



Terry Davies Biography

My training began in the late 1970s, when I followed a studio apprenticeship in the Leach tradition. The discipline was hard, but I have brought with me the skills that I learned in those early years and they have served me every day of my working life.

My transformation from production thrower to studio potter took many years and many journeys; my “journeyman” travels took me around the world, starting in the French wood-firing potters’ village La Borne, to Australia, New Zealand, South East Asia, Japan, and South America, and finally to Italy, where I eventually settled down among the gentle hills of Tuscany.

I arrived in Italy in 1998 and took my first steps of Italian life working for the La meridiana pottery school, but I quickly moved on to establish myself as an art studio potter.

The stoneware movement in Italy was still in its early evolutionary stages and as a result, there is very little understanding of high-temperature ceramics. I travel fairly frequently to the northern European pottery markets and festivals, where sometimes I am also invited to perform one of my experimental kilns.

My work is based on a technique that I developed many years ago in the U.K. In Italy it has been named “pelle d’elefante” (elephant skin). These pieces are thrown, but are pushed outwards while they are being made, to crack the surface; they give the feeling of dry burnt earth.

Slowly my individual pieces are evolving, becoming more abstract, but at the same time, getting closer to the earth, even to the point of destruction, this limit interests me, and the work of 2022 evidently shows this.

The firing process is as important for me, as the making. Many natural stone, and found materials are placed into the raw clay, as added impurities, during the 1300 deg c. in a reduction atmosphere, those chosen impurities, are pulled to the surface of the object, and as they pass, they leave wonderful burnt tones, and spots of Iron, manganese, and bronze dust.

This process can be seen, by visiting my studio

My studio and gallery near Certaldo were set up in 2004 and are open most days of the year for visitors.

Exhibition Solo

- 1984 bearsteps gallery Shrewsbury UK
- 1993 Noel house Hampshire UK
- 2006 One man show Villa San Paolo San Gimignano Italy
- 2007 Terry Davies Studio Potter National museum of ceramics Montelupo Florence Italy
- 2007 Terry Davies Studio Potter Gruppo Artistico Grumello Arte Grumello del Monte Bergamo Italy
- 2008 Spazio Block Store Turin La Plateria e il segno
- 2014 Casa Nuova officina della arte Siena Terry davies Personale
- 2015 Keramos Ass. culturale Roma personale Terry Davies
- 2016 Theemaas Rotterdam Netherlands
- 2017 Museum della ceramica Grottaglie TA. It. Sezione Speciale Terry Davies
- 2019—23 Nous Art Gallery San Gimignano It

Exhibition Group. (most important)

- 1989 Candover Gallery Hampshire U.K 101 Jugs.
- 1996 Jam Factory Adelaid Australia
- 1998 Bournemouth university gallery Green Island Potters
- 1994 Walford mill Dorset pottery group
- 2000 Gallery Sigillo Florence
- 2001 Bearsteps gallery UK
- 2003 Portsmouth New Hampshire USA Show “Toscana”
- 2005 Nove, Veneto Italy open studio /
- 2005 Assosiation Arte della ceramica anual show Montelupo Florence
- 2006 Art in clay Hatfield house London
- 2006 Loggetta del Trentanove Exhibition Faenza Italy
- 2007 Invited guest artist in exhibition *La mano, il cuore, la poesia* Kanramachi and Tokyo Japan
- 2007 Villa One hundred chimneys Florence Italy
- 2007 *Terre Di Valdelsa* Banca di credito coopertivo certaldo
- 2007 Laborne Si Inflammé France
- 2008 Collective show in Moustiers St. Marie Provence France
- 2008 *Le forme dell’acqua* Association Arte della ceramica Ceramic Festival
- 2009 Dead sea ceramic center Israel
- 2010 Gallery Tannaz Firenze Bildung
- 2011 150 years Italia museum of ceramics montelupo Florence
- 2011 e poi il fuoco certaldo Italy
- 2012 ceramica Fiorita Contrada del Nicchio Siena
- 2012 Change centro ceramica fornace pagliero Torino italy.

