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'Aha Hana Lima 2007: The Best Ever?

Rose Anne Jones and Esther Shimazu

If you participated in our 2007 'Aha Hana Lima, then think about it—was it the best ever? Many participants said yes! It certainly was a true "Gathering of the Crafts." The participants, guest artists, and assistants are still talking about the creativity, spontaneity, and enthusiasm during Hawai'i Craftsmen's spring workshop event. Guest artists were Cameron Crawford (architectural clay sculpture), Jiro Yonezawa (traditional Japanese bamboo basket weaving), Shunji Omura (large, thick glass sculptural and vessel forms) and assistants Jung Mi Koo and Hiroyuki Sugawara, and Gerald Heffernon (crypto-zooforms).

Much of the credit for the success of 'Aha goes to Esther Shimazu, 2006 and 2007 'Aha Hana Lima Program Manager and Hawai'i Craftsmen Board Member. A year earlier, she gathered Hawai'i Craftsmen members' suggestions for artists; narrowed down the list of possibilities, built a consensus and made the initial contacts with potential guest artists. Then the real work of planning, arranging, discussing and doing begins. Why does Esther put months of her time and energy into this event? She says "I did it 'cause it's fun. I make new friends and contacts, get to see old friends and always learn a lot. Sure, you might find yourself at the airport at 7:00 a.m. to pick up someone or shifting almost half a ton of clay but you also get to be up close to the action and be a part of something pretty cool. Or really hot. So volunteer, pitch in, ask what you can do or at least don't run away when someone else asks."

(continued on page 2)



(above) Kazuki, Alan, Hiroyuki and Jung Mi in hot glass action. (Photo: Joel Park). (below) An intent Jiro Yonezawa wows participants in the fiber workshop. (Photo: Diana Tusher)



(continued from page 1)



(top) A beautiful wall-hung piece by Cameron Crawford. (Photo: courtesy of the artist) (below) Gerald Heffernon claims no animals are harmed during his workshops. (Photo: Diana Tusher)



constantly going and that a variety of yummy snacks were available during the workshops. Shige Miyamoto ensured that the equipment and facilities were available for the artists, volunteers, and participants.

And last but certainly not least, we'd like to recognize individuals who went out of their way to show our guests some aloha by organizing field trips and get-togethers. Thanks to Aaron Padilla for arranging trips to Shangri La through the Honolulu Academy of Arts for our visiting artists. Also big thanks to Bob and Marcy Katz for opening their home to host a welcome reception for the visiting artists and their guests. And thank you to Joel Park and Charlene Tashima for organizing an end-of-workshop dinner for the artists and assistants.

Fortunately for Esther, Hawai'i Craftsmen now has a staff of one full time, Rose Anne Jones and one 1/4 time, Verena Snively, who with Esther, created a team to help manage this event. Esther's crown of glory as Program Manager now will be passed on to Verena as the 'Aha Hana Lima Program Manager. Go Verena! Please send any of your suggestions for the 2008 'Aha Hana Lima guest artists to Verena at admin@hawaiicraftsmen.org or call the office at 808-521-3282. She will compile a list, gather opinions and present the top choices to the Board of Directors to review.

Three people with the best intentions cannot put on this event. Hawai'i Craftsmen is totally dependent upon its volunteers. Whether it's our fully volunteer working Board of Directors, or the people who donate 100 hours of their time or one hour of time, the success of all of our events depends upon our volunteers. Mahalo to them all!

We would also like to thank the UH Art department folks for their invaluable help as facilitators and hosts, and the use of their facilities. Suzanne Wolfe ensured the coffee pot was

Thank You To Our Work-Study Assistants

'Aha Hana Lima also could not happen without our group of work-study assistants who were on call before and during the workshops. They provided transportation to the workshop artists (sometimes meeting their airplanes at 7:00 a.m.), purchased supplies, ran last minute errands, and ensured the guest artists had the tools, supplies and refreshments they needed. During the workshops they assisted participants, acted as language interpreters for the guest artists (as needed), took care of workshop paperwork, special needs and clean-up, and cheerfully handled the unforeseen. They also helped organize the slide presentation on *Emerging Artists in Japan* by Jung Mi Koo and the community slide shows.

