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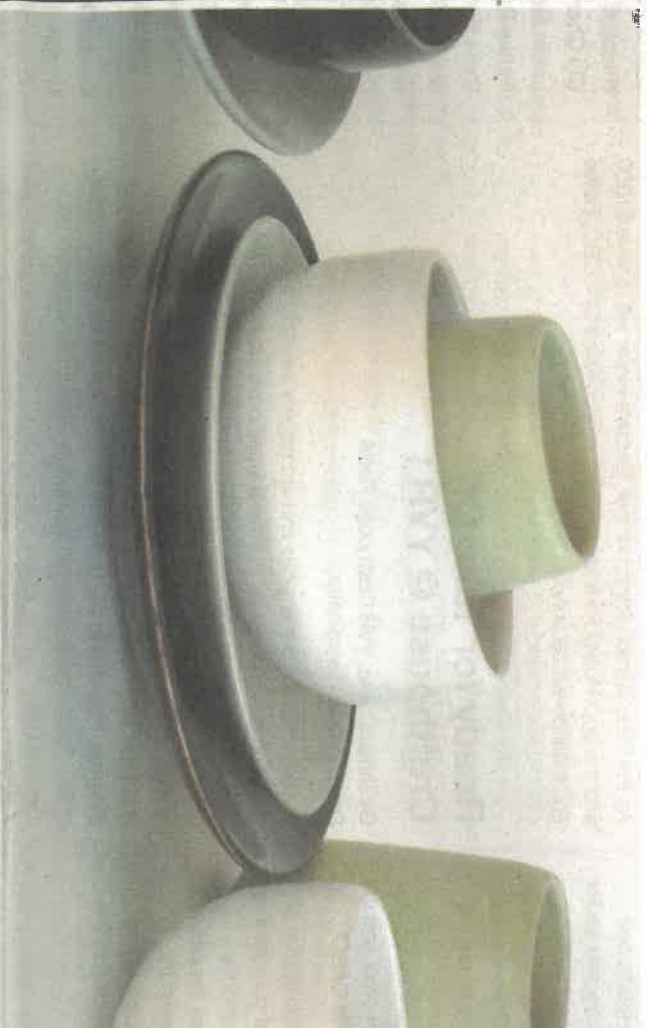
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Gailan Ngan. Photo: Evaan Khiraj



Wobbles, Stoneware, various glazes, 2008

Member Profile - Gailan Ngan

Pottery and Process

By Jen Hiebert

On a rainy day this winter, I had the pleasure of meeting with ceramist and visual artist Gailan Ngan, whose work has long been featured in Craithouse. Gailan opened the door with her young baby in her arms, and warmly welcomed me into her studio. Gailan founded her studio in a storefront on the corner of East Georgia and Campbell, in Strathcona on Vancouver's Eastside, in 1997, after working for a few of years in a shared space next door in the Green Star Studio (now the Red Iron Studio). Her studio, with lots of light filtering in through two big windows, a large work table, two kilns, and shelves carefully stacked with supplies, works in progress, and an elegant display of stacked groupings of Gailan's pieces, is a welcoming place. Being a residential neighbourhood, there aren't often visitors, but Gailan really likes bringing people into her studio and sharing where she works, especially during her two annual sales and the annual Eastside Culture Crawl that happens each November. She also lives just down the street, which is handy for popping down to the studio when customers arrive (She has her phone number posted on the door for times like when a friend called to say "We've got 10 Danish architects standing outside your studio who want to meet you and see your work"), or, as is the reality these days with a 3 month old son, stopping in a couple of times a week to happily work when she has a rare hour free. Gailan was surrounded with clay from an

early age, studying and working as a studio assistant and eventual apprentice to her father, potter Wayne Ngan. This may account for part of Gailan's comfortable attitude around her work, but she thinks there is also something innate about what she does - particularly with her style and sensitivity to form, proportion and colour. She pays attention to, and really knows what she likes. The soft colours of the glazes she creates are all in the same colour family, and she takes much care in how she chooses to group the pieces and colours together. Instinctive too, are her inquisitive nature and natural problem solving abilities. Whether it is tweaking the shape and form of her pieces, or adjusting the formula of a glaze to get just the finish she is after, this investigation and refinement is a big part of what keeps her work and herself vibrant and fresh. Her casual, straightforward style and manner keeps her moving along, not getting stuck on one thing, and helps her know when to step away for a moment from a challenging piece or concept, to get the clarity to make the next step.

The body of work Gailan is currently creating is something she's been working on over the last few years, refining her shapes into simpler and simpler forms. "I don't think it can get any simpler now," she says with a laugh. The wobble dishes, shown here, are a great example of her distilling process - taking a piece down to it's elementary shape. A bowl, cup or plate is, in its essence, an interior concave curve to hold its contents - Gailan's wobble dishes take that shape and extend it to the exterior form as well. The resulting curved pieces, rocking gently on the table, also echo Gailan's sense of play. Stacked

together, they take on a further sculptural element when not in use.

Now that she's brought these pieces to a natural culmination, she is exploring work in the opposite direction. In June 2008, Gailan attended the renowned Archie Bray Foundation, in Helena, Montana. The workshop she attended, with it's focus on decoration, colour underlays and china paint, was a real departure for Gailan, and she readily welcomed the challenge. She was forced to play around, push her work and herself, and had a great time doing it.

This exploration is similar to what she experienced attending Emily Carr Institute of Art & Design (now Emily Carr University), where she received her BFA in 2002. Having been immersed in the creation of functional pottery for many years, moving into a world of sculpture was revolutionary for her.

Functional pottery, by it's very nature, has a lot of restrictions and rules. It is important to consider which chemicals can be used, avoiding barbs and sharp points, and taking into account weight, sturdiness, and other factors that can be 'dangerous' when creating a functional piece. With sculpture, on the other hand, you can do anything you want. Anything. "It's a simple revelation, but it's true and was revolutionary [for me]," she says.

