

FIRED WORKS

ceramic exhibition and sale

April 22 - 30, 2022



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GET FIRED UP FOR GEORGIA'S LARGEST POTTERY SHOW

April 22 - 30, 2022

Once again, Macon Arts Alliance is hosting Fired Works in the Round Building in Carolyn Crayton Park. The facility boasts natural ventilation, high and spacious ceilings and bountiful light that seems to bring the pottery to life. It is the perfect location for this signature event.

This year's featured artist is Roger Jamison, a Juliette potter who is known for his salt-fired works and anagama kiln. Along with Jamison, 50 master potters from around the Southeast will bring thousands of functional and decorative pieces. Selected pieces will be available for purchase online at maconarts.org/shop.

"Supporting artists through commission sales is an important part of our work," said Macon Arts Alliance Executive Director Julie Wilkerson. "Last year, we returned over \$73,000 to artists in commissions from sales at Fired Works and Fire & Ice."

The event opens to the public and online at maconarts.org/shop on at 10 a.m. April 22. Thursday, April 28 will feature a Happy Hour and extended shopping from 4 - 6 p.m. The event will be open daily from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Fired Works highlights the rich history of pottery-making in Central Georgia and its connection to the Ocmulgee River region. Whether it is the deep red mud or 'white gold' kaolin, potters around the world prefer Georgia clay. The nearby Ocmulgee Mounds National Historical Park is an excellent resource for the history of pottery-making in the area, with its noteworthy exhibit of functional pottery crafted by Native American artisans thousands of years ago. The park is one of this continent's richest sites for early artifacts and is where the oldest piece of stamped pottery found in North America was discovered in 1933. Fired Works celebrates the artists who continue this tradition today.



2 Above: Shoppers at Fired Works view Face Jugs by master potter Derek Belflower





Image: Roger Jamison



FIRED WORKS PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Cindy Angliss
 Ginger Birdsey
 Andrea Boswell
 Rich Brown
 Meg Campbell
 Jackie Chapman
 Sheila Chrzan
 Martha Cook
 Glenn Dair
 Alicia David
 Doug Dotson
 Sara Farmer
 Brian Fort
 Marise Fransolino
 Forrest Gard

Camren Gober
 Kathyne Gould
 Barry Gregg
 Kirby Gregory
 Walter Hobbs
 Nancy Hostetter
 Roger Jamison
 Tammy Josephson
 Suzanne Kleese-Stamps
 Emily Knapp
 John Lowes
 Anna Marino
 Esther Mech
 Nancy Mehrpad
 Noah Miller

Kyle Osvog
 Mariella Owens
 Ronan Kyle Peterson
 Geoff Pickett
 Holly Polich
 Adrina Richard
 Elizabeth Sabatino
 Jim Sandefur
 Dorothy Taylor
 Doug Tobin
 Ginger Vento
 Keaton Wynn





ROGER JAMISON

Would you like to introduce yourself?

I'm a potter and a retired Professor of Art at Mercer University, where I taught ceramics, drawing and design. I retired in 2009 to have time work in my studio at home. I make mostly wood fired, useful stoneware pottery in either of two wood burning kilns. One kiln is a Japanese style "anagama" which roughly translates as "cave kiln." It is a large, single chamber continuously fired for five days to create natural, melted, wood ash surfaces. The smaller kiln is wood fired and salt glazed at the end of a one-day firing.

What does "being creative" mean to you?

I believe that inspiration comes from hard work. My work has developed slowly over time with occasional flashes of insight. As a maker of useful things, I see what I do with a jar or a cup as similar to a musician interpreting a piece of music. I interpret the idea of a vase or a bowl, hopefully, in a unique way, like a musician might in performing a sonata or an etude.

Can you describe a time when you first realized that creating was something you absolutely had to do?

I got the bug in my first ceramics class at the University of Kansas in 1966. I felt an immediate connection to the clay and the process of taking this formless, soft material and making something permanent and useful with it. I had started college with an interest in science, and I loved the fact that I could use some of my chemistry training when working with glaze formulation. I also had a wonderful teacher who inspired me to continue.

What inspires you?

