Enduring Legacy is a comprehensive career retrospective featuring 50 works spanning nearly 30 years of Peter Callas’s prolific practice. The exhibition takes place at the American Museum of Ceramic Art from February 12 through July 24, 2022. It is curated by Jo Lauria, Adjunct Curator, AMOCA, and organized by the American Museum of Ceramic Art (AMOCA), which opened in Pomona, California, in 2003. AMOCA’s mission is to foster appreciation and understanding of ceramic art and culture through exhibitions, education, and community engagement. The exhibtion and catalog is supported, in part, by Julianne and David Armstrong and the Los Angeles County Cultural Affairs Commission. The exhibition is accompanied by a catalog, featuring new essays by Jo Lauria, Glen R. Brown, and Glenn Adamson, alongside more than 20 pages of autobiographical reflections by the author himself.

Peter Callas (1951– ) is regarded as one of the preeminent ceramic artists in the American Studio Ceramics tradition to work with anagama kilns. Other works on display include intimate tea bowls, selected works on paper, and the premier of an original film about the artist. Opening February 12, 2022 at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, Peter Callas: An Enduring Legacy is a pivotal figure in the American Studio Ceramics movement, and exhibitions like this play a vital role in preserving and documenting the history of this uniquely American artistic movement.

Peter Callas has exhibited extensively, including exhibitions at the Mashiko Museum of Ceramic Art (Japan), the Museum of Modern Art (New York), and the Centre Pompidou (France). His works are featured in museum collections nationally as well as in Asia, Europe, Australia, and South America. This comprehensive exhibition includes expressionistic sculptures, masterworks that are some of the most important American works created in the wood-fired, anagama kiln tradition. Other works on display include intimate tea bowls, selected works on paper, and the premier of an original film about the artist. Opening February 12, 2022 at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, Peter Callas: An Enduring Legacy is a pivotal figure in the American Studio Ceramics movement, and exhibitions like this play a vital role in preserving and documenting the history of this uniquely American artistic movement.

Early in his career, Callas travelled to Japan, where he was introduced to the aesthetic philosophies and technique for his magnificent abstract sculptures which now reside in museums and famous collections all over the world.

Jo Lauria, curator of the exhibition, remarked, “Peter Callas is internationally recognized for his mastery of the wood-firing process using an anagama kiln. Callas’s career has focused on perfecting vertical torqued technique from the early 1990’s to the present. The pieces gathered, ranging from abstract sculptures to expressionistic containers, highlight what curator Jo Lauria calls “the compelling results of heat, flame, and fly ash deposits.” Walking among the works included in An Enduring Legacy, viewers will be able to closely observe the nuances of creative “exchange” that occur between the artist, the clay, and the kiln.

EXHIBITION OVERVIEW

Peter Callas (1951–) is regarded as one of the preeminent ceramic artists in the American Studio Ceramics tradition to work with anagama kilns. Peter Callas (1951– ) influenced an entire generation of ceramic artists. Opening February 12, 2022 at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, Peter Callas: An Enduring Legacy is a pivotal figure in the American Studio Ceramics movement, and exhibitions like this play a vital role in preserving and documenting the history of this uniquely American artistic movement. The exhibition and catalog is supported, in part, by Julianne and David Armstrong and the Los Angeles County Cultural Affairs Commission.