

Dianne F. Caton - Pottery

Growing up in Auckland, New Zealand with six brothers and sisters, I knew at an early age that I wanted to be an artist. My mother would buy me "Paint by Numbers" every Christmas and birthday. At fifteen I had the opportunity to "touch" clay and the long love affair began. But art was not a career path for young ladies at that time and so I was enrolled in Business College. My shorthand and typing skills to this day are still very sharp! My father, knowing my passion, built me my first electric pottery wheel and I have continued making pottery for over 40 years in between "real jobs".



The functional works are inspired by the New Zealand Maori carvings (fish hook design). I cannot leave a piece of clay plain. Once the piece is leather hard I have this uncontrollable urge to carve, cut or change it in some way.



The Indian figures are inspired by 18 years of living in Kansas. they are hand made and accented with feathers, turquoise and New Zealand paua shell. While exhibiting at the 2007 Historic Kenwood Art in the Park Show, it was these figurines that drew the attention of the Temple Beth El Art Show committee. While discussing my work she asked me if I had heard of the Temple Beth El show and I replied that yes, it was one of the best shows I have ever been to see. She asked me if I knew how to get into

the show and I told her you had to be invited - she then said "I'm inviting you". It was one of the most exciting times in my pottery career. I have also shown twice at Mainsail and done a variety of outside shows around Florida.

I have been in the United States now for over 28 years and recently became a U.S. Citizen.