This revelation led her to an opportunity for a residency and solo exhibition in 2004 at Centre A - Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art. For the exhibition, Gailan was fortunate to create her pieces at a brick manufacturing plant on the Sunnas First Nations Reserve in Abbotsford, BC,

Upcoming Craithouse Gallery Exhibits at a Glance

March 26 - May 3, 2009

"Transformation: Artworks Made from Recycled Objects" features Nancy Adams, Ken Gerberick, Tam Harrington, Gayle Koyanagi, Lorraine Kwan, Janet Lee, Lauri Lucas, Luci Lytle, Eric Allen Montgomery, Robi Smith, Laura vander Linde, Linda Varro, Douglas Walker.

May 7 - June 14, 2009

Anni Hunt, "Containment". This exhibit features special vessels/containers for storing secrets and memories.

June 18 - July 22, 2009

Eleanor Haman, "Small Excursions into Colour and Form". Not so much imitations of as translations from painting - works began as watercolour studies on paper and are embroidered to give brilliance, texture and momentum.

Aug 6 - Sept 6, 2009

Naoko Takenouchi, "Celestial Navigation 2". The exploration and interpretation of the artist's recent experience of walking meditation to the Santiago de Compostela in Northern Spain.

Sept 10 - Oct 18, 2009

Charmian Nimmo, "Elements". Pots... with a twist. Clay, glass and metal come together to create vessels with something more. Pieces maintain their functionality while surprising the viewer with an unexpected aspect of humour or delight.

Oct 22 - Nov 29, 2009

Sheila Morissette, "in FORMations". This ceramic exhibition features playful formations of miniatures designed to be intimate and special. The repetition of form within the display, informs the viewer by accentuating the subtleties of work that is handmade.

Mar 4 - Mar 28, 2010

Jay MacLennan, "Pots That Pour". An exploration of a variety of domestic pots that pour. The high fired stoneware communicates the importance of handmade objects and the personal stories they can tell.

continued on page 3

Executive Director's Message



Executive
Director

Raine McKay

Well I've been at the CABC for just over 3 months now and I have to tell you that the learning curve has been pretty intense - but filled with lots of laughter and support from the office volunteers, our staff and a great board of directors.

While I have been the ED of 3 successful provincial health and social service organizations over the past 18 years, my arts sector experience is drawn mainly from the 18 months I spent working at an artist-run gallery in Vancouver prior to coming to the CABC.

My own circumspect art practice in mixed media 3D work arises from a love of the tactile; the dressmaking business that put me through way too many years of school and the joy of endlessly experiencing the ways beauty, form and function can interact. So my two loves - art and connecting people with each other and the services they need - have found a wonderful home at CABCI

Whereas my role as ED is to facilitate the growth and support of our provincial community of craft artists; ensure that our member programming is responsive and viable; to build community partnerships with sister and key organizations across the province and to provide a solid infrastructure for our organization to grow, on a personal level I also look forward to deepening and expanding upon my own appreciation and understanding of fine craft and the people who make it.

2009 is going to be a great year - busy but great! We have several major projects coming to fruition this year - the Cheonglu Biennale; opening of Crafthouse YVR and the final prep for the 2010 Olympic Exhibition with our partners at the Vancouver Museum.

The Canadian Pavilion at the Cheonglu Biennale should be amazing - the CCF has added a Companion Exhibition that will provide visitors with virtual tour of all of the key cultural institutions dealing with craft in a Canada. Remember the deadline for submitting your work for the "Unity & Diversity" National Exhibition that will be housed in the pavilion is March 31st - see our web-site for details.

With the 2010 Olympic Exhibition one year out, it is finally starting to take form! We have decided to include at least 5 pieces from the Yukon which will be added to the 35 pieces selected for this exhibition from across BC. Remember May 15th is the submission deadline for this show.

Ron Kong and Sam Carter have graciously agreed to participate as jurors for both of the exhibits with a third juror still to be selected.

Crafthouse YVR : yes it is happening!!! We will probably be opening in late May or June. The process of rolling out the implementation plan for YVR has provided us with the opportunity to re-visit and update the various procedures currently in use at Crafthouse GI, so there is a lot of potential for positive change over the next little while. Tamara Litke will be contacting the membership directly about how to go about getting your work selected for sale at Crafthouse YVR - see her article in this issue with some preliminary information.

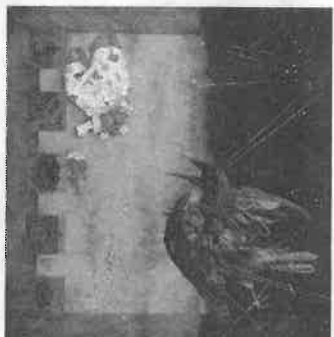
I do look forward to meeting and getting to know you all either by phone, email, on our upcoming CABC website forum (more about that next issue), at an opening or through our regional outreach activities. Of course, on the off chance you find yourself on Granville Island, please do come up and share a cuppa tea.

Raine McKay

Hilde Gerson Award Winner 2009

CCBC is very pleased to announce that tapestry artist

Barbara Heller has been chosen as the recipient of the Hilde Gerson Award. This biennial award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to fine craft in BC over a 10+ year period, and is continuing to create exciting original work.



Work by Barbara Heller

Barbara Heller is well known in the fibre community locally and internationally. She was the founder of the BC Society of Tapestry Arts and the Canadian Tapestry Network, and has written about tapestry to an international audience. Heller is known for her juxtaposition of traditional tapestry techniques with visual commentary around current social issues. She has participated in many group and solo exhibitions, and continues to exhibit regularly. As the Hilde Gerson Award winner, Barbara Heller will receive \$1000 and the opportunity for a solo exhibition sponsored by CCBC. Dates and location will be announced at a later date.

Ready for Take Off... Crafthouse @ YVR !

