Creative Expression in Ceramic Design

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CREATIVE EXPRESSION IN CERAMIC DESIGN

An Abstract
Presented to
Dr. Joel Moss
and the Faculty of the Graduate School
Fort Hays Kansas State College

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science in Art Education

by
Eleanor Miller
July 1962
The purpose of this study was to explore the effects and possibilities of earthenware and stoneware when formed by the pinch or thrown methods. After some experimentation with the two methods it was decided to continue to form various shapes and sizes by the wheel method and discover suitable ornamentation and glazes for each.

Rounded forms created by the wheel method seemed to be the most satisfactory. Some of these forms were made in two or three pieces on the wheel and joined by slip and cross-hatching after the forms were firm enough to support the upper section.

In some of the clay bodies a colorant or speckling agent, such as milled or granular illmenite, iron oxide, chromium oxide or manganese oxide was used for various effects when used with certain glazes or in a reduction fire. Incised, sgraffito, or brushed effects were used to relieve the plainness of some forms. Most of the glazes for both earthenware and stoneware were matt except where a transparent or rutile effect was desired to enable a design to show through or to mingle colors. The hand built sculpture, "In the Beginning of Time," was stained and waxed requiring no glaze.

Experimentation with the various methods, clay bodies,
colorants, glazes, sizes, and shapes, has brought the writer to the conclusion that rounded forms have been the most satisfactory and pleasing, and that the possibilities in this method for further creative expression are unlimited.
Round Incised Bowl
Matt Stoneware Glaze
Height 7 in.
Diameter 8 in.
1962

Stoneware Vase
h. 6 in.
d. 4½ in.
White Matt Glaze
1962
Wheel thrown Earthenware Jug
Tan and brown speckled matt glaze
h. 12 in.
d. 9 in.
1962
Covered Bowl
Reduction fired white matt glaze with lavender blend and brown blotched
h. 8 3/4 in.
d. 7 3/8 in.
1960
Wheel Thrown Footed Vase
Tan and brown speckled matt glaze
h. 11 3/4 in.
d. 8 1/2 in.
1962

Incised Stoneware Bowl
Stained, matt glazed, reduction fired
h. 5 3/4 in.
d. 6 in.
1962
Stoneware Bottle
Reduction fired, two toned blue matt glaze
h. 14 in.

Stoneware Vase
Reduction fired white matt with golden brown markings
h. 6½ in.
d. 4½ in.
Earthenware Vase
Incised, blue stained, with white translucent glaze
h. 8 in.
d. 5 in.
1962

Stoneware Covered Bowl
Blended black and brown rough textured matt with white interior
h. 8½ in.
d. 6½ in.
1958
Stoneware Bottle
Tan and Brown Speckled Matt
h. 14 in.
d. 6 in.
1962

Stone Ware Bowl
Brown Rough Texture on Pale Yellow
Reduction fired
h. 5½ in.
d. 8½ in.
1961
Sculpture
"In the Beginning of Time"
Stained and waxed after firing
h. 15 in.
1958