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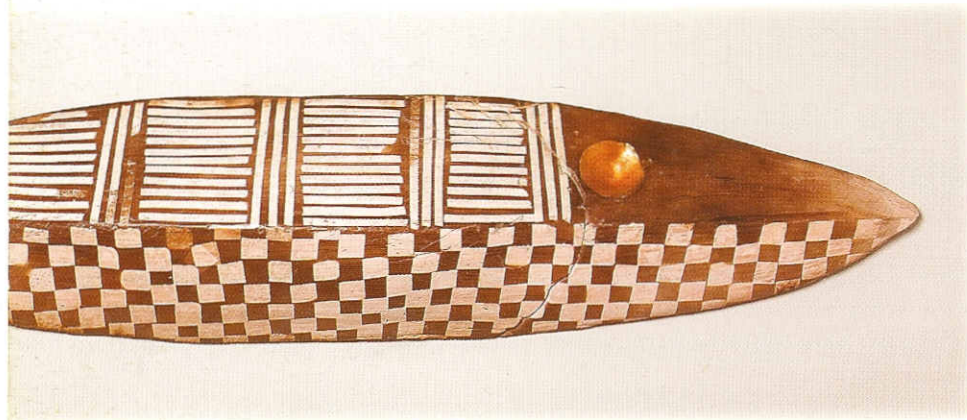
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# Madhvi Subrahmanian Ceramics 2003





People who work with clay understand eternity. Just as they understand the ephemeral. When the primal elements of nature are cajoled into a receptacle of beauty, it carries within it all the mysteries of the universe. The common clay pot shaped by a village hand holds as much of the inscrutable as the sophistication of an urban sensibility. It is the hand of the potter that tells its own story.



Madhvi Subrahmanian straddles both locations with comfortable ease. The rural and the metropolitan. They merge in the kneading of her clay, travel the coils of a deliberate jagged structure and

appear in the warm hues of her glazes. Earth, Water, Fire and Air are shaped into unshapes of intriguing proportions; commonsense and metaphor gliding into each with familiar ease fired by an electric kiln that inhabits her Bombay home. Often, the works are made to sit in a tin can with newspapers set to flame. The smoke swirls around leaving a patina that lends another dimension.

Dazzlingly lit by the evening sun, the urns and pots, platters and seedlings speak of an organic intuition that permeates her work. A sense of rootedness that seeks and nurtures the earth, the seed, the gourd, the process of life. It is the seed that has preoccupied much of her recent works. Seeds that dot a red watermelon, or are ensconced in the orange tumescence of a papaya. Seeds that stare at you like gleaming eyes. "Eye am" bowl is a series that has emerged out of this investigation.

On the verge of moving to Princeton, USA, Madhvi's works wait at the crossroads. As tentative as the artist: Is the grass greener on the other side? The query becomes a title in a just-completed work. Blades of grass sprout out of a wall, green on one side, peppered with dots on the other: "The Grass is Always Greener..." is an allegory that engages the eye as much as the mind.

Bina Sarkar Ellias







Flower Pod 12" H 14" W



Wall Pod 32"L



Wall Pod 32"L





Eye Pod 13"H 14"L



Orange and Red Bowl 14"H 10"W



Orange and Green Lidded Form 13"H 9"W





Orange and Yellow Zig-zag Bowl 12"H 12"W





"Eye am" Bowl 16"W 6"H



"The Grass is Always Greener...." 24"L 17"W 8"H



## EDUCATION

1985 Trained with Ray Meeker and Deborah Smith at the Golden Bridge Pottery, Pondicherry, India.

1993 Masters in Fine Art-ceramic from Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, USA

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2001 Madhvi Subrahmanian: New Works, Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai, India.

2000 The Pod and other Containers, Triveni Kala Sangam, New Delhi, India

1999 The Vessel and the Container, Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai, India

1995 Mosaics Dallas Visual Arts Center, Dallas, TX, USA

East meets West, Carmichael Gallery, Museum of Art, Tyler, TX, USA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2003 Public Art: Contemporary Ceramics in Collaboration, temporary installation, on the pavement of the National Gallery of Modern Art, Regal Circle, Mumbai, India

2002 101 Studio Potters, New Delhi, India

2000 The Sixth Taiwan Golden



Ceramic Awards Show, Taipei, Taiwan

2000 Studio Pottery Show, Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai, India

Mumbai Potters Tea Party, NGMA, Mumbai, India

1999 Richards Feast-exhibition of ceramic art, Palmer Lake, Colorado, USA

1996 Schweisen, S.E. Gallerie, Darmstadt, Germany

1994 Scissor, Paper, Rock, Barry Whistler Gallery, Dallas, TX, USA

1993 National Teapot Show II, Cedar Creek Gallery, Creamer, North Carolina USA

Casseroles, Cookie Jars and Covered Containers, the Farrell Collection, Washington D.C., USA.

The Assemblage Excellence in Art, D'art Visual Art Center, Dallas, TX, USA

USA

## AWARDS

2002 Charles Wallace India Trust Arts Award, short term work/study with Kate Malone, London, UK

2001-2 India Foundation of the Arts Grant for collaborative work in public art, Bangalore, India.

2nd Prize Studio Pottery-2000,

Cymroza Art Gallery, Mumbai, India

Algur Meadows Scholastic Award,

Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX, USA

Margo Jones Award, Southern

Methodist University, Dallas, TX, USA

The Assemblage Show Award for Excellence in Art, D'Art Visual Art Center, Dallas TX, USA

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31st October to

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10.30 am to 6.30 pm.

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