By Tamara Litke, YVR Crafthouse Retail Development Coordinator

We have started our engines and are eagerly awaiting the lift off signal on our opportunity to have a Crafthouse location at the Vancouver International Airport (YVR). Located in the domestic terminal there are several stores currently under construction. The phrase on the posters in the airport reads: We have eVVRything, and lists Crafthouse as the first of the featured new stores to arrive this year. This area in the domestic terminal will fall under the 'Spirit of BC' focus and is operated by Hudson Group, an experienced airport retailer.

As it is not the same as our beloved Crafthouse on Granville Island, there will be a new jurying process. The store will not be an identical reproduction of the Crafthouse, as Crafthouse at YVR will reflect the different needs of the new location. While we will not be staffing or managing the new store, we will be ensuring that the quality of the work that is sold is consistent with fine craft sold on Granville Island. We are working on a Standards of Quality document so that members will have a reference point for jurying their work. We have been studying the work of other provincial craft councils and anticipate publishing the pilot project of BC's first set of standards prior to the jury.

The Standards of Quality will have technical standards detailed into six major categories: Clay, Fibre, Glass, Wood and Mixed Media. We will also have a Seasonal category to reflect the annual retail cycles and accommodate artisans that do not sell on a regular basis. It is our hope that this work will provide a useful benchmark for fine craft in these mediums, and we anticipate consulting with experts in each area to refine the Standards of Quality on a continual basis. Members interested in selling their work at YVR should keep their eye on communication coming via email and on our website. In the meantime, applicants may want to consider refreshing your biography or artist's statement, which are likely to be components in our upcoming jury. Successful applicants will need to supply these along with their work for sale. We will continue to work on a process that will ensure the best product mix to balance the needs of the operators, the customers and keep our members successfully engaged in their work. We will keep you informed and up to date as this exciting prospect develops.

As for opening date, we believe it may open as early as May or June. Currently, the area is under construction. It is proposed that we occupy the area on the north side of the domestic level, opposite the Starbucks, and near the departures gate security. We would be the first store near the foot traffic that comes to and from the international terminal. Certainly, it will be a highlighted store in a prime location during the Olympics. We hope to have eVVRything beautiful, handmade and of high quality in our new location by summertime. This is an amazing opportunity to bring wonderful work to the forefront and place ourselves in a high traffic, mainstream venue. Fasten your seatbelts, eVVRyone... soon we will have lift off and two houses for craft! For inquiries, please direct your questions and comments to yvr@cabc.net



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If you are a current CABC member and are not receiving the E-News please send us an e-mail to confirm that we have a correct address on file. Opinions expressed in Craft Contacts are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent those of the Crafts Association of British Columbia. Please send all comments and / or letters to the Editor, Calvin Taplay, info@cabc.net

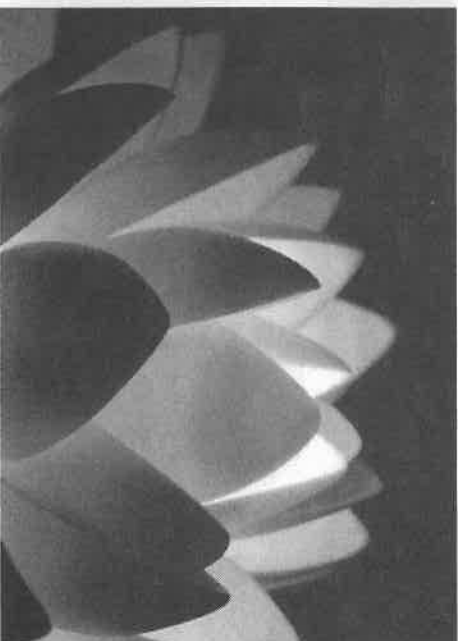
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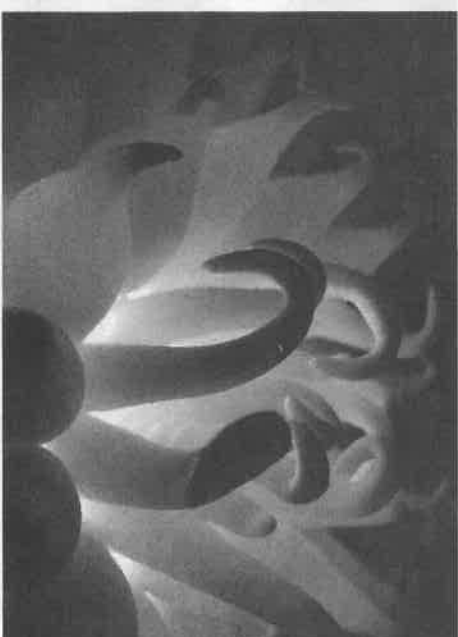
Member Highlights



Tulip



Lotus (detail)



Cactus Flower (detail)

Congratulations goes to Lilach Lotan for Winning the One of a Kind Award

Lilach describes her work in the following terms: "I discovered clay completely by chance, when exploring the art school facilities while considering studies of Graphics Design at the 'Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design' in my home town - Jerusalem.

Watching the lump of dirt being transformed and reshaped on the wheel before my eyes, into a gorgeous vessel with an individuality and life of its own, had just blown my mind away. I was completely, hopelessly hooked, spending most of my next three years on the potters' wheel in "Bezalel". The department of Ceramics Design had also facilitated my second passion - Design. While designing a particular piece, I try to erase from my mind all that has been done in that field, and start from the beginning. That way I come up with a completely new, fresh and contemporary design.

At the heart of my design lies an idea, conveyed by shape, form and contour, without the distraction of colours. The only shade being considered is that produced by the object itself:

Achromatic shades of light, and its absence. The contour reveals itself by the presence and absence of material, both of equal importance.

Our everyday life is a compound of private, social and political events. Some are insignificant; some are hard to shake off, leaving a deep mark. Consciously and subconsciously I draw my inspiration from those events and channel them into my work. My work is my way to connect with the world. I've always had trouble expressing myself with words. My language is clay. I create words on the potters' wheel, and then combine and shape my sentences by hand.

