EVERYDAY CEREMONIES

METALWORK AND ENAMELING BY SARAH PERKINS



ARKANSAS ARTS CENTER
DECORATIVE ARTS MUSEUM

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The maker of hollowware can use the properties of the material: the permanence, dimensionality and plasticity of metal, as well as the techniques and concern for detail of the jeweler, while making work which is for people to use together in public or private ceremonies. My work has been primarily cup sets and ceremonial vessels because I am interested in the social implications and uses of these forms. The interactions of people with each other and with the objects I make when they are being used is a conceptual focus of the work. The materials and techniques I use are chosen because they are appropriate, and because they are the ones I am drawn to and enjoy working with.

In my work the metal forms and the enamel imagery work together to make a whole, with the two materials complimenting each other rather than one being visually more important than the other. Technically as well as visually, the pieces are a unit, which is a manifestation of the ideas of integration and relationship that the work addresses.

The forms, colors and imagery in my work derive from two sources: metal technology and natural forms.

I feel a strong affinity for metal and I am fascinated by its permanence, malleability, strength and surface qualities. I use directly or copy in enamel some of the colors and surfaces which naturally occur through the various working processes. It is also important that some metal show on the surface, rather than being simply the support mechanism for the enamel, because I



12 IRON AND SILK, 1996

want to show that the finished piece is a relationship between and a collaboration of two media.

My work reflects my emotional response to my environment, referring to landscape, body part, or natural object. In the jewelry pieces and recent vessels I am concerned with organic imagery. The forms and color imagery are derived from leaves, fish, and other natural objects because I find these modulations of color, texture and surface both appealing and very intimate.

Relationships between people are also an issue in my work, which is especially apparent in the cups. The social and ceremonial aspects of drinking liquids are referred to with these pieces, and it is therefore important that they be completely functional, whether they are ever actually used or not. The scale is consistent with this human use, as are the warmth and softness of the forms and finishes which invite the viewer to investigate the work with both eyes and hands.

-Sarah Perkins

E X H I B T O N E C K I S T I H L

VESSELS, CUPS, Containers, Teapots and other objects

- 1 Body Cup, 1992 Copper, silver, enamel 4 x 4 inches diameter
- 2 Demitasse Spoon Set, 1993 Sterling silver, enamel, 18k gold, walnut box by Kyle Kinser 3 x 7.5 x 4.5 inches
- 3 Juice Cups (4 Pairs), 1993 Copper, silver, enamel 3 x 2.75 inches diameter (each)
- 4 Small Spoon Set, 1993 Sterling silver, enamel, mahogany box by Kyle Kinser 2 x 8 x 6 inches
- 5 Spoon Set, 1993 Sterling silver, enamel, mahogany box by Kyle Kinser 2 x 8 x 6 inches
- 6 Makanda Space Cup, 1994 Copper, silver, enamel 3.5 x 3.25 inches diameter
- 7 Monument Valley, 1994 Copper, silver, vitreous enamel 3.5 x 3.25 inches diameter Lent by Roger Ford
- 8 Scratch Cups, 1994 Silver, enamel 3 x 3 inches diameter (each)
- 9 Shell Cups, 1994 Silver, vitreous enamel 3 x 3 inches diameter (each)
- 10 Flow Cups, 1995 Silver, vitreous enamel 6 x 2.5 inches diameter (each)
- 11 Second Marriage Wedding Cup, 1995 Silver, vitreous enamel 5 x 3.5 inches diameter
- 12 Iron and Silk, 1996 Silver, vitreous enamel 3.5 x 3.25 inches diameter
- 13 Blue Intersections, 1997 Copper, silver, enamel 7 x 5.25 inches diameter
- 14 Classic Folded Vessel, 1998 Silver, vitreous enamel 8 x 4.5 inches Lent by Roger Ford

- 15 Contained Folded Vessel, 1998 Silver, vitreous enamel
- 16 Folded Vessel, 1998 Silver, vitreous enamel 8 x 5 inches Lent by Mark Bloome
- 17 Stacked Bud Cup, 1998 Silver, vitreous enamel 6 x 3.75 inches
- 18 Fruiting Folded Vessel, 1999 Silver, vitreous enamel 8.5 x 6 inches
- 19 Teapot, 1999 Silver, enamel, pearls 6.5 x 9 x 4.5 inches
- 20 Blue Triple Cup, 2000 Silver, enamel 3.5 x 3.5 inches diameter
- 21 Ceremonial Container, 2000 Silver, enamel, onyx 9 x 6 inches diameter
- 22 Mae Teapot, 2000 Silver, enamel, ebony, citrine 6 x 8.5 x 4 inches
- 23 Pink Triple Cup, 2000 Silver, enamel 3.5 x 3.5 inches diameter
- 24 Algae Beggar's Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 3 x 4.5 inches diameter
- 25 Anemone Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 2.75 x 4.25 inches diameter
- 26 Beggar's Bowl I, 2001 Copper, enamel 3 x 5.5 inches diameter
- 27 Burned Beggar's Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 3 x 5 inches diameter
- 28 Burned Beggar's Bowl II, 2001 Copper, enamel 3 x 5.5 inches diameter
- 29 Calabash Beggar's Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 3.5 x 7 x 6.5 inches
- 30 Ceremonial Cups, 2001 Silver, enamel, ebonized mahogany, silver plated brass tray by Charles Radtke
- 31 Flat Stitched Beggar's Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 2.5 x 4.5 x 5.5 inches

