

Kwantlen University College & the Fraser Valley Potters Guild  
Present From Cuba to Canada

# *The Proyecto Arte Del Fuego's Cuban-Canadian Ceramic Art Collective*

A Guide to Events  
August 4<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> 2004



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## Project Description

The *Proyecto Arte Del Fuego* ("Art of Fire") project will host an international collective of established and emerging ceramic artists at Kwantlen University College in Surrey, B.C. These artists will meet to make collaborative works in clay leading to an exhibition. The invited artists will offer master classes, workshops, slide lectures and community events in the ceramic arts.

Cuban Ceramic Art comes from a rich tradition that remains uninfluenced and undocumented by much of the outside world. Having limited access to ready made materials and tools, the Cuban approach is one of simplicity and spirituality. Cuban, Canadian and American artists will confront dramatic new ways of seeing and working by exploring together the advantages and pitfalls of contemporary ceramic technology

The *Proyecto Arte Del Fuego* ("PAF") aims to promote peace and international co-operation through the universal language of art and overcome differences of nationality, social philosophy, age, race, and culture. Based on a coherent relationship between technology and creativity, PAF places technical expertise at the service of art, in order to provide a working environment that facilitates the creative process. Directed by the artists Antonio Lewis (Cuban) and Catherine Merrill (American), PAF was started in 2002, as an ongoing international, cultural and educational exchange project.

The Cuban-Canadian Ceramic Art Collective is directed in collaboration with PAF and the Canadian ceramic artists Alison Petty (Project Coordinator) and David Lloyd (Ceramics Instructor, Fine Arts Department, Kwantlen University College) as on-site Liaison.

## Project Sponsors

The Proyecto Arte Del Fuego extends its sincerest appreciation to the generous organizations that have helped make this project possible.

Kwantlen University College, Surrey, BC  
Fraser Valley Potters Guild  
CityScape Community Art Space  
North Vancouver Community Arts Council  
Fundacion Caguayo, Santiago de Cuba  
Gallery los Oficios, Havana, Cuba

## Donors

David Lloyd  
Charles Merrill  
Fraser Valley Potters Guild  
The Merrill Family Foundation



Cover: Vessel -Rahn, Plate-Lescay, Torso-Merrill

Lewis



## Workshop Instructors

### ANTONIO LEWIS, Director

CUBA

Antonio Lewis is a ceramic artist, specialist in industrial technology, and professor at the Instituto de Arte Wifredo Lam. He presents workshops on the theme of "Technology Serving Art" and has participated in residencies focusing on investigative research in Germany, Bulgaria, Russia and Guyana. He has participated in more than 50 national and international exhibitions and his award winning work is in the permanent collection of the Museo de la Ceramica in Havana, Cuba. 2003 NCECA presenter.



### CATHERINE MERRILL, Director

USA

Catherine Merrill's work explores the human figure and has been shown in over 150 national and international exhibitions. She has been published in *Ceramics Art & Perception*, the *Studio Potter*, *Neue Keramik* and *Contemporary American Pottery*. Merrill has presented numerous workshops and lectures at colleges and art centers. Catherine was recently awarded a grant from the Laila Art Fund and residencies in Hawaii and Santiago, Cuba. She received her BFA in Ceramics from the Kansas City Art Institute. 2003 NCECA presenter.



### XIOMARA GUTIERREZ

CUBA

Xiomara Gutierrez is a member of the Asociacion Cubana de Artesanos y Artistas and the founder in 1986 of the annual symposium, Encuentro Internacional Terracota at the Taller Cultural in Santiago, Cuba. She received her Degree of Fine Arts from the Jose Joaquin Tejada Art Institute. Xiomara has participated in more than 150 national and international exhibitions and has been awarded residencies in the United States and Spain. She is the Director of Ceramics at the Taller Cultural.

### ALISON PETTY, Project co-coordinator

CANADA

Alison Petty has studied at Goldsmith's College, University of London and received her BFA from Concordia University. She has worked for over five years as a Studio Manager and Instructor in a community pottery studio setting. She has exhibited in both Canada and the U.S. and was recently selected to receive both a B.C. Arts Council Grant and the George and Dorothy Saxe Scholarship for Excellence in the Glass and Ceramic Arts. She completed her Masters Degree at the California College of Art.