2013 Museo International delle Ceramiche Faenza 58 Premio Faenza Finalist.
 2013 Ex Macello, Padova Italy. Futuro Anteriore
 2014 Keramik museum Hohn Grenzhausen Westerwald Westerwald Preis
 2015 Pinacoteca Comunale Palazzo vitelli alla Cannoniera Citta di Castello . IT “Terra” La ceramica Nell Informale e Nella Ricerca contemporanea
 2015 Tenuta di Sticciano CABA ass. culturale La cena della cento Ciotole
 2015 Museo International delle Ceramiche Faenza 59th Premio Faenza Finalista
 2016 Round House Gallery Darbyshire U.K
 2017 Borgo Pignano Volterra Terra Vivente
 2018 Gmunden Austria 30 years celebration of Keramik market
 2018 Museo della Ceramica Grottaglie Pulia IT concorso di ceramica mediterranea
 2019 International Academy of Ceramics Xixing China The 1st world ceramic tea pot competition

Summary

1961 Born in Shrewsbury, Shropshire, United Kingdom.
 1977- 78 Studio training, The Cooper Pottery
 1980-82 Signum studios, further intense training
 1982-84 Coalport China Works Museum, head of the training team.
 1984-88 First studio: Wales/England Green Island studio, Dorset ex. Guy Sydenham.
 1990 Greek Island of Evia, teaching at Alan Bain ceramics school
 1991 San Antonio, studio work.
 1991 La Borne pottery village France, wood kiln study
 1992-95 Set up Stapehill Abbey pottery studio – UK
 1995 South America, exploring South America collecting and studying ceramics.
 1996 Melbourne/Adelaide Australia. Jam Factory ceramic workshop and school.
 1997 Auckland New Zealand, studying Chinese ceramics, Philippines, Borneo, Malaysia, Thailand, Burma
 1998 Tuscany, Italy. Teaching at La Meridiana ceramics school.
 2000 Development of current work, the building of Pino Scarpeto ceramics studio in Certaldo.
 Founding member of Arte della Ceramica ceramics association.
 Exhibitions of work all over Europe.
 2005-12 Interest in alternative kiln building together with Italian colleague Alberto Cavallini.
 The first glass wine bottle kiln developed. The fiber panel kiln, and various versions of the paper/cotton sheet kiln.
 Public performance firings – festival of ceramics in Montelupo, festival of ceramics in Nove Veneto, Argilla festival in Faenza.
 International ceramics festival in Aberystwyth, Wales.
 Elected vice president of Arte Della Ceramica.
 2013 Founding member, and vice president of cultural association Caba associazione culturale.
 Founded in the memory of Alberto Cavallini, to work with school children, and young artists, with the making of pottery and ceramics

2013-23 A continuation of research in material and form . Travelling through out the summer months to European international ceramic markets and events , and holding workshops in Germany and Italy and France .

Ceramic events and Festivals

Earth and Fire, Rufford U.K
International Ceramics Festival – Gmunden, Austria
Art in Clay, Hatfield House – London, UK
Invited guest potter “La Borne s’inflamme” exhibition and wood kiln firing – France
Argillà International festival – Faenza
Bandol – France
Potfest in the park – UK
Argilla AUBAGNE – France
Diessen – Germany.
Keramiktage Oldenburg Germany
Topfermarkt Gmunden Austria
Milsbeek Holand
Art In Action Oxford U.K
Terrania Mont blanc Barcelona Spain
International Ceramics Festival I.C.F Wales

Public and Private collections

Cargaleiro Museum of Ceramics, Vietri sul mare – Naples
International museum of ceramics – Faenza www.micfaenza.org
Museum of ceramics – Nove, Veneto. North Italy
Kanramachi City Council, Gunra – Japan.
Museum of Ceramics, Nove Veneto Italy
International Modern Art, and Design Museum Munich Germany.
Aberystwyth Arts centre Wales U.K

Bibliography

Shropshire Magazine, various features
Dorset Life, “A Potters Work”
Ceramic Review 1989, “Salt glaze Green Island”
Australian Crafts Magazine 1996, “Terry Davies, a travelling potter”
Il Tirreno, 2 febbraio 2006 “L’artista gallese Terry Davies ospite del primo circolo”
La Nazione, 1. dicembre 2007 “La creatività al potere. Dalla personale di Terry Davies al concorso degli studenti”

“A Stoneware potter in Earthenware Italy.” . Ceramic Review London Jan / Feb 2011

Second edition of the British Studio Potters’ Marks, book.
Sustainability in Ceramics. USA

The Florentine. Terry Davies Studio Pottery Preacher. by Sam Lawley.

New Ceramics / Neue Keramik The international ceramics magazine issue 4 may 2023 (Wandering journeyman, seasoned ceramicist)

Prizes and awards

2013 58° Premio Faenza Finalist
2014 WESTERWALDPREIS 2014 finalist
2016 59° Premio Faenza Finalist
2018 Gmunden Topfermarkt Ceramic Prize Austria First prize
2019 Gmunden Topfermarkt Ceramic Prize Austria 2nd prize

2020 The 1st world ceramic teapot competition China Honorary certificate

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