Growing up, I liked spending much time in my own micro-magical world of Lego toys, train sets and assembly kits. As I mature as an artist and find 'my voice', I cannot ignore that early influence. Rarely do I throw a vessel all in one piece. I constantly play Lego, but now, I get to create my own units."

► continued from page 1

Member Profile-Gailan Ngan

home to some of the few remaining giant beehive kilns in Canada. The unique experience, which lead to the installation of clay objects exploring the ideas of dwelling- memory, home, and heritage, is one that she treasures greatly, and will always remember.

Whether it is creating the pots she loves to shape, exploring new and revelatory ideas, or her newest adventure-exploring the possibilities and exciting process of slip-casting, Gailan approaches what she does with a frankness and openness that allows a genuine reflection of herself in her work- her love of form, well made things, learning, and beauty.

CABC Thanks the Following Renewing CABC Members:

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CABC Welcomes the Following New Members:

Ony Aashkenazy • Anne Boquist • Joseph Chiang • Allan Cusworth • Cliff Dawson • Chris Dobranski • Ken Gerberick • Tam Harrington • Kathleen Hill • Gayle Koyanagi • Lorraine Kwan • Janet Lee • Joanna Lovett • Luci Lytle • Roberta Palmer • Jan Phelean • Christina Platt • Robi Smith • Deanna Welters



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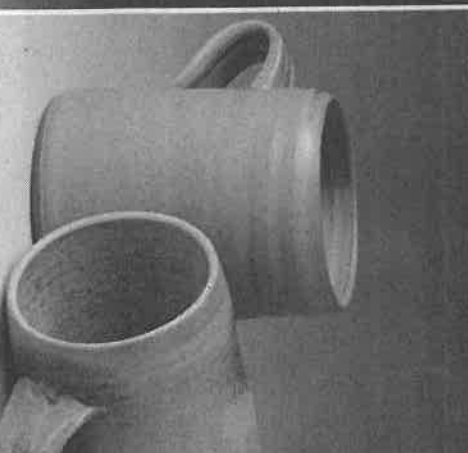
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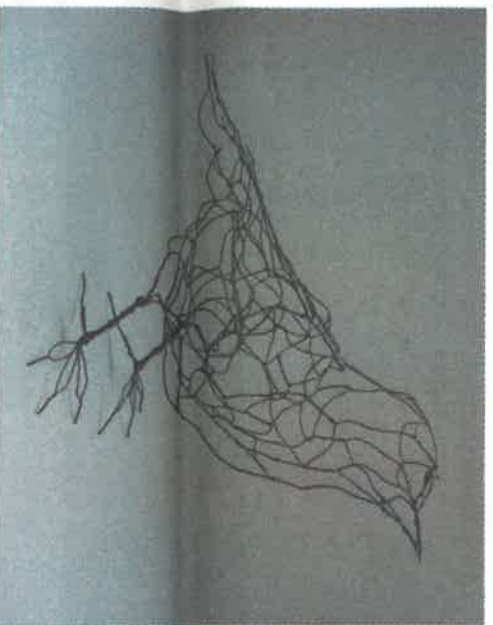
Crafthouse Granville Island



Jo Darts

Crafthouse GI
Manager

Hooray for the arrival of March. I don't think any of us will be sorry to see the end of Winter 2008! With the advent of Spring we think of blossoms, eggs and ripeness. With this in mind, in January I walked around the shop and spied the roundness of pears, the promise of nests and a few species of birds.



David Milligan has worked in sculpture for quite some years. He is best known for his chicken wire (or as David prefers, poultry mesh) birds. Each one is made by manipulating the wire mesh with pliers, cutting, shaping and adjusting as only a pair of trained hands knows how. Each is then coated in acrylic paint. His repertoire consists of crows (both flying and standing), robins, stellar jays, sparrows, seagulls and hummingbirds. This pictured crow is one of his larger pieces and sells for \$72.



Charles O'Neill's hobby was oil painting. After he retired he discovered wire sculpture. An armature, for strength and proportion, is first formed and the black steel and copper wire is wound around. Upon completion the piece is protected with a coat of clear lacquer. Charles' concentration is on life forms. His songbirds sell for \$65.

Jenny Ross's pears begin as pinch pots of stoneware clay, which are joined and altered during the formation, making each one unique. They are fired in a two-chamber wood-burning kiln for at least 48 hours. The ash falling on the pots creates a variety of surfaces. The pears in the second chamber also have soda ash sprayed onto them during the firing, giving an "orange peel" effect. The price range is \$48-\$58.



Nancy Adams lives on Hornby Island and is a dedicated recycler. Her candle holders are made from recycled paper – often discarded dress patterns which have been stiffened using a paper mache technique. The base of the holder rests on a grass nest. The candle holder comes in different sizes and range in price from \$35 to \$65.

Chris and Barb Arnett make their home on Saltspring Island. When a living from farming proved difficult, Barb took advantage of the island's tourist economy to create folk art for sale in the local farmers' market where they used to sell garlic. Barb painted wooden bowls and encouraged Chris to carve figures and bookends. The little birds sell for \$13.95



Kirsten Chursinoff has sold her hand and machine stitched fabric art in Crafthouse for many years. She has been involved in needlework since the age of five when she embroidered her first iron-on transfer of a butterfly. Kirsten's fibre art techniques span the "Art Quilt" realm and include hand stitching, raw-edge appliqué and free-motion machine embroidery. Having a comprehensive grasp of techniques is important for her work. The pictured Robin's Nest is \$160.



Many of you are familiar with the superb craftsmanship of woodworker **Michael Babier**. A graduate of the esteemed Sheridan College in Ontario, Michael has sold his Ellipse shelves in Crafthouse for many years. We have recently received a number of pairs of his shelves which he has generously donated, to aid the organization's fundraising efforts. The shelves are available in the following: purple heart (top) and maple (base), sapsule and wenge, sugar maple and cherry, walnut and maple, pau amarello and cherry, cherry and cherry. Each shelf is unique, with a sensuous shape that curves away from the wall, lending itself as an aesthetically beautiful and sturdy addition to any room. The pairs sell for \$360. The average width is 17". Michael has also donated a number of sculpted wooden magnets. They are as scrupulously made as his shelves and retail for \$15 each.