## Workshop Instructors



**DAVID LLOYD, On Site Liaison**      **CANADA**  
David Lloyd is the Ceramics Instructor at Kwantlen University College, an active member and past president of the Fraser Valley Potters Guild and an exhibiting potter known for wood fired work. He has given numerous workshops locally and in Korea. Trained by Yukio Yamamoto at the Tozan Kilns at Nanaimo and Flagstaff, he has participated in wood firings in Canada, the US, Japan and Korea. David Lloyd received his formal education at the University of British Columbia and Kyoto University.

**FRIEDERIKE RAHN**      **CANADA**  
Friederike Rahn studied ceramics at Sheridan College (Ont.) and at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. She has participated in artist' residencies at Watershed, Maine, the Archie Bray Foundation, Montana, and was a participant in the Mexico Canada ceramics exchange in Puebla, Mexico, and the Banff Centre. She teaches at the Shadbolt Center for the Arts and the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design. Her work is exhibited across Canada and the United States.

**CONNIE GLOVER**      **CANADA**  
Working for over thirty years, Connie Glover studied ceramics at Douglas College, Surrey, B.C., Laguna Beach School of Art, California and has recently completed a residency at the Banff Center in Alberta. Her work involves large-scale public art projects, such as, "Rising Tide", a 350 sq. ft. ceramic tile mural and "Octopus's Garden", a 33 ft. long relief ceramic tile bench, both in Richmond, B.C. She is now beginning a community arts project in Whalley Town Centre that will involve the creation of a 300 sq. ft. mosaic tile pathway.

**JUDY BURKE**      **CANADA**  
Judith Burke received a B.A. (1953) and an M.A. (1955) in Art from the University of California at Berkeley. She has been making pottery since the mid-nineteen-seventies. Her work is primarily functional stoneware, however, she sets aside time to experiment in other areas. Her work has won numerous awards and has been in international juried shows including the Sidney Myer Fund International Ceramics Award, Shepparton Art Gallery, Australia, 2004.

**ALBERTO LESCAY**      **CUBA**  
Alberto Lescay received graduate degrees from the Escuela Nacional de Art in Havana and the Russian Institute of Art & Design in St.Petersburg. Lescay has participated in more than 200 national & international exhibitions. He is a member of the Union Internacional de Artes Plastica and the Union de Escritores y Artistas Cubanos. Lescay is one of Cuba's leading sculptors of monumental bronzes as a well as a painter, printmaker and ceramist. He is currently the President of the Fundacion Caguayo, Center for the Applied and Monumental Arts in Santiago.

**JOSE VASQUEZ XENES**      **CUBA**  
Jose Vasquez Xenes is professor of Ceramics at the Academia de Arte Wilfredo Lam. This award-winning artist has exhibited in national and international exhibitions including the first National Salon of Contemporary Art in Havana, the IV National Ceramics Bienal in Havana, the National Ceramics Museum in Havana, and international exhibitions in the USA, Argentina, and Egypt.



**BIENVENIDOS - WELCOME  
OPENING EVENT**

Thursday, August 5, 6-9 PM  
6pm: Gallery opening 7-9pm: Slides  
Kwantlen University College Room D128  
Open to the Public

Kwantlen University College welcomes the artists of the Cuban Canadian Ceramic Art Collective with a festive gallery opening followed by a slide presentation of individual artist works. You are invited to come meet our Cuban friends! Opening remarks by Derek Francis, Vice President, Kwantlen University College.



**PANORAMA OF CUBAN CERAMICS**

**DEMO WORKSHOP & SLIDE LECTURE**

Saturday, August 7, 10am-5pm  
Antonio Lewis & Jose Vasquez Xenes  
Kwantlen University College, Ceramics Studio  
Fee: \$45

The artists will examine the recent renaissance of ceramics in Cuba. A special focus will be the history and evolution of Cuba's Pottery Island, the Isla de la Juventud. They will demonstrate hand-building techniques of their characteristic forms, and present their distinctive materials and surface treatments: including charcoal, chalk, engobes and paper clay. These unique approaches offer a high aesthetic standard using the simplest materials and equipment available in Cuba today.

**OPEN STUDIO & POTLUCK**

Wednesday, August 11, 4-8 PM  
4pm Open Studio 7pm Pot Luck  
Kwantlen University College, Ceramics Studio  
Open to the Public

The public is invited to observe the artists at work and engage in creative dialogue. Pot luck is "Cuban Canadian Fusion." Please bring a dish to share.



