



Frances Senska 1914–2009



Frances Maude Senska, potter and retired art professor, 95, died peacefully at home on December 25, 2009.

In the fall of 1946 Frances moved to Bozeman to teach art at Montana State College. She established the ceramic arts program. Some of her former students include Rudy Autio and Peter Voukos, as well as many generations to follow. Senska taught at Montana State University until 1973, and thereafter she worked out of her pottery studio at home.

Senska helped establish the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena. She was a director and fellow of the Montana Institute of Arts and an honorary life member of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts.

Senska never retired from the arts, still throwing pots into her 90s. The last major exhibition of her work was the retrospective *Frances Senska: A Life in Art*, at the Holter Museum of Art in Helena, MT, in 2004.

Senska was the recipient of the 2002 Archie Bray Foundation's Meloy-Stevenson Award of Distinction along with the Montana Governor's Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, the American Craft Council's Fellow Award, and an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts degree from Montana State University.

"Frances Senska made an enormous impact on the field of ceramics through her pottery, teaching, and way of life. Due to her vision and encouragement, Voukos and Autio came to the Bray to work in 1951, which changed the course of ceramics forever and we cannot thank her enough for that."—Steven Young Lee

Donations may be made in Frances' name to: the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts, MSU School of Art, Gallatin Valley Land Trust, or Heart of the Valley Humane Society.

resident artist exhibition and bray benefit exhibition & auction

Beginning in June the Bray's Warehouse Gallery will be overflowing with ceramic art. The Resident Artist Exhibition, featuring the work of the 2010 resident artists, and the Bray's 14th annual Bray Benefit Auction will be on display beginning June 17th. The exhibitions will close with a reception, Live Auction and Brickyard Bash on July 24th.

The Bray's residency program continues to support more than 20 ceramic artists every year, offering rent-free studios, access to recently expanded facilities and five fellowship awards for year-round residents.

The Bray Benefit Auction will include the work of over 100 ceramic artists participating in the Cup, Silent, and Live Auctions. All auction items will be on display for the duration of the exhibition and bidding will begin on the Cup and Silent Auction items on June 17th. All auctions will close with a celebration on Saturday, July 24th. The closing celebration will begin at 6 pm with the Cup Auction closing at 7 pm, the Silent Auction closing at 7:15 pm and the Live Auction kicking off at 7:30 pm. A presentation of the 2010 Meloy-Stevenson Award will take place at the beginning of the Live Auction.

The Live Auction features work by Daniel Anderson, Rudy Autio, John Balistreri, Josh DeWeese, Julia Galloway, Robert Harrison, Ayumi Horie, Sarah Jaeger, Steven Young Lee, Beth Lo, Richard Notkin, Bobby Silverman, Chris Staley, Richard Swanson, Akio Takamori, Jason Walker, Kurt Weiser, and Rosalie Wynkoop.

With the excitement of the Live Auction, old and new friends and the return of The Big Sky Mudflaps with special guests from Salsa Loca at the Brickyard Bash, the Bray is the place to be on July 24th. We hope you will plan to join us for a memorable evening to benefit the Archie Bray Foundation.

Tickets for the Live Auction and Brickyard Bash can be purchased in advance for \$10 at Allegra Marketing, Print and Web, Benny's Bistro, Trimac Group Real Estate, or the Bray main office. Tickets at the door will be \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members.

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workshops at the bray 2010



Jeff Oestreich, *Bowl*

Andrew Martin & Mark Pharis
From Flat to Fat:
Function, Context and Process
June 7–18

Jeff Oestreich
The Wheel Update
July 8–11

Bruce Cochrane
Lidded Form and Surface Techniques
August 12–15

Gerrit Grimm & Chris Antemann
Porcelain, Myth and the Figurine
September 23–26

Bernadette Curran
The Danger in Playing with Animals
October 15–17

**To register call 406/443-3052 ext.13
For more information visit our web site at
www.archiebray.org**



archiebrayfoundation

The Archie Bray Foundation was founded in 1951 by Archie Bray, Peter Meloy, and Branson Stevenson "to make available for all who are seriously and sincerely interested in any of the branches of the ceramic arts, a fine place to work."

