

Press Release

Young Mi Kim – Meditations on the Vessel
October 28th through November 26th, 2010

We are pleased to announce the first solo show of ceramics by Young Mi Kim at Cocobolo Gallery. Kim began her career as a painter and is a graduate of Cooper Union. Based in the Catskills, she has worked with clay for over fifteen years, feeling it is the one medium which best expresses her artistic vision. Her exploration of the vessel is informed by the interplay of the seasons, working in her garden and the community she shares with fellow ceramicists. The resurgent movement of hand made crafts is an integral part of Kim's work.

This exhibition includes tall, open vessels poetically poised on narrow bases, deep rounded bowls and altered sculptural forms which are fired in either a modern kiln or a traditional Japanese style wood-fired Anagama kiln. Kim uses the two dimensional line to give her shapes visual cohesiveness and strength, while her organic hand-coiling technique and gently worked surfaces give them life. Some are as delicate and light as paper lanterns, while others evoke the weight of flesh upon bones. The space contained in her pieces balances deftly with their vegetative and marine-inspired radiating, decorative patterns. She uses several different clay bodies, including porcelain and white and black stoneware which create a subtle effect when combined with the earthy and matte glazes she chooses. Kim's wood-fired pieces achieve a unity of surface and form through the whims of heat and wood ash, which flash the clay body and warp the contours, often leading to unexpected and dramatic results.

"...I enjoy creating the kind of pots you want to live with, ones that seem to want to grow closer to you with time..." says Kim. Her thoughtful aesthetic illuminates the link between the individual and nature; her vessels have a strong affinity with the flow of life and are an expression of that tactile connection. These essential beliefs are as much a part of Kim's personal philosophy as they are a guide to her creative process.

Please contact us for additional information and images or for a preview by appointment.

Benjamin Wiener, Director
Cocobolo Gallery

Opening Party: Thursday, October 28th, 2010 from 7 PM – 9 PM
rsvp@cocobolodesign.com or call 917-847-7846