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CABC Gallery Exhibits



Calvin Taplay

Communications
Coordinator

"Transformation: Artworks Made from Recycled Objects"

Exhibit: March 26 to May 3

Opening Reception: March 26, 6-8pm

CABC Gallery Earth Day: April 22, 2009

Organized by Jo Darts

This exhibition is a first for Crafthouse Gallery in that it has recycling as its central theme. The fact that the exhibition spans Earth Day on April 22 is no coincidence. The thirteen exhibitors are all environmentally aware creators who use found and recycled artifacts to create sculpture, collage, assemblages, lamps, purses, clocks and fountains. The exhibition came about from a seed that was planted by one of our members. This seed bore fruit when I visited Revision-the Art of Recycling coordinated by Janet Lee and Launi Lucas and held at the Granville Island Hotel last November. It opened my eyes to the creative work being done with found materials. Revision - the Art of Recycling's annual show in Vancouver will take place in the Fall of 2009. For more information, visit www.revision-theartofrecycling.com.

Nancy Adams, an ardent recycler, presents a dress made from recycled dress patterns. **Ken Gerberick's** lamps and assemblages are made from materials which society has used, abused and discarded, often found in Vancouver laneways. **Tam Harrington** has used metal steamers and colanders to create her reliquary box. **Gayle Koyanagi** has used bones to create a pair of sculptural shoes. **Lorraine Kwan** uses cast off minutiae such as glass bottles to create a rocket ship. Inspired by her daughter's marriage **Janet Lee** has created a series of 3-D assemblages titled "Wedding Songs: A Mother's Hopes and Dreams". Weathered lobster buoys which have been altered and made into sculptures of fish are the work of **Launi Lucas**. **Luci Lytle** turns ordinary corrugated boxes inside out to reveal the colours and textures within. **Eric Allen Montgomery**, renaissance man and assemblage artist presents "Parlour Games", a clock made from a 1925 crokinole board and antique games pieces. Tiny birds, insects, fish and animals are collaged into slide mounts by **Robi Smith**. **Laura vander Linde** has combined her enthusiasm for recycling and her design sense to make vinyl record purses. Linda Varro has had a love affair with tarnished silver plated tea sets, coffee pots and cutlery for decades. She has incorporated these into a unique chandelier that drips with Austrian crystals. **Douglas Walker** has exuberantly welded alto saxophones, French horns and other metal objects to make a magical fountain.



Anni Hunt, "Containment"

Exhibit: May 7 - June 14, 2009

Opening Reception: Thursday, May 7, 6-8pm

CABC Gallery

Gallery Hours: Daily 10:30 - 5:30pm

People by their very nature have a tendency to like to hide and reveal things. With her work, Anni Hunt examines our innate fascination with secrecy. She has created a series of vessels each containing a surprise or secret. "These containers are sacred for special secrets, but the very container that they are in, tells the viewer about the secrets they contain."

Fibre and mixed media are the tools that Anni Hunt uses to transform her vision into art. She has always had a very good eye for changes in colour which is apparent in the rich and colourful texture of her art work. Anni's first box was designed in 2004 for a City and Guilds assessment piece. This, in turn, inspired her to complete a series of boxes centred on a "secret" theme. This body of work is about special vessels/containers for storing secrets, memoirs, or life treasures away from prying eyes.

Anni's lifelong passion for textiles and stitch found her exploring quilting in the early 1990s, which led to her formalizing her skills at the Gail Harker Creative Studies Center in Oak Harbor, Washington. This formal training in stitch has helped her to develop her style of embroidered images.

Call for Entry

Deadline: March 31, 2009

The Canadian Crafts Federation seeks submissions for the Canadian Pavilion at the Cheongju International Craft Biennale 2009. Contact Maegan Black, Administrative Director of the Canadian Crafts Federation, 506-444-3315, Maegan.black@gnb.ca, www.canadiancraftsfederation.ca/korea.

Deadline: June 22, 2009

The 2009 Cheongju International Craft Biennale seeks submissions on the theme 'Outside the Box'. Contact Cheongju International Craft Biennale Committee, cjcraft@korea.com, www.cheongjubie.nale.or.kr.

Deadline: May 15, 2010

Unity & Diversity in BC Contemporary Craft. CABC is seeking submissions for the exhibition celebrating the 2010 Winter Olympics and Canadian identity as reflected in BC. The exhibition will take place Jan 2010@Vancouver Museum as part of the Cultural Olympiad. Please see our website for the application process.

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Call For Exhibits

The 10th annual Gibsons Landing Fibre Arts Festival invites submissions to its Juried Exhibit from fibre artists.
Full information and application forms available on the Festival website
www.gibsonslandingfibrearts.com

Q-A-S

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Here's what one of your fellow members, Louise M. Jackson, had to say:

"I got in touch with Quantum Accounting as a result of their advertisement in Craft Contacts - and found them extremely helpful vis-à-vis doing taxes for a new business.

The last accountant I saw was unhelpful to say the least regarding the start-up / product development phase. He couldn't understand why I wasn't making money immediately and left me utterly humiliated. I gave exactly the same information to Marianna Scott at Quantum. Everything made perfect sense to her. From my perspective, CABC membership was worth it last year just for Quantum's ad and finding a friendly accountant who not only understands small art / craft oriented businesses but was willing to spend time helping me streamline my bookkeeping!"

