



Janine Wolf, who sells her pottery at Womancraft on Franklin Street, paints one of her works Tuesday

Local artist uses porcelain to create pottery with pizzazz

By FRANCINE ALLEN
Staff Writer

On the wall of the Womancraft store on Franklin Street hangs a big, blue, fingernail-shaped porcelain moon with red lips, squiggly eyebrows and two stars dangling on its end. Other porcelain pottery pieces are on display, including wall mirrors, decorative bowls, platters, candleholders and lidded boxes. Most of these pieces are decorated with the calla lily, a white flower with a single color stamen.

One noticeable aspect of this pottery is that there are no ordinary plates or bowls or candleholders. They look very much the same — almost like taco salad shells. But this ceramic artist says that is the way she likes her work — "unique, special, one of a kind."

"In every piece I want my own original style," says Durham freelance potter Janine Wolf. She says her porcelain crafts carry a message of fragile beauty because they are attractively crafted and are delicate to handle.

Most of her crafts are decorated with flowers because the clay used in making the pottery suggests flowers, Wolf says. However, her works are not decorated with ordinary flowers but with the calla lily, the flower she carried in her wedding.

Many people buy Wolf's crafts as wedding gifts, especially during spring and summer, the wedding season. But, excluding weddings,

Wolf says most of her crafts sell during spring and summer because of their "springy and summery look."

She credits the spring- and summer-like appearance of her works to the delicate pastel colors she uses. "My work has a feminine quality because I use white and pastel color glazes rather than earthy colors such as brown and gray," she says.

A lot of women buy her crafts, but men like her works as well and often purchase Wolf's crafts as gifts for women. Some people consider her work too fancy, she says.

"A lot of pottery is production pottery like dinnerware," she says. "All mine is one of a kind. It is totally original, decorative, and it enhances the environment." For this reason, Wolf says, she considers her work an art form.

Her creation process begins with raw earthenware clay, a low-fire clay which she hand-builds, manipulates to a desired form and then allows to dry for a week. Once dry, the shaped clay is fired in a kiln — an oven-like machine — at 2,000 degrees. "Two thousand degrees is low compared to the heat other clays undergo," she says.

After the earthenware clay is fired, it is allowed to cool for eight hours. Then she paints it and fires it a second time.

But she often likes to spend more time on decorating a piece. "I will make just a simple pottery design and spend most of my time painting the

piece of pottery." This is where her background in painting helps her pottery skill, she says.

As a former high school painting and pottery teacher in Pennsylvania and a graduate of Indiana University with a degree in art education, Wolf has had extensive training in all areas of the arts, including weaving, drawing, design and graphics.

Since moving to North Carolina five years ago with her husband, she has used her diverse background in the arts to teach some classes at the Durham Arts Council and to do freelance illustration and graphics work.

She has also illustrated the book, "Mommy, It's a Renoir," which teaches art appreciation to small children. The book was written by her mother-in-law, Aline Wolf.

Yet, despite her various talents, Wolf has focused on pottery, her first love, which she has been doing professionally for four years and which she considers to be one of the most popular art forms that exist.

"Pottery will always be popular because of its beauty and functional quality," she says.

Wolf has noticed that the people of North Carolina seem to share her love for pottery.

"In North Carolina there is so much pottery it is astounding, and the pottery is of a high quality," she says. "In fact, a lot of people buy my pottery because they think it looks like N.C. pottery. I just don't tell them I'm from Pennsylvania."

ALL DAY TODAY!
12th Annual
WHAYASAY DAY!!
at
TROLL'S
All domestic
longnecks
ALL DAY
LONG— **75¢**
157 E. Rosemary St.

new now
T'boli
University Square Chapel Hill

Can you afford to gamble with the LSAT, GMAT or GRE?
Probably not. Stanley H. Kaplan has helped over 1 million students prepare for their grad school exams. So if you need a refresher class, or even if you're fresh out of college, call. Why take a chance with your career?
STANLEY H. KAPLAN EDUCATIONAL CENTER LTD.
DON'T COMPETE WITH A KAPLAN STUDENT—BE ONE
489-8720
489-2348

Union from page 1
increase doesn't seem like that much money."
The BOT should approve the increase once its members have seen the financial information, Barnard said.
Center from page 1
quate office space that we desperately need," he said. "It will also give UNC alumni a home on campus."
"The building will have a large alumni hall, a library, several meeting rooms, interview rooms and board rooms. It will be used as a place to hold reunions, homecoming events and seminars."
"Interested alumni will become more involved and active in alumni functions as a result of the Alumni Center," he said.
"I don't know how they can look at the figures and not pass an increase," she said. "Otherwise, we won't be able to operate."
Conway said Union programming could be cut if the increase isn't approved.
"If this (increase) does not go through, the Carolina Union will have to scale back considerably," he said.
The performing arts series would probably have to be scaled back, and the Union would not be able to offer free films without the increase, he said.
Students are probably wary of fee increases, but they should understand the reasons for this one, he said.
"This is one fee that is directly tied to services nearly every student makes use of," he said.

The LAST paper this semester is Thurs., April 21
Classifieds accepted no later than noon, Wed., April 20

CASH For Textbooks

TAR HEEL TEXTBOOKS

301 W. Franklin St.
919-929-5228
Next to Hardee's,
across from Fowler's

FREE Parking at door!

Starting April 20th!
Open Sunday April 24th & May 1st!

POP'S