Gutierrez

**SYNTHESIS AND SINCRETISMO : THE CERAMIC SCULPTURE OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA  
DEMO WORKSHOP & SLIDE LECTURE**

Saturday August 14, 10am-5pm  
Alberto Lescaj & Xiomara Gutierrez  
Kwantlen University College, Ceramics Studio  
Fee: \$45

**SLIDE LECTURE**

Alberto Lescaj , Contemporary Cuban Sculpture. Xiomara Gutierrez, Intercultural Exchange "Encuentro Internacional Terracota" 1986-2004.

**DEMO WORKSHOP**

Lescaj will demonstrate his sculptural methods of working, detailing the multiple steps from initial maquette to completed monument. Xiomara will demonstrate her hand building processes focusing on her use of textures and glazes while discussing the central themes underlying her work. Both artists will conclude with a demonstration of sculpture integrating clay and found materials at hand.



## Events

### CUBAN CANADIAN CERAMIC ART COLLECTIVE GALLERY OPENING & RECEPTION

RECEPTION - Thursday, August 19, 7-9 PM

Cityscape Community Art Space  
Open to the Public

EXHIBIT - August 19-September 12

The exhibition will include ceramic art, sculpture, drawings and prints by the Artists in Residence. The process and outcomes of the residency will be shown through video documentation, photography, and the presentation of individual and collaborative art works.

### PASSION FOR THE FIGURE HANDS-ON FIGURATIVE CERAMIC SCULPTURE WORKSHOP

Fri, Aug 20th, Sat, August 21, Sat, August 28

Catherine Merrill & Antonio Lewis

Kwantlen University College, Ceramic Studio

Fee: \$100 (includes materials, model fee, lecture & raku.)

Limited to 30 participants

Working from a live model, this workshop will focus on techniques for making dynamic and expressive figurative clay forms. Participants will sculpt freestanding figures and draw and paint on paper, clay slabs and bisque forms. Demonstration and application of new Cuban ceramic techniques developed by Antonio Lewis including colored clays, polychrome terra sigillatas and artists' pastels and charcoal specially formulated for ceramics. A Raku firing will conclude the workshop. All levels.



### SLIDE LECTURE

The Art of Fire Project:  
Vision, Mission and  
Evolution

Fri, August 20, 7-9 PM

Part of the Figurative Workshop

### RAKU FIRING

Sat, August 28, 10-5 pm

Special Guest Artists David Lloyd  
and Judy Burke

Part of the Figurative Workshop

### PROYECTO ARTE DEL FUEGO - COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Saturday & Sunday, August 21-22

In Partnership with the North Vancouver Community Arts Council

PAF seeks to develop the growth and enrichment of the ceramic arts on a global level by generating educational exchange programs that reach out to sectors of the population often excluded from the mainstream. Resident artists will collaborate with youth and adults in the community to explore the theme of intercultural understanding through art making. Instructors: Alberto Lescay, Xiomara Gutierrez, Jose Vasquez Xenes, Alison Petty and Connie Glover.

For further Information on the PAF Community Outreach contact Alison Petty, [alyupa@yahoo.com](mailto:alyupa@yahoo.com).

### PRESENTATION: HOW ART BREAKS DOWN CULTURAL BARRIERS

#### OPEN STUDIO & PANEL

Wednesday, August 25, 4-9 PM

Open Studios 4-7PM Panel Presentation 7-9PM

Kwantlen University College, Ceramics Studio

#### PANEL PRESENTATION FOLLOWED BY INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION

Moderated by David Lloyd

Panelists include: Antonio Lewis, Catherine Merrill, Friederike Rahn, Alberto Lescay, and Cathi Jefferson.

As cultural ambassadors, the panelists will share their varying perspectives (Cuban, Canadian and American) on cultural exchange programs. They will also address the profound sense of education and growth that emerges from these creative collaborations. Dialogue, discussion and slides will include the following ideas and influences:

- \*breaking through barriers of language, politics, and ethnicity
- \*share technical expertise
- \*artistic and aesthetic innovation
- \*customs, rituals, and sense of community



