

John Anthony Dermer Australian potter; born: Melbourne, Australia, 1st December 1949

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Member: Victorian Ceramic Group; Australian Ceramics; Arts Yackandandah: Murray Arts.

Workshops: Numerous demonstration workshops in Australia since 1978. Demonstration throwing for Wedgwood, USA 1972

Curatorial: Retrospective of the late Reg Preston and Phyl Dunn, Australian potters, Melbourne 2010

Travel: Extensive travel in USA, Europe, Scandinavia, Japan, China, looking at local ceramics. Since 1968 regular travels to Central Australian deserts to photograph the landscape as a source of inspiration and research materials.

Studies: 1967-68 Preston Institute of Technology ; Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology 1969-1970. European experience; including Artist in Residence for Wedgwood, Stoke on Trent, UK. Production thrower for Michael Leach ,1971 Devon UK; Melbourne State College, Diploma of Education 1973. Established pottery and built home and studio in Yackandandah, NE Victoria 1974. Studio trainees 1978-1983. Commenced bi-annual exhibitions at the home studio gallery in 1978 till the present day, 2015 will celebrate 38 consecutive years of such exhibitions at home. Has been totally self funded from his work since 1975 as a full time potter. Continues to work in salt glazed porcelain, both wood fired and gas fired, and produces a range of porcelain tableware. Commenced salt glazing in 1967. A limited production of work in Terra Sigillata is still practised. Pioneered and introduced the use of ceramic fibre blanket as a sagger medium for Terra sigillata firing.[for major commission for large scale pots for the New Parliament House, Canberra]

Awards: 2006 Saltzbrand Koblenz, Germany; Mayfair Award, Sydney 1978-1980; Beaumaris Ceramic Award ,1970.Shell Award 1973, 1978; Port Hacking Ceramic Award, 1980; Fletcher Brownbuilt [commendation] NZ 1979, 1990; Ausceram Perth 1990; 2009, H R Hughan Award, Melbourne.

Commissions: Major Commission to produce large scale work for the Prime Ministers suite and Cabinet Room entry for the new Parliament House , Canberra, 1987/1988.

Selected solo exhibitions: 1971 Beaumaris Art Gallery; 1973 Hawthorn City Art gallery; 1976, 1994, Distelfink Gallery; 1976 Beechworth Gallery; 1976-1979 Potters Cottage, Warrandyte; 1979 Buckland Gallery; Sydney: 1979 ,1987, Macquarie Art Gallery; 1987,1995, Ceramic Art Gallery Sydney; Potters Society, 1982; 1980 Bonython Art gallery, Adelaide; 1989 Studio 20, Adelaide; 1981 Victor Mace Gallery Brisbane; 1981 Freemantle Arts Centre; 1991 Coupe Collosus Jam Factory, Adelaide; Tokyo; 1992, , Seibu Department Store ; Tachikichi, Osaka 1992, 1997; 1995 Handmark ,Hobart; 1995 Blackwood Street gallery, Melbourne; 2005 Skepsi Gallery , Melbourne.

Artists writings : Burnt Earth , The Journey. Yackandandah 1992 ; Method of Throwing 1982, Potters Society of Australia publication.

Selected Bibliography: Germaine ,1994; 1990,1997 Who's Who Australian Visual Artists; Mayfair Ceramic Award catalogue, 1977; J Mansfield potters in Australia, 1980; Mansfield, The Potters Art,1981.; Selected Australian Crafts, Buckle, 1982; K. Hood, Contemporary Australian Ceramics,1982; J Hoare, B Anderson, Clay Statements.1985;G. Cochrane, The Craft Movement in Australia, a History. Sydney 1992; J Mansfield , Potters 85; Numerous representations in Pottery in Australia; Ceramics Art and Perception; Journal of Ceramics. Group exhibition catalogues.

Selected Group Exhibitions: More than 20 group exhibitions from 1968 till 1980; Japan, Mashiko, Catalogue entry winner, 2004, 2005; 2004, Skepsi Gallery, Celebrating The Master; 2005 Freeland Gallery, Sydney; Germany, 2006, Saltzbrand Keramik; 2006, Encrusted, Skepsi, Melbourne; 2006, Manningham Surface Connections; 2006 Freeland, Responding To The Landscape, Sydney; 2009 Victorian Ceramic Group, 40th Exhibition; 2010, Essential For Domestic Goddess, Skepsi; 2012 Potters Cottage, A Tribute; 2013 Thrown, National Gallery of Victoria; 2014 Art and Craft Design Award, Germany; 2011 Arresting, Manningham ; 2011 Encrused; Manningham; 2012 Engaging Form, Skepsi; 2013 Expressions of Self, Montsalvat; 2014 Course Of Objects, Manly, Sydney; 2014 Porcelain, Kerrie Lowe Gallery Sydney; 2014 Gold Coast Ceramic Award; 2015 Glazed wood fired work, Malvern Arts Centre; 2015 Kerri Lowe, Sydney, Tableware; 2015 , Belonging, Canberra, ACT.

Represented: Australian National Gallery, Canberra; Parliament House, Canberra [Cabinet room/Prime Ministers Office]; Federal High Court Building; National Gallery of Victoria; Queensland Art Gallery; Manly Art Gallery; Tasmanian Art Gallery and Museum, Queen Victoria Art Gallery, Launceston Tasmania; Bunbury Art Gallery; Freemantle Art Centre, WA; Art Gallery of West Australia, State collection; Australia Council Collection; Buten Museum, Philadelphia, USA, Wedgwood Museum, Stoke on Trent, UK ; Birmingham Museum, Alabama USA: Castelmaine Art Gallery; Bendigo Art Gallery; Ballarrat Art Gallery; Horsham Art Gallery; Hamilton Art gallery; Power house Museum, Sydney; Westerwald Museum, Germany; Albury Regional Gallery; Brisbane City Art gallery; Gold Coast Art Gallery; Shepparton Art Gallery; Whitehorse City Collection; Art Gallery of South Australia; KenDon Museum, Melbourne; Warnambool Art Gallery: Major private collections: both in Australia and overseas.

Recent Publication and writings : Journal of Australian Ceramics .Vol 54 No 1 April 2015 pages 54 to 58 "The Art of Function, The Function of Art." Gallery : publication of the National Gallery of Victoria " Make" pages 38 to 45 July/August 2014 ; "Brown Lumpy and scratches the laminex" Journal of Australian Ceramics November 2013 pages 111/112