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Annual Report

**AGM - April 19th, 3:00-5:00pm
@ Carousel Theatre, 1411
Cartwright St. Granville Island.**

President's Report

By Jane Kenyon

2008 was a year of excitement and growth for CABC. The year began with the opening of the Year of Craft exhibition, Contemporary Craft: Excellence Within Diversity, at the Vancouver Museum. The 3 month long exhibition began with the very successful CABC gala fundraising opening reception, ExtraOrdinary, and public attendance at the exhibition was beyond expectations. CABC continues to work hard and closely with the rest of Canada to present Canadian Fine Craft at the Cheongju International Craft Biennale in South Korea, fall 2009.

Due to the success of the Year of Craft exhibition, the partnership with The Vancouver Museum continues, and we are planning a large exhibition of Canadian Fine Craft, Korean Craft and BC Fine Craft, to take place Jan.-April 2010 during the Olympics. The Canadian component will be a smaller portion of the National exhibition that travels to Korea, the Korean component will be curated by the Cheongju Biennale, and the BC component will be juried locally.

CABC had the opportunity to present an exhibition of fine craft at One of a Kind Vancouver in November. This consisted of unique exhibition quality pieces, chosen by CABC, and helped to further our goal of offering exhibition opportunities to our membership and creating a new audience for this high quality work. CABC also supported a fashion show at the event, presented by the Vancouver Guild of Fabric Arts. Plans proceed for the opening of Crafthouse at YVR, with the opening now scheduled for spring 2009.

We welcomed a new Executive Director in November, Raine McKay. While we were very sorry to see Yvonne Chui leave, we wish her the very best in her new position with the City of Port Coquitlam. Raine has already proven to be a very valuable addition to CABC, and comes with excellent experience and great passion for fine craft.

I would like to thank our staff, board of directors, and many volunteers for their enthusiasm, loyalty and hard work during this exciting time at CABC.

Awards Committee Report

By Jane Kenyon

Four student awards were given by CABC in 2008: Jessica Thistlethwaite, fibre, Capilano College; Rick Knight Jewellery, Vancouver Community College; Sonya McFae, ceramics, Langara College; Geri Rinkel, ceramics, Kootenay School of the Arts. These exceptional students were chosen by their instructors, and received a free membership to CABC and the opportunity to exhibit in Crafthouse Gallery. This student exhibition, Fresh Craft, will be held in Jan. - Feb. 2009.

The recipient of the Grace Cameron Rogers Award in 2008 was Maggie Tchir, a fibre artist from Nelson. Tchir used the award to further her innovative techniques and fibre explorations at a workshop in the UK.

A new award was created in 2008, in partnership with One of a Kind. The One of a Kind Award was open to an emerging crafts-person in Western Canada and was juried by CABC. The winner was ceramic artist Llach Lotan, who received \$1,000 and a booth in a One of a Kind Show in 2009. This award will also be given in 2009, following which it will be reviewed.

A new CABC Awards fund was created in 2008 with the Vancouver Foundation to secure the Grace Cameron Rogers and Hilde Gerson funds in perpetuity.

Shop Committee Report

By Jo Darts, Crafthouse GI Manager

Despite a global recession and shop visits down by 6%, Crafthouse experienced a number of months with better sales than 2007. Key initiatives that were undertaken were: joining the Gay Lesbian Business Association, holding Pride Appreciation Day in conjunction with Pride Week at the end of July, hiring a PR company to help us gain more exposure for shop craft artists, holding a Media Breakfast, continuing with

our jewellery trunk shows and Customer Appreciation Day. An online Customer Survey was also conducted. The results of this are available to members.

Our ongoing marketing continued with a new display at the Vancouver Airport, a listing in the Van Dop Arts and Cultural Guide to BC, and a re-design and reprint of the shop rack card. Throughout the year, Crafthouse paid out \$131,000 to 145 craft artists and through 5 juries and personal selection, work was accepted from 25 new craft artists.

Thanks go to shop staff Bonnie, Coralie, Gwen, Tamara, and Youran, and to volunteers Bonnie, Gwen, Kathryn, Lena and Linda for your much appreciated support.

CABC Gallery Committee Report

The following gallery exhibits were presented in the CABC Gallery in 2008: **"Fresh Craft: The CABC Student Award Winner Exhibit"** Exhibit: Jan 17-Feb 10, 2008. A group show featuring the work of recent graduates from BC college and university programs. Coordinated by Elisabeth Owre, Candace Thayer-Coe and Coralie Trance and featuring the works of Marek Norman, Brandi Rawluk, and Claire Wensween. **Contemporary Craft in BC:** Excellence Within Diversity at the Vancouver Museum February 7 - April 6, 2008. Eliza Au, **"Circumference"** February 14 - March 23, 2008. Colleen Baran, **"Like Wearing a Love Letter"**, March 27 - May 4, 2008. Deb Durka and Shirley Inouye, **"Ocean's Edge"**, Exhibit: May 8 - June 15, 2008. Opening Reception: Thursday, May 8th, 6 - 8pm. Karin Martia Jones, **"Hearts and Nerves"**: an Exhibition of Gold Inlay on Steel, Exhibit: June 19 - July 27, Opening Reception: June 19th, 6 - 8pm. Laura Murdoch, **"Layered Light"** Exhibit: July 31 - September 7, 2008. Opening Reception: Thursday, July 31, 6-8pm. Hanna Haapasalo, **"City Forest"** Exhibit: September 11 - October 19, 2008. **"Then and Now: A Celebration of Fine Craft: British Columbia's 150th Anniversary"** Exhibit: October 23 - November 30, 2008, Opening Reception: Thursday, October 23, 6-8pm. The exhibit featured Brian Baxter, Tam Irving, James Koester, Francis Lemieux, and Diana Sanderson. **"Winter Light"** Exhibit: December 4, 2008 - January 11, 2009, Opening Reception: Thursday, December 4, 6-8pm. Jill Allan, Jeff Burnette, Julian Duerksen, Tammy Hudgeon, and Naoko Takenouchi.