Nature, especially landscape and geology, and folk pottery from the US, Japan, England, Africa and many other cultures. I also find firing wood kilns fascinating and challenging to understand the interesting things that happen to clay and glazes in that unique atmosphere. Food also inspires me to make pieces for serving and cooking.



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What kind of creative patterns, routines or rituals do you have?

I work making small groups of similar things, six bowls, a dozen cups, two or three larger pots. I don't usually make sets, as I like the pieces to evolve as I work. Again, I see this practice as similar to a musician practicing the same piece over and over, trying to get it right.

What's your favorite thing you've ever created?

I don't think I've made it yet. I have a favorite in every kiln I unload, but can't say I have one all-time favorite.

What are you trying to communicate with your art?

The answer to this can get complicated. How and what does pottery communicate? What is its vocabulary and how do we understand it? I think it's a bit like music without words, a variety of abstract art. My simple answer to this question is that I want my pottery to enhance the experience of using it. I hope my cup or my bowl can make those moments of eating, drinking or sharing food or flowers more special. Handmade pottery connects the maker to the user and plays a role in the important family rituals of sharing food and time together. It is a foil for mass-produced consumer products that fill our present culture because it is the work of a single craftsman. And finally, pottery connects us to the earth. Wood fired pots in particular share the same geologic processes that created our landscapes.

Which creative medium would you love to pursue, but haven't yet?

Perhaps clay sculpture, but I'm not done with pottery yet.

What's the best advice you ever had about how to be more creative?

Go to the studio every day and make the best work you can that day.

Who is your favorite artist, and what draws you to them?

I love going to museums and seeing works in a variety of media both historical and contemporary. But I'm not sure I can name a single favorite as they are so different. For ceramics, Song Dynasty Chinese porcelain, 16th Century English slipware, Momoyama and Edo Japanese tea ware and storage jars, Sub-Saharan African earthenware, Abstract Expressionist ceramicists Volkos and Reitz, folk potters in the Leach-Hamada tradition and many more. I'm drawn to both the clarity of the forms and the sure directness of the work.

What is your dream project?

To still be making pottery when I'm 80. I'd also love to be using all local materials for my clay body and glazes. I'm still working on that.



Above: Roger Jamison in his studio and his pottery

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FIRED WORKS EVENT SCHEDULE

Shop online at maconarts.org/shop

Round Building at Carolyn Crayton Park
115 Willie Smokey Glover Drive, Macon, GA
Free Admission. \$5 donation is suggested

Fired Works Hours:
April 22 - 30, 2022
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, April 23

ARTST TALK WITH
ROGER JAMISON
Time : 11 a.m.
Our featured artist, Roger Jamison, will be at the Round Building talking about his work. The artist talk will also be live-streamed via Facebook Live.

Saturday, April 23

CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP
Time : 1 p.m.
Potter Noah Miller will be instructing a free Children's Clay Workshop in the Round Building. First come, first served. Space is limited.

Thursday, April 28

HAPPY HOUR
Time : 4 - 6 p.m.
Enjoy a glass of wine while you shop.



L-R: Kirby Gregory, John Lowes, Glenn Dair

ABOUT MACON ARTS ALLIANCE

Macon Arts Alliance fosters support for the advancement of arts and culture in Central Georgia. We strive to be an innovative leader of a thriving regional arts community. We value strategic partnerships that strengthen the diversity and vibrancy of arts and culture for tourists, residents, artists, businesses and civic organizations. Macon Arts Alliance is the designated Arts Agency for Macon-Bibb County and charged with implementing the 2020 Cultural Plan for Macon. Macon Arts Alliance is funded in part by the Macon-Bibb County Hotel/Motel tax and through generous private support from foundations, corporations and individual contributions.

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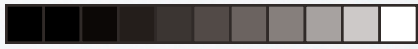
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Left: Vase by Noah Miller





FIRE & ICE

ceramic and glass exhibition and sale

The 4th annual Fire and Ice exhibition and sale will be held November 11-19, 2022, at the Round Building in Carolyn Crayton Park. This show features special seasonal ceramic and glass pieces, perfect for the holidays.