Staff

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Chip Clawson, Maintenance Manager
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David Shaner
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Kurt Weiser

The Archie Bray Foundation is a 501(c) 3 corporation. Contributions are tax deductible. Tax ID#81-0284022. For information about membership, the resident artist program, community ceramics classes, or any aspect of the Bray's operations, call or write:

Archie Bray Foundation
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Helena, Montana 59602-9929
406/443-3502 fax: 406/443-0934
e-mail: archiebray@archiebray.org
web site: www.archiebray.org

2010upcomingexhibitions

2010visitingartistexhibition

may27–august1
reception:thursday, may27, 6–8pm
braynorthgallery

Featuring functional and sculptural ceramics by visiting artists and workshop instructors Chris Antemann, Bruce Cochrane, Bernadette Curran, Gerit Grimm, George Hrycun, Tyler Lotz, Andrew Martin, Jeff Oestreich, Mark Pharis, Kevin Snipes, and Jason Walker.



Gerit Grimm, *It's just you and me Babe*

residentartistexhibition

june17–july24
reception:thursday, june17, 6–8pm
braywarehousegallery

The annual *Resident Artist Exhibition* celebrates this year's excellent group of Artists in Residence. This exhibition features the work of the Bray's current long-term residents and the 2010 summer residents. The *Resident Artist Exhibition* represents a broad spectrum of work that is being made in the field of ceramics today. The opening reception is a wonderful opportunity to meet the new members of the Bray community and to welcome them to Helena. Opening the same night as the Silent and Cup Auctions, please join us for an enjoyable evening Thursday, June 17, 6–8 pm.

2009–2010fellowshipexhibition

august5–september12
reception:thursday, august5, 6–8pm
braywarehousegallery

A variety of functional, sculptural and installation ceramics will be on display in the Warehouse Gallery for this year's *Fellowship Exhibition*. This exhibition is the conclusion of the year long fellowship awards for Lilian Fellow Sean Erwin, Taunt Fellow Martha Grover, Matsutani Fellow Kelly Garrett Rathbone, MJD Fellow Kensuke Yamada, and Lincoln Fellow Gwendolyn Yoppolo.



braystaff

Left to right: Rachel Hicks, Teresa Amsbaugh, Joshua Rysted, Emily Free Wilson, Chip Clawson, Marcia Eidel, Tad Henningsen, Chuck Aydlett, Birdie Boone, Noreen Lehfeldt, and Steven Young Lee. Not pictured: Peter Rudd

Sculpture by Koi Neng Liew

2010 upcoming exhibitions

(continued from page 2)

farewell exhibitions

august 5–september 12

reception: thursday, august 5, 6–8pm

braynorthgallery

An exhibition will be held for departing resident artists Nathan Craven, Steven Roberts, and Kevin Snipes. Please join us to celebrate their residencies at the Bray.



Steven Roberts, *Plates*

recent acquisitions to the permanent collection

september 23–november 6

braynorthgallery

Recent Acquisitions will include a piece of artwork from outgoing artists in residence, each of whom donates a major piece of work to the Bray's collection upon conclusion of their residency. Artists represented will include Birdie Boone, Nathan Craven, Steven Roberts, Kevin Snipes, Gwendolyn Yoppolo, along with outgoing 2010 summer residents. This exhibition is part of an ongoing effort to keep the history of the Bray vital and accessible to visitors and supporters alike.

exhibition & auction

(continued from page 1)

auction schedule of events 2010 silent & cup auction artists

Saturday, July 24, beginning at 6 pm

- Closing of Cup Auction at 7:00 pm
- Closing of Silent Auction at 7:15 pm
- Live Auction at 7:30 pm
- Presentation of Meloy-Stevenson Award
- Brickyard Bash following the Live Auction
- Music by the Big Sky Mudflaps with special guests from Salsa Loca

Ticket price:

in advance \$10

at the door \$10 members; \$15 for non-members

Tickets may be purchased at Allegra Marketing, Print and Web, Benny's Bistro, Trimac Group Real Estate, or the Bray main office.

To view auction items or for information on absentee bidding, visit www.archiebray.org

2010 live auction artists

Daniel Anderson
Rudy Autio
John Balistreri
Josh DeWeese
Julia Galloway
Robert Harrison
Ayumi Horie
Sarah Jaeger
Steven Young Lee
Beth Lo
Richard Notkin
Bobby Silverman
Chris Staley
Richard Swanson
Akio Takamori
Jason Walker
Kurt Weiser
Rosalie Wynkoop



