

## **Kids @ CAM – At Home Family projects**

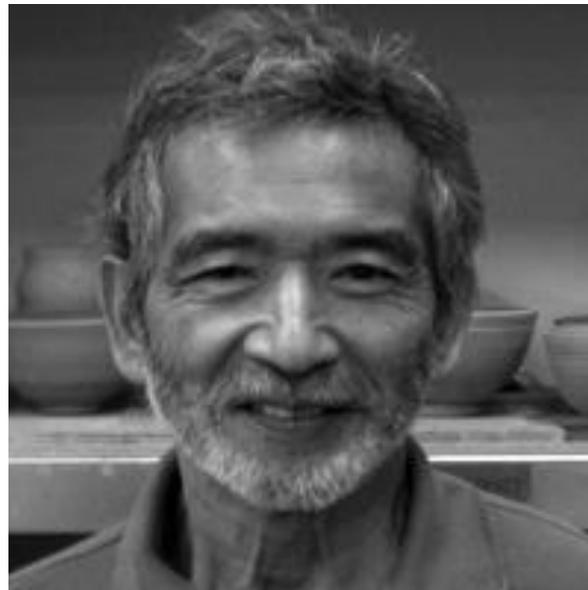
Spotlight on CAM's Collection

### **HIROSHI SUEYOSHI**

About the Artist:

“For some reason pottery kind of symbolizes freedom. I'd like to be able to fly too.”

Master potter Hiroshi Sueyoshi was born in Tokyo, Japan in 1946. Early in his career he was influenced by Shoji Hamada, considered the leader of the 1960s Japanese Folk Art movement. Hamada advised Sueyoshi to experience other cultures before the age of 25 so Sueyoshi moved to Asheboro in 1971 to assist in building Humble Mill Pottery. After working in Seagrove, NC, Sueyoshi moved to Wilmington in 1978. He was an instructor at Cape Fear Community College for more than 20 years while he continued to exhibit works at galleries and museums regionally and internationally. In 2007 he became the artist-in-residence at the Cameron Art Museum. He is a beloved instructor, mentor and friend to all the many students he worked with. During the course of his career, his work has ranged from his traditional beginnings in functional ceramics in his native Japan, to thick-walled, abstract vessels depicting a universe of landscape and motion, to his more recent large-scale ceramic installations that embody his philosophies on mediation and humanity. In 2014, his retrospective exhibition 'Matter of Reverence' displayed at the Cameron Art Museum.



## ART AT HOME – Zen Garden

### What You'll Need:

- Clay (air dry clay, model clay, play dough, etc.)
- Large flat box (you can always cut a box down so it is approximately 1 -2 inches high)
- Glue
- Paint brush
- Sand
- Plastic fork or toothpick (depending on the size of your garden)

Hiroshi Sueyoshi's work 'Rock Garden', 2014, was inspired by his appreciation for Zen Gardens. "Meditation rooms make you think about your surroundings and environment. The faces in the rocks represent man's relationship to nature. When you meditate everything fades away."

- Step 1 – Paint a thin layer of glue onto the bottom of your box.
- Step 2 – Sprinkle a light layer of sand onto the glue so the entire surface of the box floor is covered.
- Step 3 – Take your clay and begin to roll in into a variety of "rock" structures. Take your time and enjoy the process of working the clay in your hands to create a group of rocks that will fit comfortably within your box.
- Step 4 – Put another thin layer of sand on top of your glued, dry sand layer. Leave that loose.
- Step 5 – Arrange your rock structures into the new layer of sand, gently pushing the rocks so they reach the surface of the glued down sand and are supported by the loose sand.
- Step 6 – Rake around your rocks using the plastic fork or toothpick to create lines that radiate out from the base of the rocks. (You can rearrange the rocks and sand lines whenever you want – it can be very relaxing! Enjoy creating soothing designs.)

### Tips:

- Reference Hiroshi's 'Rock Garden' for inspiration when creating your rocks. Vary the sizes and the shapes. Mold a face into at least one of your rocks.
- If you don't have access to sand, complete the project without the sand, and instead carefully draw lines that radiate out of your rock shapes with a colored pencil or marker.

### Questions to ask one another:

- Describe how you felt while you were molding your clay into the different shapes. How did you feel (happy, relaxed, frustrated, etc) How did the clay physically feel on your hands?
- What was your favorite part of the process? Explain why.
- Look at the face/s you sculpted into your clay. Describe what that person looks like? Imagine what kind of emotion they are feeling based on their expression.

### Follow Up Project Idea:

- Arrange your box so that it has a roof. You can accomplish this by laying the bigger part of the box on its side into the lid. Create your Zen garden and include small rocks that you can suspend from the ceiling by molding the clay around string or yarn that you attach to the roof using glue or tape.

