Alfred University ceramic museum exhibit offers art for the ‘Animalia’ lover in you

ALFRED, NY, May 2013 — A ceramic exhibit titled “Animalia” is on display in Alfred University’s (AU) Alfred Museum of Ceramic Art through Friday, Aug. 2, 2013.

“Animalia” highlights various representations of animals that are included in the Museum’s permanent collection, including ceramic sculptures and vessels depicting owls, snakes, various birds, elephants, and dogs. The wide range of styles and representations in the pieces, some of which date back over a 1,000 years, are reminders of the long history of clay’s interaction with the life forms sharing the earth.

Featured artists in this exhibition include Alanna DeRocchi ’10, Bruce Gholson ’97, David Weinrib ’52, Linda Cordell ’95, Matthew Metz, Akio Takamori ’78, Peter Morgan ’05, Beth Low, Shoko Teruyama, Kurt Weiser, and the late Jenny Lind.

DeRocchi is currently a long-term resident at the Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts in Helena, MT. She is the 2012-13 Windgate Fellow at the foundation, having previously served residencies in 2010 and in 2011-12 as the Speyer Fellow. She has also been a visiting artist at the University of Wisconsin and at the ClayArch Gimhae Museum in South Korea.

Gholson lives and works in Seagrove, NC, where he is a studio potter and co-owner of Bulldog Pottery. He has previously worked as a studio potter at Dover Pottery in Seagrove and in Floyd, VA, and he has been a visiting professor of ceramic art at AU. Gholson’s work has been featured in exhibits and permanent collections across the United States, and he has contributed to a number of publications on ceramics design.

Weinrib has worked as an instructor, potter, designer, curator, and sculptor in various mediums throughout his career, including as a potter-in-residence at Black Mountain College and as a contributor to the establishment of the living and working community Gate Hill Cooperative in Stony Point, NY. He has received a number of awards for his versatile work.
Cordell currently teaches at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally at such venues as the Cheongju International Craft Bienniale; the National Cheongju Museum, Korea; and the Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse. Cordell has worked as an artist-in-residence at the Clay Studio in Philadelphia and the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, and she has received numerous awards and fellowships.

Metz is a ceramic artist based in Minnesota. He holds degrees from Ball State University and Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, and has worked as a guest lecturer and teacher throughout the country. His carved and drawn decorative pots are on display in the Arkansas Art Center, Minneapolis Institute for the Arts, and the Archie Bray Foundation.

Takamori is a ceramic sculptor and associate professor of ceramics at the University of Washington, Seattle. He has received several awards for his work, which is strongly influenced by his Japanese heritage, and it has been included in museum collections nationally and internationally. Takamori has also published two books on his life and career in ceramic sculpture.

Morgan has an extensive resume in ceramic art. He has exhibited in galleries across the United States and his work is included in several private and public collections. He has taught drawing and ceramics at Gettysburg (PA) College and California State University- Long Beach and has been a visiting artist and lecturer at numerous other colleges and universities. Most recently, he was the 2011-12 Evelyn Shapiro Foundation Fellow at The Clay Studio in Philadelphia.

Teruyama is a studio artist based in Marshall, NC. He holds a master of fine arts degree from Wichita State University and a bachelor of arts degree from Shizuoka University, Japan. His ceramic vessels, many of which feature animal characters, have been included in exhibits across the country, and he has received several awards for his work, including the 2010 Artist Fellowship Award in craft media from the North Carolina Arts Council.

Weiser teaches ceramics as the Regents Professor of Art at Arizona State University. He has previously served as director of the Archie Bray Foundation. His work, which focuses on sculptural porcelain vessels and painting allegorical scenes on porcelain, is featured in museum collections around the world, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, London; the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American Art; and the Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art and Institute of Ceramics in Japan.

Lind was a ceramic artist and co-founder of Rainbow Gate, a ceramics studio and gallery in Santa Fe, NM. Her painted ceramic dinnerware and pottery, inspired by the vibrant colors of New Mexico, where she lived for most of her life, is featured prominently in Rainbow Gate. Lind died in 2011 but the studio continues to be operated by her husband and co-founder, Allan Walter, and their daughter, Anna Masterson.

The Alfred Museum of Ceramic Art houses nearly 8,000 ceramic and glass pieces ranging from small shards of recovered history to great pieces of contemporary American and international art. The
museum, located on the top floor of Binns-Merrill Hall, is open Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.