Steven Young Lee,
Gold Bunny

Ted Adler
Kurt Anderson
Daniel Anderson
Robert Archambeau
Chris Autio
Lela Autio
Chuck Aydlett
Daniel Bare
Aaron Benson
Wally Bivins
Birdie Boone
Amy Brakeman Livezey
Sally Brogden
Victoria Christen
Linda Christianson
Sam Chung
Chip Clawson
Michael Connelly
J.M. Cooper
Nathan Craven
Marc Digeros
Kowkie Durst
Sanam Emami
Heather Mae Erickson
Sean Erwin
Irish Flynn
Emily Free Wilson
Alessandro Gallo
Kelly Garrett Rathbone
John Gill
Seth Green
Deborah Groover
Martha Grover
Christopher Gustin
Charles Hindes
Jim Ibur
Masaya Imanishi
Susannah Israel
Charles Jahn
Suzanne Kane
Jim Koudelka
Debbie Kupinsky
Steven Young Lee
Leah Leitson
Dale Livezey
Kirk Mangus
Andrea Marquis
Leanne McClurg Cambric
Allison McGowan
Lorna Meaden
Alleghany Meadows
Ron Meyers
Peter Morgan
Courtney Murphy
Mardis Nenno
Jill Oberman
Jeff Oestreich
Jess Parker
Mark Pharis
Pete Pinnell
Joseph Pintz
Liz Quackenbush
Monica Ripley
Steven Roberts
Stephen Robison
Peter Scherzer
Emily Schroeder
Deborah Schwartzkopf
Andy Shaw
Adam Shiverdecker
Sandy Simon
McKenzie Smith
Kevin Snipes
Albion Stafford
Robert Sutherland
Cheri Thornton
Phoebe Toland
Doug Turman
Geoffrey Wheeler
Tara Wilson
Kensuke Yamada
Gwendolyn Yoppolo
Valerie Zimany



call for entries

Beyond the Brickyard is an international juried competition that is open to all ceramic artists. The 2010 Voulkos Fellow, Paul Mathieu, has generously agreed to be the guest juror for this exciting exhibition. The submissions deadline is September 15, 2010, with the exhibition scheduled for January of 2011.

Submissions to *Beyond the Brickyard* will only be accepted online. Go to www.archiebray.org and follow the link to Slideroom.com which will allow you to register and upload your images.



2010 Juror's Award:
Brian Molanphy, *seau creve*



2010 Director's Award:
Joseph Gower, *Clementine*

2010 **sage&myhre**scholarships

Each year the Bray selects two scholarship recipients for a summer residency. **Mel Griffin** has been awarded the Sage Scholarship, while **Jonathan Read** is the recipient of the Myhre Scholarship.

Mel Griffin is a potter who is currently pursuing her MFA from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She feels she can greatly benefit from the fresh conversation and high caliber of work found at the Bray and looks forward to her time here.

Myhre Scholar Jonathan Read currently lives Phoenix, Arizona, and is looking forward to focusing on developing new bodies of work in his ceramic sculpture while at the Bray this summer.

Established by Evelyn Sage in honor of her late husband, Bill, and their son, Stirling, the Bill and Stirling Sage Summer Scholarship awards \$800 to a promising young artist between the ages of 18 and 35.

The Eric Myhre Summer Scholarship was established in 2002 by Tootie Myhre, in honor of her late husband, Eric, and awards \$750 to a summer resident of exceptional merit.



Sage Scholar Mel Griffin, *Blue Bird Tall Vase*



Myhre Scholar Jonathan Read, *Woman Sitting*

2010–2011 **fellowship**awards

We are pleased to announce the 2010–2011 Fellowship recipients. Each fellowship awards \$5,000 and a one-year residency at the Foundation to artists of exceptional accomplishment and promise. Beneficiaries are expected to embrace the Bray experience of community and exchange, and have the opportunity to focus their attention on producing and exhibiting a significant body of work.

Selected from a highly competitive field of candidates, the Lilian Fellowship was awarded to **Mathew McConnell**, of Boulder, Colorado; the Lincoln Fellowship went to **Courtney Murphy**, of Asheville, North Carolina; **Jana Evans**, from Tempe, Arizona, received the Taunt Fellowship, **Nicolas Bivins** from Orinda, California, received the Matsutani Fellowship, and **Aaron Benson**, of Knoxville, Tennessee, received the MJD Fellowship.

Applications for the 2011 Fellowships are due at the Bray by March 1, 2011. All applications are to be submitted online. For guidelines or to apply go to www.archiebray.org.

2010 **summer**residents

In addition to Griffin and Read, eight other artists have been selected for short-term residencies for the summer.