Thank you to workshop assistants Shannon Abec and Mark Fujishige (ceramics), Philip Markwart and Yoshiji Hirose (fiber), Alan Ness and Kazuki Takizawa (glass), and Joey Chiarello (mixed media). Up for the job? We'll need workshop assistants next year too!

Mahalo to Our Volunteers!

Whether it's our Annual Exhibition, 'Aha, Raku Ho'olaule'a or Annual Meeting, Hawai'i Craftsmen would not be able to accomplish any of it without our Volunteers. Here's a heartfelt thank you to the following volunteers who continue to ensure Hawai'i Craftsmen's continued success:

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Bernice Akamine | Kay Mura |
| Brenda Ching | Harinani Orme |
| Sharon Doughtie | Joel Park |
| Tim Garcia | Christopher Reiner |
| Bob and Marcy Katz | Donna Shimazu |
| Pat Kramer | Domenica Sattler |
| Dave Landry | Charlene Tashima |
| Mary Macmillan | Suzanne Wolfe |
| Drew Matsumoto | Carol Yamashita |
| Shige Miyamoto | |

Please forgive us if we have left you name out and inform us so we can properly acknowledge your helpful spirit.

Raku Ho'olaule'a 2007

It's coming soon! A magical mixture of fire-earth-water, Hawai'i Craftsmen's annual celebration of Raku—Raku Ho'olaule'a. The tea bowl lecture/demo and workshop on May 19 kicks off the festivities. Hope to see you there!

May 19

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Tea bowl lecture/demo East-West Center tea house, University of Hawai'i, Manoa by the Urasenke Foundation of Hawai'i. Free and open to the public.

12:00-5:00 p.m.

Tea bowl workshop with Ed Higa, University of Hawai'i, Manoa Ceramics Lab. Free and open to the public. Please call 521-3282 to RSVP.

May 29

5:30 p.m. Reception

6:30 p.m. Free Public Slide Lecture by Rob Drexel, University of Hawai'i, Manoa Art Auditorium

May 30

5:30 p.m. Reception

6:30 p.m. Wet clay demo by, Rob Drexel, University of Hawai'i, Manoa Ceramics Lab.

June 1-3

Beachside Firing and Camp-out with Rob Drexel

June 2

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Community kiln, Waimanalo Bay Beach Park

June 19-July 14

Raku Ho'olaule'a Juried Exhibition

Tuesday-Saturday, 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at The ARTS at Marks Garage, 1159 Nu'uuanu, Honolulu

June 21, 2007

Opening Reception, Urasenke Foundation Tea Ceremony, Hawai'i Craftsmen Silent Auction, and Third Thursday at The ARTS at Marks Garage, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Rob Drexel, nationally known raku and pitfire ceramicist from New Mexico, is our guest artist. He will provide a slide lecture, wet clay demonstration, and partake in the camaraderie of ceramicists at the raku firing and camp-out.

Every year, Hawai'i Craftsmen partners with The Urasenke Foundation of Hawai'i to present traditional the Japanese Zen Tea Ceremony demonstrations to the public. A Foundation representative will jury the work in the traditional category for our Raku Ho'olaule'a Exhibition. Thanks to Ed Higa

for arranging this and for once again teaching the tea bowl workshop on May 19th.

To participate in Raku Ho'olaule'a, you must register with a Ceramics Group. The participating groups and their leaders are as follows.