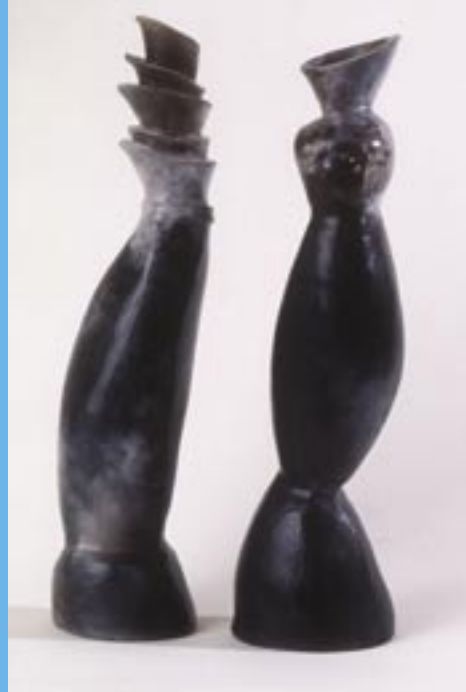
# Workshop Registration

FURTHER INFORMATION: [www.catherinemerrill.com](http://www.catherinemerrill.com) E-MAIL: [CeramicsCa@aol.com](mailto:CeramicsCa@aol.com)  
Or contact David Lloyd: 604-437-1781 or 604- 599-2299

WORKSHOP A  
DEMO WORKSHOP & SLIDE LECTURE:  
PANORAMA OF CUBAN CERAMICS  
Antonio Lewis & Jose Vasquez Xenes  
Saturday, August 7 FEE:\$45

WORKSHOP B  
DEMO WORKSHOP & SLIDE LECTURE:  
SYNTHESIS AND SINCRETISMO : THE CERAMIC  
SCULPTURE OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA  
Alberto Lescay & Xiomara Gutierrez  
Saturday August 14 FEE: \$45

WORKSHOP C  
HANDS-ON WORKSHOP:  
PASSION FOR THE FIGURE  
Catherine Merrill & Antonio Lewis  
Friday, Aug 20th, Saturday, August 21, Saturday  
August 28 FEE: \$100



Burke

Cut along the line below to send this registration form.

I'm signing up for the following workshops:

WORKSHOP A  WORKSHOP B  WORKSHOP C  TOTAL FEE:

NAME:

PHONE:

ADDRESS:

E-MAIL:

Check here if you want us to send you a list of accommodations in the area.

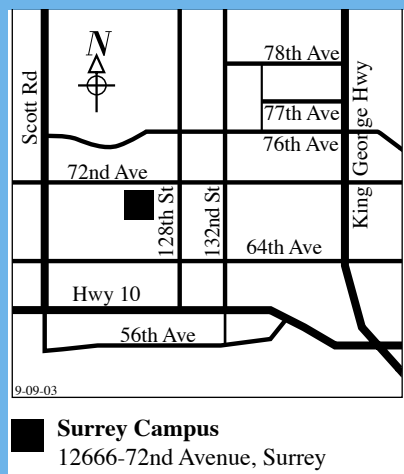
Workshop fees are payable by cheque made out to: Fraser Valley Potters Guild.  
Please remit payment in full at time of registration. Mail Your Workshop Fees to:  
Fraser Valley Potters Guild  
c/o Cheryl Stapleton  
#4, 140 West 18th Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C.



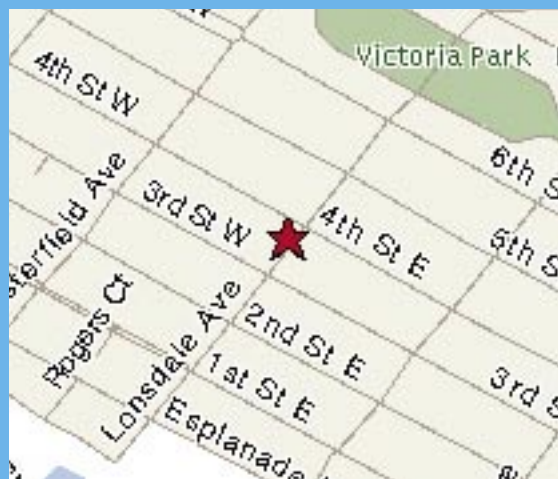
## LOCATIONS

KWANTLEN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
SURREY CAMPUS  
12666 72<sup>nd</sup> Ave,  
Surrey B.C.

[www.kwantlen.ca](http://www.kwantlen.ca)



CITYSCAPE COMMUNITY ART SPACE  
335 Lonsdale Ave,  
North Vancouver. V7M 2G3  
604-988-6844



Cut along the line below to send this registration form.

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Please join us by giving to the Cuban-Canadian Ceramic Art Collective. Your financial support will help build this non-profit intercultural exchange. We will recognize all tax deductible donations by return mail.

Make your donation payable to:

KWANTLEN UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION - Cuban-Canadian Ceramics Project



12666 72nd Avenue  
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DONATION AMOUNT:



Monument to Antonio Maceo, Santiago, Cuba - by Alberto Lescaj