Persian Ceramics
History and Design
from Prehistoric to Contemporary

Art University of Isfahan

A lecture by:
Shabanali Ghorbani
This lecture was held on May 16, 2016 at Clay Place at Standard exhibit space and gallery in Pittsburgh, PA, USA, with kind invitation and support of Mr. James A. Turnbull and Mr. Graham Turnbull.
The same lecture was held on April 27, 2016 at New York University, NYU Steinhardt Dept. of Art and Art Professions, in the Einstein Auditorium with kind invitation and support of Professor Dr. Judith Schwartz.

Persian ceramics history dates back to the 7th millennium BC starting with the production of coarse and unglazed wares - carrying on to production of the most beautiful and complicated luster-wares in the world.

From centuries past and onward, Persian ceramics has responded to the changes and demands of politico-social events by adopting and refining new forms and designs and blending them into their own culture.

This innovative attitude of Persian ceramics has survived through time and influenced many other cultures around the world.

Visiting scholar, Shabanali Ghorbani, doctoral student in ceramic art education and teacher from the Crafts School, Art University of Isfahan, Iran will lecture on design motifs & themes that run through Iranian Art in ceramics.

Please join us for his lecture on:

Wednesday | April 27 | 6pm

NYU Steinhardt Dept. of Art and Art Professions
34 Stuyvesant Street
in the Einstein Auditorium
Open to the public, no reservation required
7th -8th millenniums BCE;

POTTERY MAKING IN THE IRANIAN PLATEAU DATES BACK TO THE EARLY NEOLITHIC AGE WITH THE PRODUCTION OF COARSE, UNGLAZED, UNDERFIRED WARES.
PLACE; SOUTH OF THE CASPIAN SEA IN TWO CAVES, IN THE SO-CALLED KAMARBAND, (BELT CAVE) AND HOTO CAVES NEAR PRESENT DAY BEHSHAHR CITY.
People of Behshahr region
Village Architecture of the Region
People of Behshahr region
Mr. Hosein Nouri, from Shahrood, and head of Ceramic Art Society of Semnan. Pit Firing presentation, 2010
Hosein Nouri

Bastam historical architecture
Semnan main mosque

Kianoosh Motaghedi, 2010
Semnan main mosque

Shabanali Ghorbani, 2010
Semnan main mosque

Mohammad Rostamzade, 2010
7th millenium B.C;

A Goddess, **FEMALE FERTILITY FIGURINE**, Venus of Sarab - Tepe Sarab - National museum of Tehran

Willendorf-Venus, Austria
Position of Kermanshah in Iran’s map
Nature of Kermanshah
Traditional clothing of Kermanshah people
Sara Mohammadi from Kordistan region, Village primitive pottery
Maryam Kohestani, 2012
Position of Kashan in Iran’s map
Tepe Sialk Ceramics
Tepe Sialk, Capra/Wild goat
Tepe Sialk,
Iranian Cheetah
Abiane Village, kashan
Susa Ceramics, animal inspired cup painting
Susa City contemporary
Shushtar Historical Hydraulic System, 500 B.C.
Ziggurat at Chogha Zanbil 1200 B.C.
3200 B.C;
Shahr-e Sukhteh, one of the oldest cities in the world

Position of Shahr-e Sukhteh in Iran’s map
Pot with animated images around it, considered to be the first moving images (animation) in the world.
the first dices and synthetic eyes in the world also were found in shahr-i-sukhta.
Archaeological excavation in shahr-i-sukhta.
Village near shahr-i-sukhta.
people near shahr-i-sukhta.
Kalporegan pottery
Terracotta pottery in shape of Bull used in rituals
Terracotta pottery in shape of Bull used in rituals
Terracotta ceramics in shape of human figures used in rituals known as fertility goddess
Terracotta pottery in shape of human figures used in rituals
Terracotta pottery in shape of Chariot used in rituals
Terracotta pottery used in rituals
Golden Cups of Marlik civilization
Mr. Negahban, archaeologist
People of Gilan region
foods of Gilan region
550 B.C.; Achaemenid Period and Sasanid

Position of Persepolis in Iran’s map
Iran map during Achaemenid empire
Persepolis remaining in Fars/Shiraz
Painted and glazed tiles as wall murals and tiles
Unglazed tiles as wall murals
Clay tablet with Cuneiform script for rules and recordings
Gold and Silver vessels
Simple Pottery in Achaemenid period
Ashkanid pottery
Sasanid pottery
10th Century A.D; Nishapur Ceramics

Position of Nishapur in Iran’s map
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Bird Motif
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Bird Motif
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Bird Motif
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Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Bird Motif
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Bird Motif
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Human and animal motives
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Human and animal motives
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Human and animal motives
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Human and animal motives
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Kufic calligraphic form
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Kufic calligraphic form
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/
Kufic calligraphic form
Nishapur slip-plate with underglaze painting/ Kufic calligraphic form
Nishapur slip-plate with incised design and splash glazing
Nishapur slip-plate with incised design and splash glazing
12th Century A.D; Seljuk Ceramics, The glorious period in Persian ceramics

Position of Khorasan, Ray, Kashan and Azarbajjan in Iran’s map
Unglazed ware, Seljuk period
One colored wares (Turquoise and Cobalt Blue), Seljuk period
One colored wares (Turquoise),
Seljuk period
One colored wares (Turquoise), Seljuk period
One colored wares
(Turquoise), Seljuk period
One colored wares (Turquoise and Cobalt Blue), Seljuk period
Black Painting Under Turquoise glaze, Seljuk period
Black Painting Under Turquoise glaze, Seljuk period
Pierced double skin pots, Seljuk period
Minai, over glaze painting, Seljuk period
Minai, over glaze painting, Seljuk period
Minai, over glaze painting, Seljuk period
Minai, over glaze painting, Seljuk period
Luster over glaze painting, Seljuk period