ABC—Ed Higa

Burn Outs—Susan Brooks and Susan Rogers-Aregger

C-Rats—Jeffrey Berenberg and Paula Maloney

Flaming Misfits—Warren Andrade

Hawai'i Potters Guild (HPG)—Sidney Lynch

Kama'aina Potters—Jeff Chang and Barbara Guidage

Korsaki Chickens—Diane Goff

Krack Pots—Russell Wee

Lava Lovers—Birgitta Frazier

Lodestar—Aaron Padilla

UH—Shannon Abac and Megan Wilson

YWCA Richards Street—Steve Martin

Some groups have a few open spaces for extra people to join in the weekend fun. Hawai'i Craftsmen is sponsoring a group

named The Flaming Misfits headed by Warren Andrade for the locals who don't belong to a group or mainland people who want to participate. If you have any questions, please contact Raku program manager, Kelly Jones at 429-7162, or contact the Hawai'i Craftsmen office at 521-3282 or via e-mail at info@hawaiicraftsmen.org.

There will also be a raffle held at Raku Ho'olaule'a. Buy a raffle ticket (or several) to help support this event. If you're interested in donating items to the raffle or purchasing tickets during the week-end firing please contact Diane Goff at goff@kp.org. All proceeds benefit Hawai'i Craftsmen's Raku Ho'olaule'a event.

This year Raku Ho'olaule'a will be holding a silent auction at the opening on Thursday, June 21, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. All proceeds benefit Hawai'i Craftsmen's Raku Ho'olaule'a event. A big thank you to Raku participants who suggested this idea and generously donated items for the auction. Please mark your calendars for this exciting and unique event!



Excited participants glazing their bowls at the community kiln.

Hawai'i Craftsmen Annual Meeting

Eighty-nine people attended our 2007 Annual Meeting and Potluck, Sunday, March 25 at the University of Hawai'i, Manoa, 5:30 p.m. Diana Tusher, Hawai'i Craftsmen President, presented the state of the organization and strategic planning update. Adrienne Yoshihara, Treasurer, presented the treasurer's report. At this meeting, a warm thank you went to Linda von Geldern, who is stepping down from the Hawai'i Craftsmen Board of Directors after many years of devoted service as a board member and past board president. Linda will continue to be an active Hawai'i Craftsmen member and volunteer at our Annual Exhibition. Thanks also went out to Abby Maynard Finlay, who also stepped down from the board because of her move to Maui. Hawai'i Craftsmen welcomed new board members Claudia Coonen, Aaron Padilla, and Frank Sheriff. Remember that Hawai'i Craftsmen's Board of Directors is an all-volunteer working board so please contact them if you have any questions, concerns, or would just like to say thank you. The Hawai'i Craftsmen Membership Roster was distributed at the meeting. For a copy of the roster, contact Rose Anne.

Member Spotlight Window at Marks Garage

We offer Hawai'i Craftsmen members the opportunity to have a month long small scale exhibition of your work in our Member Spotlight Window at The ARTS at Marks Garage.

Please contact Richard Duggan at daredesign@hawaii.rr.com for more information.

Hawai'i Craftsmen Website

<http://www.hawaiicraftsmen.org>

The Hawaii Craftsmen Board invite all of you to check out and comment on our beautiful website. It's a work in progress and we're trying hard to make it more interactive and useful to our members. Marsha Eaton is the website designer and she is doing a fantastic job of offering to create member web pages or link the Craftsmen website with your existing website. Folks can join or renew their membership and make donations to Hawaii Craftsmen online using PayPal. Soon members will be able to complete forms and applications, and give feedback on events and shows online as well.

Marcy Katz is monitoring the pages and is determined to keep all info current and timely. Please e-mail her at marcyk@hawaii.rr.com with suggestions, info that you would like to see included about our Hawaii Crafts community. Some possible additions are as follows.

- Start an online gallery.
- Have a swap/for sale/wanted page.
- Have a bulletin board for members to share expertise.
- Feature the Hawai'i Craftsmen artist who is showing in our window at the Mark's Garage window to increase their visibility and make our art more familiar to each other.

Hawai'i Craftsmen
1159 Nu'uuanu Avenue
Honolulu, HI 96817

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Flower Traditions in Hawai'i

June 3-17, 2007, East-West Center
Gallery presented by the East-West
Center and Hawai'i Craftsmen.
Opening reception June 3, 2007. All
are welcome! For more details see
the Hawaii Craftsmen website at
<http://www.hawaiicraftsmen.org>.