Education Committee Report

By Chi Cheng Lee

The Education Committee is a small group of members that shares a common goal and passion. The committee put together various public and educational events in the effort to meet the CABC's mandate of assisting members with their careers as craft artists and to educate the public about fine craft as an important part of our history and future. We are grateful to the artists and presenters for their willingness to share their experiences and knowledge. Summaries and information about our current and past programming activities are available online at www.CABC.net.

Our 2008 community outreach programs consisted of public demonstrations where artists revealed the secrets and tradition of making fine craft, inspiring people to learn and appreciate the art of fine craft. Demonstrations occurred during the Craft Year Exhibition at the Vancouver Museum, on Canada Day and BC Day, also at the Opus in store Fine Craft Demo Series on Granville Island and at One of A Kind Vancouver.

Our speaker's series and professional development workshops included "Networking Skills, How to Schmooze and Promote Yourself and your Work" presented by Kathleen Staples and "Artist-in-Residence Program: Stories and "How To" steps" with Karin Martia Jones, Sally Alice Michener and Jill Weaving. The Business in Craft Education Series presented by Vivan Zuba included "Desktop Publishing for Artists" and "Organizational Skills for Artists". Finally, "Photographing Your Art Work" with Barbara Cohen. was again a popular choice. We continue to invite and collaborate with various arts organizations and guilds to present fine craft exhibitions. Rotational exhibitions at the Jericho Arts Centre featured both emerging and established craft artists' work.

Plans are underway for new educational and public programs in 2009, exploring e-learning and presentation opportunities, such as pod-casts through our website to make information and

presentations accessible outside of the GVRD. We continue to challenge ourselves to explore different directions and partner with local and regional community Art organizations/ guilds for venues to create a new voice for fine craft. The members we serve consist of closet craft makers, professional artists (who makes a living from their art), or art collectors and supporters. We continue to explore and identify opportunities for craft artist relative to the upcoming 2010 Olympics in Vancouver.

2009 will be a challenging and exciting growing year for our Education Committee members consisting of Chi Cheng Lee, Elizabeth de Balesi, Sid Samphire and Raine McKay.

Communications Committee Report

By Bettina Matzuhn

In 2008, the Communications Committee navigated through a delicious soup that included launching our new website – a project that involved extended planning and discussion, Gerlie McBride's new and dynamic logo design, a newsletter that features colour, and issues around branding. We continued to contribute or solicit articles, reviews and profiles for the newsletter that we felt would be useful, relevant, and entertaining for our members. We are always on the lookout for new writers and perspectives. Formatting the newsletter is always being fine-tuned as we critique each issue and try to make improvements.

The committee is working on creating a part of the website or separate blog where both members and the public can comment and exchange information. Podcasts and RSS feeds are also possibilities. A transition from hard copy to online information seems to be happening gradually. Through this process, we have to weigh members' preferences, changing demographics, and budgetary constraints. Posting news online, as we have done with the Craft Shows Guide, or through our e-news bulletins, ensures timely access for members.

The Communications Committee has merged with the Membership Committee to become the Members' Services Committee.

Fund Development Report

- Successful in meeting and exceeding fundraising targets for the Craft Year project (averages \$10,000 per year and in 2008 it increased to \$20,000 with additional in-kind media sponsorships and donations valued at \$233,000).
- Received matching funds from the BC Arts Renaissance Fund to develop an awards endowment of \$50,000 to support learning, training and recognition for craft artists.
- City of Vancouver project grant was received which provide \$15,000, an increase over previous year. CABC was approved to become an operating client rather than project status for 2009.
- Vancouver Foundation designated the CABC as recipient of interest earned from the Cartwright Gallery Fund, which had been established by the Canadian Craft Museum
- BC Arts Council Special Projects funding towards the Cheongju Biennale Project was approved for \$5,000.
- Grant from Enterprising Non Profits was approved for \$5,000 towards a business plan for our social enterprise expansion project at YVR Vancouver Airport. As part of their strategic investments plan, LegaciesNow has awarded the YVR project \$16,300 towards the implementation and rollout of this project.
- Explored tax recovery exercise through Fairtax and successful in recovering eligible GST tax credits for the past five years (2002-2007) which netted the Association an unexpected \$6,000. The new tax claim filing system will allow the Association to retain a larger portion of the GST in future through our social enterprise, Crafthouse Shop GI.

Operational Report

Under the inspiring leadership of Yvonne Chui, the CABC has prospered greatly in all operational areas. She has strengthened all key areas – programming focus and outreach, community liaisons, fund development and infrastructure.

Below is a highlight of the accomplishments that the CABC has achieved under Yvonne's leadership – thank you, Yvonne!

Program Achievements

- Partnerships expanded with public galleries/ community



Annual Report

centres/ arts centres/ craft shows/ commercial suppliers, specifically:

A new visual arts program at Jericho Arts Centre for emerging craft artists.

Exhibition and sale of work at the One of a Kind Vancouver craft show in November 2008.

Continued programming for the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre, Place des Arts and Opus Framing and Art Supplies.

"Red Listed/Endangered Species" exhibit by Jane Kenyon travelled to the Meadowlark Festival in the Okanagan-Similkameen and Perfection Art Gallery.

Completed first phase of makeover to home website including all content and navigation, creating a refreshed, dynamic and informative site. Launched in the new year.

New design and layout have been carried over into the format of our weekly E-News bulletins, the quarterly newsletter (to some extent), press releases and other marketing collateral to improve branding and image consistency and to drive more visitors to the site. Skilled professionals with web design skills and marketing skills recruited to assist with the project.

The Members Portfolios are now up to date and all current members (over 150) who have work in the Shop and Gallery have a brief biography on the website.

Discount program through Opus Framing and Art Supplies allowing members to receive a 10% discount on purchases continues into second year.

