

# Exhibits That Are Still On View

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6, 2013. Organized as part of the Mint's celebration of its 75th anniversary, this exhibition focuses on the ceramic creations of Herb Cohen, a master potter and seminal figure in the museum's own history. The exhibition brings together approxi-

mately 60 works, including selections from the Mint's permanent collection and loans from numerous private collections. For further information call the Museums at 704/337-2000 or visit ([www.mintmuseum.org](http://www.mintmuseum.org)).

## 2012 Carolina Pottery Festival Takes Place in Shelby, NC - Nov. 10, 2012

The 2012 Carolina Pottery Festival will take place on Nov. 10, 2012, at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds in Shelby, NC. Festival hours are 10am to 4pm. The Fairgrounds are located at 1751 E. Marion Street in Shelby. There will be over 100 potters showing and selling work in this 12th year celebration of Carolina pottery. Admission is \$3.00 for those aged 15 and older and part of this admission benefits the programs of the Cleveland County Arts Council, who provide volunteers to assist at the Festival.



Works by Tuula Ihamaki-Widdenfield

The potters who participate in the Festival come from all over the Carolinas and adjacent regions. This is a pottery only event, and being non-juried, it offers equal opportunities to novice and seasoned craft people. The quality of the work at the Festival is representative of the state of craft in North and South Carolina and pottery collectors are continually heard to comment on the beauty of the work represented at the show.

Many of the potters, such as Ron Philbeck, have been participating in the show since it's inception. Philbeck is a well known potter from the Shelby area whose work has evolved over the years, moving from salt fired work to his present body of earthenware, sgraffito decorated functional work. His images are whimsical interpretations of animals and nature.

Traditional work, such as the face jugs by



Work by Ron Philbeck

Hal Dedmond from the Fallston, NC, area, are always a favorite. They are fired in a groundhog kiln and Dedmond enjoys giving character to these pieces. Others, such as Tuula Ihamaki-Widdenfield, from Columbia, SC, will be new to the Festival this year, exhibiting beautifully carved pieces.

The Carolina Pottery Festival was created in 2001 by six potters in the Charlotte/Shelby area. Starting as a brand new festival, the six potters, who became the Board of Directors, envisioned a regional event on an annual basis. Now in it's twelfth year, it is enjoyed by pottery lovers and collectors as a place to find favorite and new artists alike.

The location of the Festival at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds provides easy accessibility, indoor facilities for the comfort of potters and public and free adjacent parking. Yearly public attendance has grown to over 2000.

To plan a day trip for the Festival and enjoy local eateries and attractions, contact Cleveland County Tourism at 704/487-8521 or visit ([www.clevelandchamber.org](http://www.clevelandchamber.org)).

For further information check our NC Institutional Gallery listings, contact Vicki Gill by calling 704/867-5578 or visit ([www.carolinapotteryfestival.org](http://www.carolinapotteryfestival.org)).

## Carolina Renaissance Festival Celebrates Its 19th Anniversary Near Huntersville, NC - Oct. 6 - Nov. 18, 2012

Two months of fun and games more boisterous than ever will take place at the 19th annual Carolina Renaissance Festival, held weekends, Saturdays and Sundays from Oct. 6 - Nov. 18, 2012, from 10am-5:30pm - rain or shine.

Located just north of Charlotte, NC, is a village where imagination, fantasy, and history burst to life. It is a place where adults can feel and act like children while children are treated as royalty. It is a magical realm where you will forget about your daily cares and enjoy the magic of a simpler time and place. It is the Carolina Renaissance Festival and Artisan Marketplace.

Introduced to the Charlotte area in 1994, the Carolina Renaissance Festival and Artisan Marketplace contained just six acres of village attractions. Now, the event has grown to become one of the largest renaissance themed events in the country as well as one of the largest attractions in the Carolinas.

