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# A Craft Collection

By Margaret Brown, Kristin Bucher, and Donna Tennant

*Mud, wood, stones, threads of silk, glass—the craft artist performs alchemy on these materials, transforming them into sculptural and painterly works of art. A chunk of clay becomes a beautiful ceramic box, and an elegant vessel emerges from a gnarled piece of wood. When craft becomes fine art, form takes precedence over function, with the box and the bowl required to hold nothing but our attention.*

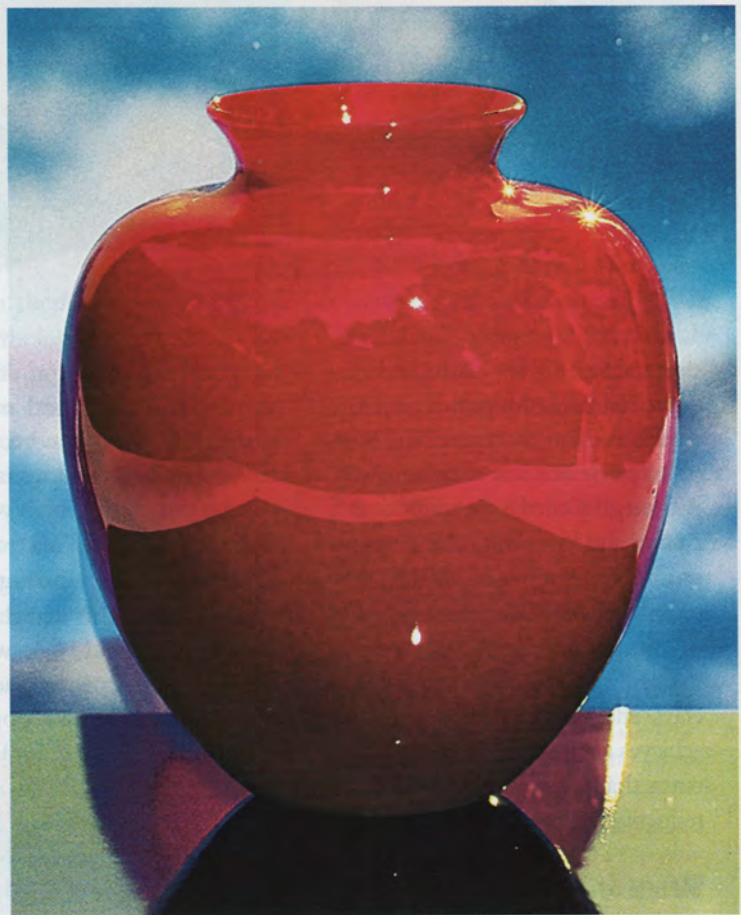
## DONALD CARLSON

Clear, vibrant red, a flawless surface, and simple eloquent shapes characterize Donald Carlson's glass bowls and other vessels. Although his pieces are available in many colors, including pure yellow and orange, he has spent the past 15 years pursuing and developing the perfect red.

According to the artist, all colors of glass are easily made except red. It depends on the perfect proportion of two chemicals, along with numerous other variables including the temperature and atmosphere during the melting and working of the glass.

Carlson creates each glass piece himself in his small studio south of San Francisco, CA. His work is included in major glass collections including the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, NY. —DT

*Carlson is represented by George's, Laguna Beach and La Jolla, CA; Appalachian Springs, Washington, DC; Phoenix Rising, Seattle, WA; Pismo, Denver, CO; Real Mother Goose, Portland, OR; and Seekers Collection, Cambria, CA.*



RED VASE, GLASS, 11 x 6 x 6.



THE MASSAUM CEREMONY—ANIMAL DANCE, BONE, STERLING SILVER, 18K GOLD, TURQUOISE, SUGILITE, AND BLACK STAR DIOPSIDE, 2 1/4 IN DIAMETER.

## VICTORIA ADAMS HAMLETT

Jeweler Victoria Adams Hamlett lives and works just east of the Rocky Mountains, which she calls “the backbone of the world.” From her vantage point in the heart of Montana’s Great Plains, she incorporates the natural forms and animals she sees every day—deer, antelope, clouds, birds, bugs, berries, and her own horses—into her jewelry designs, which are noted for their unique combinations of color, texture, and materials.

Hamlett juxtaposes precious metals, gems, and minerals in plant, animal, and human forms to express her own participation in the circle of life. A member of the Southern Cheyenne/Arapaho tribe of Oklahoma, she says her heritage plays a central role in her jewelry. “Life in the Cheyenne family and society has always provided great impetus for the development of utilitarian decorative arts,” she says. “Women dominate this sphere, creating beautiful, usable objects for their loved ones, for their homes, and for trade or sale. Their handcrafts also demonstrate the values that are central to Cheyenne culture, such as industry, hospitality, and generosity. The women in my family still hold to these values and traditions.” —KB

*Hamlett is represented by Martin-Harris Gallery, Jackson, WY; Eagle Plume’s, Allenspark, CO; and Bjorge’s Gallery, Bigfork, MT.*

## BARBARA CHADWICK

Barbara Chadwick, a native of Toronto, Canada, who moved to the United States when she was 10, says her passion for clay began when she was in high school. “I became obsessed with the medium, spending my lunch hours and afternoons playing with mud,” she says. Chadwick went on to earn a BFA in ceramics from Indiana University, Bloomington, and an MFA in ceramics from Ohio University, Athens.

Now living in Houston, TX, Chadwick works almost exclusively in porcelain. “I work very intuitively and allow the clay to guide me,” she says. “I’m inspired by patterns found in nature, and I’m attracted to animated and whimsical forms.”

Chadwick’s most recent works—hand-built teapots and cups—use an unusual process that involves transferring powdered pigments onto the pieces. Her white-on-white vessels start out as three separate wheel-thrown bowls of varying thicknesses. She divides them into pieces and reassembles them into a new piece before coating it with a clear glaze and firing it. —KB

*Chadwick is represented by Urban Artifacts Gallery, Houston, TX.*



VASE WITH ATTITUDE, PORCELAIN WITH INLAID SLIP, HAND-BUILT, 11 x 5.