

ORGANISED PROGRAM FOR 2006 continued . . .

July 18 - August 10
HARD SPACES - CLAY & ARCHITECTURE

A three week symposium looking at the integration of ceramics in architecture with invited masters, including ROBERT HARRISON (USA) and GWEN HEENEY (UK).

August 15 - 29
INTERNATIONAL GLASS SYMPOSIUM

A two week symposium / workshop for international glass artists. We have facilities for fused, cast, slumped and blown glass in our recently opened glass studio. Invited Guest artists include KAZUO NISHIDA (Japan/Finland), JÁNOS POLYÁK (Hungary).

September 5 - 29
DESIGN to DECORATION

A three week Meeting Masters program led by SÁNDOR DOBANY, master designer and mould maker. Participants will create new works in plaster and cast slip with porcelain paint and lustre decoration.

September 6-28
NARRATIVE SCULPTURE

A Masterclass program with JAMES TISDALE (USA) creating sculpture through the marriage of human form and iconography. Participants will explore how to develop one's vocabulary of images, as well as, the construction of the human anatomy.

October 3 - 25
CUT FROM THE FLAG - REMEMBER '56.

A special symposium commemorating the 50th anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Uprising featuring invited artists from former Soviet occupied Europe. This symposium is open to artists working in all media and disciplines - ceramics, glass, painting, sculpture, digital etc.

November
CRITICAL STUDIES - CONTEMPORARY WRITING FOR THE CERAMIC ARTS.

A three day conference dealing with issues for and about the writing and documentation of the ceramic arts with journalists, editors, publishers and ceramists. Organised in conjunction with ICMEA (International Ceramic Magazine Editors Association)

Further details of these programs email: info@icshu.org

Artist-in-Residence Program

The ICS artist-in-residence program allows artists to work in the context of a different country and culture. We have created a centre of international cultural exchange, allowing artists to work alongside others from a variety of rich and culturally diverse backgrounds as well as local arts professionals and students.

We provide artists with the space to create new works, experiment with innovative ideas, explore new directions in their work and research new and different ways of making. Artists are encouraged to explore all our facilities to open up new possibilities and directions for the contemporary ceramist. Resident artists are able to exchange ideas and experiences through presentations and informal discussion.

the town of Kecskemét

The beautiful market town of Kecskemét is the county town of Bács Kiskun and is situated in the centre of the Great Hungarian Plain, famous for its paprika and apricot brandy. Long known for its cultural life Kecskemét boasts many art collections and is the home of the Naive Art Museum, the Museum of Folk Art, the Toy Museum, Museum of Photography and the ICS 'Museum' with its galleries for guest exhibitions and displays from our collection.

A quiet and relaxed city which has numerous cafes, bars and excellent restaurants, the town centre is only a short five minute walk from the peaceful enclave of the studio.



The International Ceramics Studio is a non-profit making organisation supported by Bács Kiskun County (who founded the studio) and Kecskemét Town Council.

Travelling to the International Ceramics Studio and Kecskemét

Situated in the heart of Europe, Kecskemét is well served by public transport - airplane, trains and buses. Journey time from Budapest is about one and a half hours by both train and bus. The bus and train station in Kecskemét are right beside each other and about a 15 minute walk from the studio. The studio is in the city centre, about 5 minutes from the main square of the town.



Full details and FAQ's about travelling to Kecskemét and the studio are on our website.

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International Ceramics Studio

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 Kecskemét,
 Hungary

a unique research,
 creative and educational
 institution in the
 heart of Europe

cover: James Tisdale (USA), "Bird of Prey", recipient of a 2004 NCECA Residency Award
 photography and design: Steve Mattison



About the International Ceramics Studio

The International Ceramics Studio (ICS) is a ceramic art centre located in the town of Kecskemét, eighty kilometres south of the Hungarian capital, Budapest. The centre was established in 1975 on the initiative of director János Probstner and supported by Hungarian artists who had felt culturally and ideologically isolated during their recent history. It was the wish for freedom and the desire to work alongside international artists that inspired the studio's creation.

In addition to our artist in residence studios and our master courses, the practical workshops of the Silicate Department of the Faculty of Design of the University of West Hungary, Sopron are based at the ICS with facilities for ceramics, porcelain, glass and concrete work. With the accumulated teaching experience of the past 30 years of studio existence we have developed here a rare teaching method. A new Renaissance of art teaching exists in Kecskemét, in the true spirit of the middle age masters of Caravaggio or Raphael, accepting students into their workshops to pass on their knowledge for future generations.

