



THE MARGARET LAWRENCE AUSTRALIAN CERAMICS COLLECTION

'Terra firma: The Inquisitive Collector'

Curated by Tina Lee

EXHIBITION: 1 May – 1 June 2014
LAUNCH: Thursday 1 May, 6-8pm



Arthur Merric Boyd, *Hand painted platter*, ceramic, 1945c, height 1.7cm x diameter 17.5cm

On May 1st, the centenary eve of the late Margaret Lawrence's birthday, Chapter House Lane invites you to drink a toast to her life and legacy at the opening celebration of the 'Give it Up For Margaret' festival.

We are excited to present 'Terra firma: The Inquisitive Collector', showcasing close to one hundred works from the Margaret Lawrence Ceramics Collection. The exhibition is curated by the esteemed visual artist, registrar, arts educator, and ceramic collector Tina Lee.

It doesn't take long for the enchantment of ceramics to take hold. From ancient pottery to contemporary ceramics, the masterful manipulation of the lively materials of earth, pigment, and fire offers endless variation of form and colour. Margaret Lawrence's lifelong passion for ceramics encapsulates the breadth of work Australian studio ceramics and commercial 'art potters' produced from the early 1900's until 2005, the year of her death at age 90.

This rich history will be on display, influenced by Lawrence's idiosyncratic style and personality: her attraction to bright colours, sense of humour, and love for football. Significant works by Arthur Merric Boyd, Harold Hughan, Gladys Reynell, Peter Rushforth, and Reg Preston, will commingle with contemporary artists; Bern Emmerichs, Greg Daly, David Ray, Prue Venables, Alan Peascod, Stephen Benwell and Deborah Halpern, out of many more. Highlights of the exhibition include Lawrence's treasured pieces by Gerry Wedd, Barbara Swarbrick, Gail Nichols, Joe Szirer, Owen Rye, Stephen Benwell, and Koji Hoashi.

A reigning Quizmaster queen, pioneering philanthropist, and avid Carlton supporter, Margaret Lawrence's vision for the advancement of women, education, welfare and the arts drives home the importance of engaged philanthropic practice. For more information, visit www.giveitupformargaret.com

LOCATION: Chapter House Lane,
entry via Flinders Lane, Melbourne

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Chapter House Lane thanks Careers Australia, McPherson Wines and St Paul's Cathedral for their ongoing support of our not-for-profit space.

Donations made before 30 June can be claimed on your 2013/14 tax return.

Tax-deductible donations can be made through The Australia Cultural Fund. Your contribution helps us to improve our space whilst keeping exhibitions rent-free for artists.