- 32 Itradan, 2001 Silver, enamel, padouk, pearls, mustard seed, pebbles 2 x 10 x 7.5 inches
- 33 Large Itradan, 2001 Silver, enamel, walnut 3.5 x 16 x 4.5 inches
- 34 Pragmatic Nature Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel, silver 4.5 x 6 inches diameter
- 35 Pomander, 2001 Fine and sterling silver, enamel, onyx 2.5 x 5.5 x 5.5 inches
- 36 Offering Bowl, 2001 Copper, silver, enamel, lapis 4 x 9.5 x 5.75 inches
- 37 Pearl Cup, 2001 Silver, enamel, pearls 3 x 3.5 inches diameter
- 38 Rosewater Itradan, 2001 Silver, enamel, ebony, coral, sage, flower petals, charcoal 7 x 12 x 3.5 inches
- 39 Shares, 2001 Silver, enamel, ebony Pitcher: 8 x 7 x 5 inches Cup: 2.5 x 2.5 inches diameter
- 40 Sophia, 2000 Silver, enamel, onyx 5 x 3.5 inches
- 41 Stitched Beggar's Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 3 x 5 inches diameter
- 42 Stubble Bowl, 2001 Copper, enamel 2.5 x 4.25 inches diameter
- 43 Tom Canty's Beggar's Bowl, 2001 Silver, enamel 3.25 x 5.25 inches diameter

NECKPIECES And Brooches

- 44 Wing Brooch, 1991 Silver, enamel 1.25 x 1.75 inches
- 45 Green Intrusion, 1994 Silver, enamel 1.5 x 1.75 inches
- 46 Red Intrusion, 1994, Copper, silver, enamel 1.5 x 1.75 inches

- 47 Leaf Neckpiece I, 1996 Silver, enamel, steel cable 18 inches diameter
- 48 Leaf Neckpiece II, 1996 Silver, enamel, steel cable 14 inches diameter
- 49 Blind Stylus Brooch, 1997 Silver, enamel, pearl, lapis, blue topaz, 14k gold 6 inches long
- 50 Ivory Stylus Brooch, 1997 Copper, silver, enamel, carnelian, onyx, 14k gold 6 inches long
- 51 Linguist's Staff Brooch, 1997 Silver, enamel, 14k gold 7 inches long
- 52 Rainmaker Stylus Brooch, 1997 Silver, enamel, onyx, quartz, 18k, 14k golds 7 inches long
- 53 Red Venus Brooch, 1997 Copper, silver, enamel, onyx, 14k gold 5.5 inches long
- 54 Stick Stylus Brooch, 1997 Silver, enamel, amethyst, onyx, 22k, 14k, golds 5 inches long
- 55 Venus Stylus Brooch, 1997 Silver, enamel, onyx, blue topaz, 18k, 14k golds 7 inches long
- 56 Aplysia Brooch, 1998 Copper, silver, enamel, onyx, citrine 7 inches long
- 57 Caterpillar Stylus Brooch, 1998
 Silver, enamel, onyx, pearl, 14k gold
- Silver, enamel, onyx, pearl, 14k gold 6 inches long 58 Gar Fishing Lure Brooch, 1999
- Silver, enamel, 14k, 18k, 22k golds 5.5 inches long 59 Hinged Fishing Lure, 1999 Silver, enamel 7 x 4 x 0.5 inches
- 60 Racked Fishing Lure, 1999 Silver, enamel, 14k, 22k golds 6 x 3 x 0.5
- 61 Scorpion Stylus Brooch, 1999 Silver, enamel, carnelian, citrine, 14k gold 6 inches long

- **62** Temple of Venus Brooch, 1999 Silver, enamel, onyx, garnet, 22k, 18k, 14k golds 5 inches long
- 63 Blue/Black GL Brooch, 2000 Enamel, 14k gold, silver 2 x 1.5 inches
- 64 Blue Sand Dollar GL Brooch, 2000 Enamel, 14k gold, silver 2 x 2 inches
- 65 Blue Spiked Brooch, 2000 Silver, enamel, pearl, 14k gold 4 inches long
- 66 Copper GL Brooch, 2000 Copper, enamel, 14k gold, silver 2 x 2 inches
- 67 Green Spiked Brooch, 2000 Silver, enamel, pearl, 14k gold 3.5 inches long
 68 Landscape GL Brooch, 2000
- Enamel, 14k gold, silver 1.75 x 1.75 inches 69 Pink Spiked Brooch, 2000
- Silver, enamel, pearl, 14k gold 4 inches long 70 Puffball Brooch, 2000
- Silver, enamel 7 inches long 71 Resurrected Caterpillar, 2000 Silver, enamel, pearl, 14k gold
- 6 inches long

 72 Starfish GL Brooch, 2000
 Copper, enamel, 14k gold, silver
- 1.5 x 1.5 inches

 73 Winter Echinacea, 2000
 Silver, enamel, 14k gold
 6 inches long
- 74 Worm Stylus Brooch, 2000 Copper, silver, enamel, hematite, peridot, steel 7 inches long
- 75 Lychee Spiked Brooch, 2001 Silver, enamel, garnet, 14k gold 3.5 inches long

All dimensions are in inches and fraction of inches, height precedes width precedes depth. Unless noted otherwise all works are lent by the artist. Work is arranged by subject, year and title.