In this school, students live and work in a unique educational atmosphere. Alongside the teachers and professors, leading Hungarian artists and world-famous artists invited by the Studio to work in residence also teach while making their own work. Students are able to learn in a supportive and mutually creative way, experiencing philosophy, processes of thought and technical expertise of the masters. Teachers and students live, create and learn together in an atmosphere where art, education and the respect for the values of different cultures, tolerance and internationality (in the noble meaning of the word) are in the air.

The studio has an impressive range of facilities providing students with increased opportunities and experiences. The highly qualified staff and technicians are available to offer the support and guidance required. Students have exceptional 24 hour access to workshops and equipment, further breaking down the barriers between education, life and art.

All invited guest artists to the Studio leave some of their pieces made here. This is how we have created a unique collection of international contemporary ceramic art to which students have access to handle, study and research the actual works, often only seen in books or magazines. An invaluable resource, inspiring students to strive for perfection. The collection now houses in excess of 3000 pieces of artwork from over 355 artists from 43 countries.

This special art complex creates an environment that allows students to learn in a more individual and expressive way, finding their own solutions to problems, their own direction, in their own time and pace allowing individuality and creativity to blossom like the masters who have walked this path before.

World leaders in educational research . . .

Project KNOWHOW is a European Union sponsored research project with the aim of investigating the nature of making-integrated learning and teaching, and of sharing this method with other practitioners in the field of education. The research seeks to make explicit the learning dynamic that exists between student, tutor and "creation" within the ceramic studios of art schools, thus contributing to the pool of learning and teaching which is, as yet under-represented in Further and Higher Education.

Knowhow is planned to take two and a half years, from November 2004 to May 2007 and aims to record and disseminate good studio practice amongst other learning and teaching practitioners. Knowhow aims to create a publication that will outline the strategies students and tutors use to engage each other in the teaching/learning process. The ICS contribution to this research can be seen on our website at www.icshu.org/leonardo/leonardo.htm and on the main KnowHow website at www.knowhow.is.



Organised college and university programs.

In addition to teaching our own students we regularly organise intensive programs and summer schools for visiting student groups from international colleges and universities. We can accommodate up to 20 students at a time with staff members in our extensive facilities.

We will arrange programs of demonstrations and workshops in the studio by leading international artists, field trips and visits to traditional ceramic workshops and artists studios. Lectures, slide shows and films to accompany museum visits to view rare collections. Over the years, built up excellent relationships with both individual Hungarian and international artists as well as many production factories offering students the opportunity to learn vocationally while on visits to Zsolnay or the world famous Herend Porcelain.

We are pleased to collaborate with international universities and organisations to present students with unique and memorable learning experiences. Please contact the International Co-ordinator (info@icshu.org) to discuss your ideas.

ORGANISED PROGRAM FOR 2006

In addition to our artist in residence program we organise a series of workshops and themed programs throughout the year. Artists in Residence may choose to join one of these programs at no additional cost. Seminars, presentations and conferences are organised to co-incide with the program to expand on themes and topics of debate.

March 1 - 14
RAKU COURSE with KUN EVA (Hungary). A two week meeting masters program with one of Hungary's most acclaimed ceramists using the copper matt raku technique.

March 1 - 17
SOUND OF CLAY
The fifth in the series of symposia focussing on the making and playing of ceramic musical instruments.

March 20 - 31
UNIVERSITY PROGRAM FOR NYME
(University of West Hungary)

April 24 - May 5
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(University of West Hungary)

May 8 - 29
CLAY, FIRE, WOOD AND SALT
A three week woodfiring symposium and conference. Invited guest artists include MAKOTO HATORI (Japan).

June 1 - 22
LARGE SCALE CERAMICS
A three week Meeting Master program to create large works using formers, extruders and slab rollers with internationally respected ceramic masters including JIM ROBISON (UK/USA) author of the book 'Large Scale Ceramics'.

June 27 - July 18
MATERIALLY SPEAKING
A three week Meeting Masters program investigating the possibilities of working in alternative and innovative ways with ceramic and porcelain, with invited guest masters including WOLFGANG VEGAS (Venezuela).

July 2 - 14
OUTSIDER - Steel and Clay Sculpture symposium.