Summer resident artists include: **Jeff Campana**, Louisville, Kentucky; **Alanna DeRocchi**, Petersburg, Illinois; **Devin Farrand**, Salem, Oregon; **Shanna Fliegel**, Tarrytown, New York; **Jacob Foran**, Seattle, Washington; **Mel Griffin**, Minneapolis, Minnesota; **Del Harrow**, State College, Pennsylvania; **Art Johnson**, Providence, Rhode Island; **Jonathan Read**, Phoenix, Arizona and **Robert Rose**, San Anselmo, California.



2010 MJD Fellow Aaron Benson, *Untitled*

2011 **resident**application **deadline**

Applications for the 2011 Residencies and Fellowships are due at the Bray by **March 1, 2011**. All applications must be submitted online. For guidelines or to apply, go to www.archiebray.org.

youth **summer**ceramics **classes**

Youth workshops meet Monday–Friday, for 3 to 4 hours. Classes are open to ages 5 years old to high school teens. The Bray offers six class sessions which are scheduled for:

June 21–25, 2010

6–8 year olds, 9–11:30 am
3rd–6th graders, 1–4 pm

June 28–July 2, 2010

6–8 year olds, 9–11:30 am
3rd–6th graders, 1–4 pm
6th–8th graders, 9 am–12 noon
high school teens, 1–4 pm



Tuition is \$150 per person, with a \$50 deposit due to the Bray office within four days after registration. The cost per child covers all expenses—instruction, clay, glazes, use of tools, firing of the work, and snacks. Membership in the Bray is encouraged, but optional. Class enrollment is limited to 12. There will be a \$25 cancellation fee after May 21, 2010.

To register, please call the Bray at 406/443-3502, ext. 14.

joinarchiebraytoday

The Bray is proud to have members from all over the world—artists, collectors, students, appreciators. We want you to be a part of this great group of people who make the Bray such a fine place.

How Your Gift Supports the Bray

Friends of the Bray (\$1,000 and above)

- \$12,200-Supports a resident for one year: studio expenses, communal materials, and fellowship stipend
- \$7,200-Annual studio expenses for one long-term resident
- \$4,000-Utilities for one month
- \$3,500-Gallery supplies for one year
- \$3,000-Sponsorship of one visiting artist
- \$2,000-Annual computer expenses
- \$1,800-Annual studio expenses for one summer resident
- \$1,100-Insurance for one month

Benefactor (\$500 – 999)

- \$730-Freight expenses for one week
- \$600-Studio expenses for one resident for one month
- \$500-Annual community class supplies

Patron (\$250 – 499)

- \$454-Telephone expenses for two weeks
- \$335-Postage and delivery expenses for two weeks
- \$250-Communal glaze and ceramic supplies for one month

Sponsor (\$100 – 249)

- \$200-Stipend for one resident for one month
- \$150-Studio expenses for one resident for one week
- \$100-Stipend for one resident for two weeks

Member (\$35 – 99)

- \$80-Advertising expenses for five days
- \$60-Studio expenses for one resident for three days
- \$35-One subscription for newsletter and exhibition invitations

Name and contact information as you wish it to appear in membership listing:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Enclose check or money order payable to the **Archie Bray Foundation, at 2915 Country Club Ave., Helena, MT 59602**

Please charge: Visa MasterCard AMEX

Cardholder's name _____

Account # _____

Exp. date _____ Amount charged _____

Thank you for your support.

Tax ID# 81-0284022

\$10,000 membership challenge

Membership support is essential to the ongoing well-being of the Bray and this year you can double your gift simply by making one.

Thanks to the generosity of several friends and Bray board members, every new, lapsed renewal, and upgraded membership gifts will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$10,000. This is an exceptional opportunity to make a difference at the Bray.

To make your membership gift you can send a check to the Archie Bray Foundation, 2915 Country Club Avenue, Helena MT, 59602.

You may also make your donation online if you prefer. Visit our website at www.archiebray.org/support/membership.html

We invite you to renew or upgrade your membership and join us next year as we celebrate 60 years of a "fine place to work" at the Archie Bray Foundation.

comprehensive kiln project

With recent gifts from foundations and many generous individual donors, the Bray has reached its \$240,000 goal for the Comprehensive Kiln Project Campaign. The project will add six new kilns to the Bray's studios, which will offer one of the most comprehensive and diverse firing facilities in the country. Included in the project are a 109 cubic foot Bailey Sculpture kiln, two Blaauw gas kilns from the Netherlands, and an atmospheric kiln built by Master Kiln Builders, among others.

