.
Brauer Museum of Art, Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN
1998 Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Nova Scotia.
2000 Green Gallery, Akasaka, Tokyo, Japan.

Pucker Safrai Gallery, Boston, MA - 1982, 1983, 1984, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991
Pucker Gallery, Boston, MA - 1992, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1999

COLLECTIONS

- Aidekman Arts Center, Tufts University, Medford, MA
- Art Complex Museum, Duxbury, MA
- Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax, Nova Scotia
- Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL
- Bellerive Museum, Zurich, Switzerland
- Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Erie, PA
- The Bennington Museum of Art, Bennington, VT
- Bunting Institute, Radcliffe College, Cambridge, MA
- Canadian Museum of Civilization, Hull, Quebec
- Canton Art Institute, Canton, OH
- Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA
- Cleveland Museum of Art, Cleveland, OH
- Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institute, New York, NY
- Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA
- Dimock Gallery, George Washington University, Washington, DC
- Erie Art Museum, Erie, PA
- Everson Museum, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
- First National Bank of Pennsylvania, Erie, PA., Corporate Collection
- Fleming Museum, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT

- Fogg Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
- Framingham State College, Framingham, MA
- Gardiner Museum of Ceramics, Toronto, Ontario
- George Walter Vincent Smith Art Museum, Springfield, MA
- Hokkaido University, Hokkaido, Japan
- International Museum of Ceramics, Faenza, Italy
- Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
- Kennedy Museum of American Art, Ohio University, Miami, OH
- Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
- The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY
- Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, MN
- The Museum of Ceramic Art at Alfred, Alfred, NY
- Museum of Civilization, Ottawa, Ontario
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
- Museum of Fine Arts, Springfield, MA
- Newark Museum, Newark, NJ
- Osaka Municipal Museum, Osaka, Japan
- Phoenix Art Museum, Phoenix, AZ
- Portland Museum of Art, Portland, ME
- Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC
- Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI

- Roberson Center for the Arts & Sciences, Binghamton, NY
- Rose Museum, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA
- Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
- Santa Barbara Museum of Art, Santa Barbara, CA
- Springfield Museum of Art, Springfield, MA
- G. W. V. Smith Art Museum, Springfield, MA
- Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC
- St. Edmund's College, Cambridge, England
- St. Lawrence University, Canton, NY
- Syracuse University Art Collections, Syracuse, NY
- Tel Aviv Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel
- Tikotin Museum, Haifa, Israel
- Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
- George Washington University, Washington DC
- University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA
- Vatican Collection, Rome, Italy
- Victoria and Albert Museum, London, England
- Wilder Collection, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
- Windsor Castle, Windsor, England
- Worcester Museum of Art, Worcester, MA

PRIVATE COLLECTIONS:

United States, Canada,
England, France, Germany,
Spain, Japan, Taiwan

BOOKS AND FILM

- 1988 Monograph, The Path to the Beautiful, Godine.
1991 Film: Gifts From the Fire, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.
1993 Monograph, Gifts From the Fire, Pucker Gallery, Boston.
1999 Monograph, Creation out of Clay: The Ceramic Art and Writings of Brother Thomas, Pucker Gallery, Boston, MA and Wm. B. Eerdmans, Grand Rapids, MI

Back Cover: *Yunomi* (set of 4) Copper Purple, Iron Yellow, Copper Red, 3", TH1537



BROTHER THOMAS: PATHWAYS TO SIMPLICITY

ブラザー・トーマス: 「シンプルシティー—純にして素朴なる美への道」

12-23 October, 2000

Opening Reception: 12 October, 2000, 4:30-6:00 pm

The exhibition is under the Honorary Patronage of Thomas Foley,
United States Ambassador to Japan.

The exhibition is presented in cooperation with the Pucker Gallery, Boston.
The artist will be present.

2000年10月12日~23日

オープニング・レセプション: 2000年10月12日、午後4時半~6時

後援: 駐日アメリカ大使、トーマス・フォーリー氏

協賛: ハッカー・ギャラリー (ボストン)

当日は作家も出席いたします。

グリーン・ギャラリー
〒107 東京都港区赤坂 4-8-8

GREEN GALLERY
4-8-8 Akasaka Minato-ku
Tokyo 107 JAPAN
TEL: 03-3401-5255
FAX: 03-3401-6656

ハッカー・ギャラリー
〒02116 米国マサチューセッツ州ボストン市
ニューベリー ストリート 171 番地

PUCKER GALLERY
171 Newbury Street
Boston, MA 02116
TEL: (617) 267-9473
FAX: (617) 424-9759
contactus@puckergallery.com
www.puckergallery.com

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PUCKER GALLERY HOURS:

Monday - Saturday 10:00 am to 5:30 pm; Sundays 1:00 to 5:00 pm.

Member of the Boston Art Dealers Association.

One hour free validated parking is available on the corner of Newbury and Dartmouth Streets