Operating 7 consecutive Saturdays and Sundays in October and November, the 22-acre tree-lined Renaissance Festival village is nestled amongst 245 acres of beautiful forest coated in autumn colors. A perfect setting for a fictional, story-book renaissance village filled with charming cottages, castles, kitchens and pubs, all with simulat-

ed architecture and design of a 16th century European village. A fictional village called Fairhaven - a peaceful shire where pleasure and celebration rules the day.

It is within the walls of Fairhaven that villagers, artists, crafts-people, musicians, performance troupes and food vendors have gathered together to create a marketplace festival in celebration for the arrival of their visiting King and Queen.



Festival favorites - Don Juan & Miguel

With trumpets blaring and cannon blasting, the gates of Fairhaven swing open at 10am and close at dusk. The day is filled with an abundance of attractions appropriate for all age groups, including 11 stages, each packed with a unique mix of continuous music, dance, comedy shows, and circus entertainments. From sword swal-

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lowing to one-of-a-kind old world musical instruments, the entertainment options are endless. The shows are always spontaneous, and you can take part in the action if you wish - or sit back and enjoy watching the audience volunteers who make a spectacle of themselves. You will never know what happens next, on stage or off.

One of the special features of the Carolina Renaissance Festival is that the entertainment is not confined to the stage. The fun takes place right in front of you on the streets of Fairhaven Village, as a costumed cast of 300 medieval commoners, knights, and royalty celebrates a 16th century day of play. Part of the Renaissance experience is meeting and interacting with the colorful characters roaming the village, creating an interactive street theater. Musical fairies and lively woodland sprites embody child-like innocence. Close up magicians amaze and amuse. Wonderful statuary comes to life. There is even a walking tree! You can take audience with the King and Queen, or mingle with the mud covered peasants who endlessly proclaim... "Welcome to the greatest show in Earth! Huzzah!" Outrageously unpredictable and unstoppable hilarity, the Carolina Renaissance Festival blends the comedy of Monty Python with the mythology of *The Lord of the Rings*.

One would be remiss without mentioning the incredible array of live musical performances - many of which are accompanied by ethnic dance influenced by Ireland, Scotland, India, Africa, and the Middle East. Ancient old world instruments such as the hurdy gurdy, hammered dulcimer, penny whistle, along with classical guitar ensembles and gentle harp music all fill the lanes of the village. Even scurrvy pirates and old Irish folk songs have a home with adventure filled ballads that make you sing and shout along - all part and parcel of the Festival day.

In addition to the non-stop schedule of entertainment, you cannot miss the birds of prey exhibition where the royal falconer will don his hunting garb and take you on a thrilling trip into the past explaining and demonstrating the use of falcons, hawks, owls and more in the ancient sport of fal-

conry! Listen to fascinating bits of history delivered while a hawk flies overhead in a simulated hunt displaying the unique skills that enraptured nobles long ago and made falconry the sport of kings. It is both educational and awe inspiring as you learn about the popularity of falconry in the renaissance while watching a falcon dive at over 100 miles an hour!



A modern recreation of the Renaissance era wouldn't be complete without a depiction of one of the grandest events of the time period - the tournament Joust! Easily the Carolina Renaissance Festival's most popular attraction, the joust is full of pomp, pageantry, and chivalry. Three times daily, noble Knights strap on the heavy suits of armor and mount two tons of snorting steeds. With plumes waving and chain mail clanking, they take up their lances and charge at one another in tilt. Shattering lances, clashing swords, and daring deeds of bravery all collide into a realistic recreation of a joust to the death! These Knights (actually stunt riders and actors) battle inside the village on a large tournament field in a 2,000 seat arena. Adults and children alike can join in the fun and cheer their favorite knight with creative and sarcastic chants taught by the Fairhaven rabble rousers!

The Carolina Renaissance Festival is home to plenty of activities for children including a most unusual collection of people powered rides and games of skill. Inspired by the joust? Try your skill with a lance on the Slider Joust challenge game. You can storm the castle in a paintball battle or try to solve the riddle of climbing Jacob's Ladder.

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