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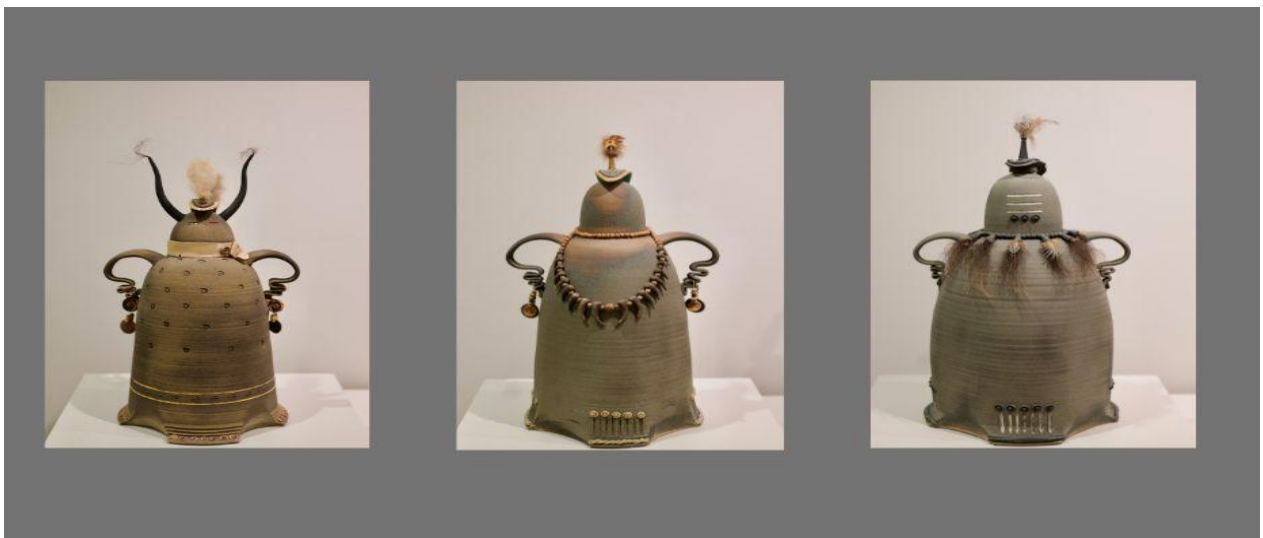
Vernon Filley Art Museum adds work by renowned Kansas Artist Elisa Stone to Permanent Collection, donated by Doug Brehm



Pictured Left to Right: Doug Brehm, Elisa Stone

Acquisition Of Art For The Permanent Collection:

The Board of Directors is proud to announce the exciting addition of 3 new pieces to the permanent collection. Collections Committee Members Dr. Harlan Shinkle, Dr. Mike Westerhaus, Lisa Perez-Miller, Larry Kahmeyer, Doug Brehm, Brittany Novotny-Vernon Filley Art Museum Executive Director, Sara Keith-Vernon Filley Education and Collections Manager met on Monday September 8th to review pieces from artist Elisa Stone for their placement in the Dr Vernon and Emily “Mimi” Filley Permanent collection.



Three pieces from a series entitled “The Natives” by Medicine Lodge Artist Elisa Stone are being donated by Museum Supporter Doug Brehm. These pieces were completed in 2005. Elisa shared, “I have held a lifelong interest in Native American life, culture, and art, specifically that of the Plains Indians. In this series, I attempted to pay homage to the people who were the original Americans, who made unspeakable sacrifices for the expansion of our country. I find their spirituality, physical beauty, and extraordinary creativity enormously inspiring.”

Each of Elisa’s pieces are made of ceramics and mixed media, and individually named “Claw Necklace Warrior”, “Buffalo Warrior”, and “Bird Charm Shaman”. Stone shared that “These objects are based on utilitarian forms, such as the teapot and the urn. On a fundamental level, I am concerned with producing pieces that have clean, elegant lines, yet also have a natural feel. My pieces begin with parts that are thrown on a potters’ wheel, which are then constructed and combined with hand-built additions. Through research of Native American culture, I have combined the “pot” form with the characteristics of certain elements from historic American Indian art and ritual. The result has made the anthropomorphic



VERNON FILLEY ART MUSEUM

421 South Jackson Street, P.O. Box 443, Pratt, KS 67124
P (620) 933-ARTS(2787) • www.vernonfilleyartmuseum.org
Email: info@vernonfilleyartmuseum.org

quality of my work more literal, with each piece almost taking on human form, yet still possessing the basic traits of a vessel: body, handle(s), lid. The additions of elements from nature such as hair and feathers not only make the piece more interesting but hopefully help to communicate my vision.”

Elisa Stone received a Bachelor of Fine Arts in 1992 from Mesa State College (now Colorado Mesa University) in Grand Junction, Colorado, and earned a Masters of Fine Arts degree in ceramics from Kansas State University in 1996, studying under the legendary Yoshiro Ikeda.

Her work has been included in numerous group exhibitions, including *The Kansas Masters Invitational Art Show*, as well as in many competitions across the country. Elisa’s pieces have been featured in galleries in Kansas, Missouri, New Mexico and California, and in numerous private and corporate collections, as well as the 1995 book Best of Pottery. Elisa owns a studio and gallery in a former church building on Main Street in Medicine Lodge, Kansas.

Sara Keith, Vernon Filley Collections and Education Manager shares “These distinctive ceramic works honor Native American culture and through Elisa’s incomparable artistic expression while strengthening the Vernon Filley Art Museum’s role as a gathering place for art and learning. As a cultural center devoted to collecting, preserving, and exhibiting art, we are proud to share this collection with our community and to further our goal of enriching cultural life in Kansas through accessible exhibits and educational opportunities. We are so grateful to Doug Brehm for his thoughtful gift to the Filley and we are excited to share The Natives with the local community.”

Vernon Filley Art Museum Foundation Board of Directors: Cindy Keller, Betty Chinn, Dr. Harlan Shinkle, Kerry Enick, Susan Meigs, Kerry Thieme, Cassie Goyen, Terah Murphy, Dr. Alex Neel, Rick Gerber, Kim Krehbiel, Kim Fritzemeier, Dick Bixler, Don Buhler, and Sue Givens

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sara Keith Collections and Education Manager, filleycollections@gmail.com

Brittany Novotny, Executive Director at bnovotny@vernonfilleyartmuseum.org

Vernon Filley Art Museum 620-933-2787 www.vernonfilleyartmuseum.org