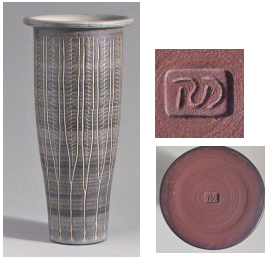


Read **ON** The Newsletter of The Marks Project

Volume I December 2016



Vase, Rupert Deese, thrown stoneware glazed with incised pattern. The Forrest L. Merrill Collection

GOOD NEWS!

Rupert Deese (1925-2010) will be fully documented on www.themarksproject.org in 2017.

Our Holiday gift was an email from the daughter of Rupert Deese offering help in documenting his work and marks on www.themarksproject.org.

This is a gift of legacy to her dad and adds to the story of the American Studio Ceramic Movement.

GROWING At The Marks Project we are growing and making changes to give you a more responsive website. Our unique online research hub of American studio ceramics, will have documented 1300 artists with an estimated 2475 marks (i.e. the back stamp, chop, signature, etc.) listed by January 1, 2017. In September we moved to a major server to increase the speed of search and clarity of images. In July and September 2016, you and an increasing number of others viewed over 60,000 Artists' Pages, with a 79% increase in pages viewed in September alone. Thank you for using www.themarksproject.org.

PRESERVING Martha Drexler Lynn's research shows that "...potters who were well known in their day have disappeared from the accessible records".* Our goal is to create accessible records for American contemporary and studio potters/ceramists working after 1946, to prevent known makers from being forgotten and make previously unknown makers visible by documenting them on www.themarksproject.org.

*(Lynn, Martha Drexler. *American Studio Ceramics Innovation and Identity 1940-1979* (2015))

EXPANDING As part of that goal The Marks Project will begin a project to document the clay arts members of the Southern Highland Craft Guild (Craft Guild), one of the geographically largest craft guilds in the country, spanning the nine states of the Southern Appalachians from Alabama to Maryland. As we begin this task we are asking for your assistance in connecting The Marks Project to collectors and museums across the states and regions of the Craft Guild. We will need help in documenting both the current and hard-to-find past clay artists members. On December 22nd we received a Center for Craft, Creativity & Design Research Grant to help support this project. We need to raise \$15,000 to complete the project, but

We have an Angel! To fund our research project, continue adding new Artists' Pages and provide improved content, we need your financial support. The Marks Project has a three month window to win a \$1 match for every \$3 donated. Our Angel will donate up to \$10,000 to match contributions of \$30,000.

This makes your contribution timely and important.

Donate now to take advantage of year-end Tax Deductions and The Marks Project's Angel. Go to www.themarksproject.org and select the DONATE button on the Home Page or send your tax-deductible contribution to: The Marks Project, Inc., 1117 East Putnam Ave., #491, Riverside, CT 06878.

The Marks Project is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) publicly supported research hub of American studio ceramics, 1946 onward. Contributions are tax deductible.

Whose MARK is it?

The Dictionary of American Studio Ceramics, 1946 to Present



Kudos In each edition of ReadON we'll highlight a person or story that deserves recognition. This month it is **Kudos** to Jeff Kuratnick.



Jeff Kuratnick As part of The Marks Project “2016 Year of the Regional Maker,” Jeff Kuratnick has acted as our research consultant in Montana. He brings his museum specialist and research skills to The Marks Project. Over the last months Jeff has been our on-the-ground man in Montana where he has located, researched, and written biographies of Montana ceramic artists. He used his connections with the Holter Museum, in Helena to access and photograph ceramic objects in the Museum’s storage collection. Jeff also photographed the work of artists in the Red Lodge Clay Center Gallery, Red Lodge, Montana.



Jeff’s work will bring historically important clay artists to the website. Soon you will be able to see the work of Frances Senska, who taught Rudy Autio and Peter Voukos to throw pots and was influential in the formative years of the Archie Bray Foundation; and Sister Mary Trinitas (Morin) who is credited with being an early mover of the Montana clay movement.



Jeff is a ceramic sculptor with a talent for museum work and research. We thank Jeff for bringing Montana clay artists into view by publishing their stories, works and marks on www.themarksproject.org.

Honors for The Marks Project






The Clay Art Center (Port Chester, NY) honored TMP Founder and Executive Director, Martha Vida, for “...making her mark on the field of ceramics and for her passion for making clay artists visible and increasing their ability to establish a presence in the larger market-place of collectors, writers, researchers, curators and gallerists.” Martha expressed her joy at working with Donald Clark, Research Co-ordinator, and Ali Baldenebro, Special Projects Associate, who together brought the concept of a searchable research hub of American studio ceramics to life as www.themarksproject.org.



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO KEEP THE MARKS PROJECT
A GROWING, VALUABLE AND VIABLE ORGANIZATION.

Thank you so much for making The Marks Project possible.

These are just a few of the marks TMP has been asked to help identify. Can you help? Let us know at: info@themarksproject.org

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 www.facebook.com/themarksproject
 www.pinterest.com/themarksproject


The Artists Safety Net

