

# MEMORY TRACES

ART 3783 Project 3

Arbuckle

## This project will help you

- Practice technical skills for forming and surfacing pottery objects
- Consider the constraints of functional ware
- develop concept strategies that evoke abstracted meaning for a viewer/user
- practice using formal design elements (scale, proportion, edge, texture, color, etc.) in the service of putting personal meaning into your pottery objects.

Read

Robin Hopper's *Functional Pottery*

- p. 20, *Eating*
- p. 183-4, Ch. 16, *Considerations*

Philip Rawson, "Memory Traces" from *Ceramics*, e-mailed to you.  
Anthony Quinn, *Ceramic Design Course*, Unit 4, *Sketching*, pp 16-19,  
Unit 5, *Design Development*, pp 20-23

## Consider

- a particular food service opportunity
- an object, natural or man-made, that is not already a food-service object (i.e. not a cup, casserole, etc.), or a re-creation or artistic interpretation of another object (i.e. not Smurf or an action figure) from which you will be inspired to create work with memory-traces of your object.
- The relationship between your object and your food service ware, and ways to NOT re-create the object, but abstract it to create a reference to the object.
- Your feelings about the object. The surface of your forms will reflect your feelings about the object.

## Find and bring to class

- an example of your object, preferably 3-d if available, or in image.

## Sketch

Give yourself room to sketch. Tiny sketches seem cramped. Expand your sketches to at least fist-sized.

**Sketch at least 8 ideas for your object. Decide on one function and develop ONE of those ideas into 4 further sketches.**

**On the form that works best in your estimation, experiment with 4 ideas about surface.**

**Turn in photocopies of your sketches Monday, Oct. 20th.**



Figure 1 Dan Anderson resource image



Figure 2 Dan Anderson memory trace vessel in wall unit.



Figure 3 Ralph Bacerra Cloud Vessel

## Make

**Make 5 functional objects for the same function that evoke memory traces for your object. Relate the surface of your object to how you feel about the object.**

### Technical goals

- Even wall thickness. Appropriate wall thickness/weight for a functional object. Effective foot trimming or treatment. **If thrown:** smooth, continuous curves from the center to the rim. **Trimming** should be done to create even wall thickness and stable footing for your bowl. This should produce a bowl of reasonable weight for its size, and a bottom that is about the same thickness as the walls.
- **Glazing:** effective glaze application (appropriate thickness, does not have bare spots or crawls, glaze does not run down and meet the kiln shelf), including waxing of foot.
- Objects should be **functional** for your desired purpose.

### Aesthetic/formal goals:

- Clear expression of object and surface goals.
- Appropriate, expressive choices to promote your personal ideas: your attitude expressed through scale, edge quality, form, foot treatment, proportion of bowl to foot, surface, and color. Form that evokes your object as a memory trace.

**Works due as DRY greenware on our cart Monday, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

## AFA Library Resources

Title	Books AFA Call #	Author, notes
<i>500 series books (Sculptures, Teapots, Cups, etc.)</i>	various	Lark Books
<i>Functional Pottery</i>	Reserve – TT920 .H66 2000 [2- Hour Loan]	Hopper, Robin
<i>Making marks : discovering the ceramic surface</i>	TT920 .H664 2004	Robin Hopper
<i>Painted Ceramics; Colour and Imagery on Clay</i>	NK4605 .P45x 1999	Pegrun, Brenda. Crowood Press, UK, 1999. International coverage of contemporary decorated work in a variety of techniques, including tin-glaze.
<i>Tableware in Clay from Studio and Workshop</i>	NK4695.T33 W66 1999	Wood, Karen Ann, Crowood Press, UK, 1999. Historic and contemporary tableware includes many decorated works.
<i>The Ceramic Surface</i>	TT920 .O84 2002	Matthias Ostermann
<i>The Potter's Directory of Shape and Form</i>	NK4235 .F53 1998 [In-Library Use]	Neal French
<i>The Potter's Encyclopedia of Color, Form, and Decoration</i>		Neal French
<i>The Technique of Throwing</i>	738.142 C684p	Colbeck, John
<i>Throwing Pots</i>	TT920 .R641 1995	Rogers, Phil