Expansion of social enterprise to YVR Vancouver airport – Hudson Group successful in getting bid at YVR to start Crafthouse at YVR. Contract agreement being negotiated and meetings with architect in progress. Proposal to YVR to make store front into a public art piece. Successful in receiving grant from Enterprising Non-Profits for \$5,000 to undertake business planning. Consultant will be hired in winter and report prepared. Advisory Committee recruited consisting of makers, entrepreneurs and strategic planners to help provide direction and expertise around this project.

Next stage of marketing development will be in the spring pending successful application to ENP for marketing piece. Discussions in progress with LegaciesNow to fund this project as part of their strategic investments program. New store opens in fall 2009 as YVR building plans changed.

ommunity Outreach Achievements

Local

Provided opportunities for public demonstrations at events on Granville Island. One of a Kind Vancouver Craft Show and workshops at arts/community centres in metro-Vancouver including Opus Framing Art & Supplies.

Presented information about the Association and services to graduating students of craft programs in post secondary institutions in metro-Vancouver.

Board members and the Executive Director attended Awards Nights at various colleges and presented CABC Membership & Exhibition Awards to selected graduating students.

Yvonne Chui, ED was an active part of the advisory committee for an art, craft and design project by Sam Carter at Emily Carr University and advisor for One of a Kind show. Provincial

Successfully presented Craft Year Project "Contemporary Craft in BC: Excellence within Diversity" at Vancouver Museum in February through April 2008 (sponsored due to ongoing City strike). Project established partnerships with the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Society, local craft guilds and associations and Vancouver Museum.

A juried exhibition of contemporary craft culture by some of the best craft makers from across the province (80 artists). Programming included demonstrations, workshops and community interactive project – "Weaving Communities Together".

Throughout BC, over 70 craft related projects took place at various arts/cultural institutions and businesses throughout the province as a result of the Craft Year campaign developed by the Canadian Crafts Federation and implemented by each provincial craft council. Planning with the CCF for Craft Year 2012. Resulted in great media coverage and a ten-year partnership alliance with the Vancouver Museum to present professional craft exhibits on a larger scale.

Yvonne Chui, ED went on two road trips to continue to connect regional members with the CABC and hear issues and topics of interest relevant for those in the regions. Two visits completed with Sunshine Coast and expansion next year to Gulf Islands and Vancouver Island, areas with a cluster of craftspeople.

- Organized and selected jurors again from around the Province to jury for the Filberg Festival, a major outdoor event held annually in Comox.
- Organized and selected jurors again for Granville Island Market to choose day vendors.

National

- A representative from our board, Deb Dumka, sits on the board of Canadian Crafts Federation and attends annual meetings in the East.
- Yvonne Chui, ED was part of Trade Team Canada: Cultural Services Group for Canadian Heritage. Recent accomplishment was the proposed redefinition if craft to reflect current changes in the sector to Statistics Canada and a proposed market study in South Korea to establish markets, artistic and academic opportunities for Canadian craft artists.
- Continuing on phase two of an international and national opportunity to promote Canadian craft at the Cheongju International Craft Biennale and 2010 Winter Olympics.

Infrastructure Achievements

- Board achieved full slate of 12 members with 100% being retained to complete or renew their term of office. A new board member from the organization's affiliate groups joined this year.
- Composition of the Board remained diversified to include both practicing craft professionals and supporters of craft/art (60/40 split).
- Strong strategic leader on the board to provide guidance and direction in developing and further refining strategic plan. Other professional skill sets identified to make Board members more engaged in organization and in governance.
- Board completed first self-evaluation survey and results compiled will guide where the Board needs to develop and grow.
- Strategic review took place with board, staff, key volunteers and stakeholders which resulted in renewed commitment and plans for new vision.
- Board President continued with Volunteer Vancouver's Governance Circle and will segue into Board Chair Academy in the new year.
- Board meetings held six times per year in order to maximize time and resources and focus on governance. Meetings restructured to focus on strategic goals and reporting on those goals. ED Reports are also structured to reflect reporting around these goals. This helps the Board to stay focused on non-operating issues and avoid burn out.
- Presentation on leadership, change and results delivered by Jim Seimán during an annual strategic planning review. Staff Development
- Successful in receiving funding for two summer staff positions (Graphics Designer and Research/ Assistant) through the Canadian Museums Association's Young Canada Works program.
- Yvonne Chui, ED took part in "Crafting New Traditions" symposium at Harbourfront Centre, CCF annual general meeting in Toronto, various workshops on leadership at Volunteer Vancouver and webinars offered through TechSoup.
- Both full-time and contract staff took workshops offered through Tourism Vancouver and Volunteer Vancouver and webinars on surveys, web design and fundraising.
- Continued to use skilled volunteers to complement limited staff resources. Many continued on as volunteers for a second, third or fourth years.
- Selected as agency to participate in Vancouver's first annual Timeraiser event which attracted skills of young professionals in the community (25 to 35 age range). Successful in gaining three volunteers for our international & national projects and social enterprise expansion project.
- Annual volunteer recognition event held at the private residence of a dedicated volunteer, which included friends, donors and supporters of the Association.
- In 2008, over 70 community volunteers plus 11 board members assisted with planning and implementing the CABC's programs and services. These volunteers assisted with exhibitions, public programming, publications, marketing, special events and the Shop.

Membership Committee Report

The CABC membership at December 31, 2008 was composed of the following categories: General 380, Seniors 20, Students 11, Friends of Craft 3, Affiliate 3, and Business 1.

The Membership Committee, in conjunction with the Executive Director, Communications Coordinator and Research/Special Projects Coordinator conducted a membership survey via Survey Monkey in 2008 to gather feedback regarding CABC programs and services offered to its members. The committee is in the process of compiling and summarizing that information.

Donors' List

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Annual Operating Assistance

British Columbia Arts Council • Cartwright Gallery Foundation • CMHC Granville Island •

Program Assistance

British Columbia Arts Council • BC Gaming • City of Vancouver • Young Canada Works •

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Grace Cameron Rogers Award Fund • Hilde Gerson Award Fund • The Filberg Heritage Lodge & Park Association • One of A Kind 2008 •

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