The new kilns will dramatically improve the Bray's artistic and educational programs by providing access to new firing technologies and expanding the capacity for scale and artistic experimentation. The new kilns were also chosen specifically to make improvements in energy efficiency from older kilns, helping to reduce the Bray's carbon footprint and improve financial stability through reduced energy costs.

Special thanks to the **Treacy Foundation** of Helena which has pledged \$12,000, the **Reinhardt and Shirley R. Jahn Foundation Trust** which has given \$60,000, **PPL Montana** for \$10,000, **Joan and David Lincoln** for \$50,000, and the **M.J. Murdock Trust** of Portland, Oregon, which has awarded up to \$100,000 to the project.



Gerard Blaauw with a Blaauw Kiln

archiebraywishlist

The Bray is in need of a few small items. Let us know if you have something to donate, or would be interested in donating funds to be used to purchase these items. If you can help, contact Steve at 406/443-3502 ext. 12.

- Hot pot for heating water
- Microwave for workshop use
- Lawn rakes
- Vacuum



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 2915 Country Club Avenue
 Helena, MT 59602

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 59602

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The Archie Bray is supported by the Montana Arts Council, a state agency funded by the State of Montana and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Partial funding for this project was provided by the Montana Cultural Trust.



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2010 peter voulkos visiting artist fellowship

Reflections as the 2010 Voulkos Visiting Artist Fellow by Paul Mathieu

Seeing my name added to the impressive list of previous Voulkos Fellows was at first daunting. This fellowship implies a clear responsibility to respond to such a challenge, to attain the standards set by previous fellows.



Paul Mathieu

I arrived at the Bray for my 20-day stay just before the Sunday set aside for the making of bowls to be donated for a local Empty Bowls fundraising event. This gave me the opportunity to integrate with the community and become a part of the Bray family, so to speak. This was my first visit to the Bray, but I had always been aware, as long as I have done ceramics, of its reputation for excellence. The current residents fulfill that mandate with true professionalism and it was a joy to interact and exchange with them all. I met with each of them, informally for some, to discuss their work and support their practice as best I could. The variety of approaches to ceramics was well represented and offered me a satisfying opportunity to expand on my appreciation for the art. One of my remaining duties will be to write a short essay on each of this year's five fellowship recipients. These will be published in a catalog that will be

produced for the exhibition to celebrate the completion of their awards in August.

On the second weekend of my stay, I led a workshop on critical writing in ceramics "*Why Ceramics Matters as Art as Never Before?*". There were 12 of us sitting around a table for two days, diligently working on our various and very diverse essays, discussing the results and offering advice. It was a challenge for me, since I had never done such a workshop, but if the others learned as much as I did, it was a certain success. One evening, I gave a public talk on my work and I gather it was enjoyable for all since they didn't seem to want to leave at the end, even after numerous questions and a lengthy discussion.

For the remainder of my stay, I worked in the Voulkos Visiting Artist Studio taking advantage of this precious and continuous amount of time, away from school, the Winter Olympics in Vancouver, and all the distractions of daily life. I reworked a previous clay piece that had not been very successful in the past, thanks to the generosity of Resident Artist Director Steven Lee, who let me use one of his molds for that purpose. I expect my second attempt will be much better than the first. From this piece, I made a simple shell mold so that I could bring the results back with me to my studio to continue later. I also began work on 11 pastel drawings, using all but one of the 12 sheets of paper I had brought with me. Here again, the results will require substantial reworking, but it was most gratifying to be so productive.

The opportunity to interact with the Bray community and the larger world of Helena, Montana during such beautiful, mild yet

snow-covered days was also a gift and a pleasure. I was wined and dined continuously and I thank everyone for their hospitality and cooking skills.

In reflection, it may have been somewhat of a stretch for me to fulfill the honor of the Voulkos Fellow at the Archie Bray. Yet, it is also important to recognize the accomplishments of those like myself who may not have completed their contribution to ceramics quite yet. If our senior artists deserve such recognition, which in many cases may not have come yet (and I could name quite a few worthy of the honor), it is also great to become part of such a distinguished group of legends, even if I still have much to do myself to deserve the title fully. Thank you to all in Helena and at the Bray who have made my stay so fulfilling and so pleasant. May the memories I have left behind be as enriching as those I take with me.



Paul Mathieu, *Matisse Head Flower Vase with Still-Life of Pots*

The Bray was pleased to have Paul Mathieu working in the Voulkos Visiting Artist Studio as the 2010 Voulkos Visiting Artist Fellow. Mathieu teaches ceramics at Emily Carr University in Vancouver, B.C., Canada. His latest book on the history of ceramics is available free online at