From a Gift to a Collection
Igal & Diane Silber


(Pomona, CA—February 9, 2023) From a Gift to a Collection: Igal & Diane Silber, opening April 1, 2023 at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, celebrates AMOCA’s recent acquisition of more than 300 ceramic works collected by Igal and Diane Silber. The exhibition will present a selection of 100 works from this unparalleled collection, representing artists from Europe, the Middle East, the Pacific Rim, and North America.

Igal (1936-2021) and Diane (1944- ) Silber began collecting art early in their marriage. Initially they were most attracted to contemporary figurative painting and sculpture. Then, in the late 1970s, the Silbers received the gift of a green crater glazed bowl by Otto and Gertrud Natzler from their friends, Robert Logan and Robert Cugno. The gift of this bowl, clearly a serious work of art, invited the Silbers to consider ceramics as an art form worthy of further study and pursuit. While at first the Silbers focused their ceramics collection on the vessel form, their interests gradually shifted to include figurative and sculptural works as well.
The Silbers added to their collection not by choosing pieces by famous artists, or by seeking to round out missing elements. Instead, Diane shares, “each piece was selected because of its impact on us.” While building a significant contemporary ceramic collection may not have been the Silbers’s initial goal, it was an endeavor that brought the couple joy and allowed them to learn about and meet countless fascinating international artists. As members of the International Academy of Ceramics (IAC), the Silbers traveled the world, befriended many artists, and continued to collect varied and compelling pieces. Collecting, both an appreciation of creativity and a creative process in itself, turned out to be an enriching gift for Silbers throughout their lives together.

Exhibition Overview

Over 90 artists, hailing from South Korea, New Zealand, Japan, the United States, Canada, Turkey, Israel, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, Poland, the Netherlands, Hungary, Germany, England, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Belgium, and Austria have work included in From a Gift to a Collection: Igal and Diane Silber.

Approximately 60% of the work shown has origins beyond North America, and about two-thirds of the objects on view in From a Gift to a Collection relate to functional forms and vessels; the other third is figurative, sculptural, or narrative.

Artists represented in the Igal and Diane Silber Collection:

- Gunhild Aaberg
- Beate Andersen
- Kent Anderson
- Laura Andreson
- Bruno & Ingeborg Asshoff
- Jeri Au
- Felicity Aylieff
- Gordon Baldwin
- Heiner Balzar
- Pat Baskett
- Maria Baumgartner
- Curtis & Susan Benzle
- Nicholas Bernard
- Betty Blandino
- Doug Blechner
- Robert Brady
- Alison Britton
- David Brokenshire
- Alan Caiger-Smith
- William Catling
- Edouard Chapallaz
- Joanna Constantinidis
- Emmanuel Cooper
- Philip Cornelius
- Clara “Kitty” Couch
- Kris Cox
- Patrick Shia Crabb
- David Crane
- Jean Claude de Crousaz
- Hans de Jong
- Dora de Larios
- Rick Dillingham
- Carmen Dionye
- Ruth Duckworth
- Ken Eastman
- Geoffrey Eastop
- Larry Elsner
- Kathy Erteman
- Cathy Fleckstein
- Isabel Barba Formosa
- Maria Geszler-Garzuly
- David Gilhooley
- Horst Goebbels
- Harvey Goldman
- Crispin Gonzalez
- Chris Gustin
- Babs Haenen
- Barbara Hashimoto
- Peter Hayes
- Steven Heinemann
- Otto & Vivika Heino
- Ewen Henderson
- David Hicks
- Elisabeth Higgins O’Connor
- Anne Hirondelle
Exhibition Credits

*From a Gift to a Collection* is accompanied by a full-color catalog featuring a new essay by Beth Ann Gerstein.

This exhibition is funded, in part, by the Los Angeles County Arts Commission.

AMOCA thanks Igal and Diane Silber for their donation of this exceptional collection and their support for this exhibition.

###

February 9, 2023

**CALENDAR LISTING**

*From a Gift to a Collection: Igal & Diane Silber* opens at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, 399 N Garey Ave, Pomona, CA 91767 on April 1, 4-6 pm with opening remarks at 4:30pm. The exhibition runs through September 17, 2023. The museum is open Friday-Sunday, 11am to 4pm. For more information: [https://www.amoca.org/upcoming-exhibitions/collectors-silber/](https://www.amoca.org/upcoming-exhibitions/collectors-silber/) or (909) 865-3146 or communications@amoca.org.

**Credit**

This exhibition is organized by the American Museum of Ceramic Art.

**About AMOCA**

The American Museum of Ceramic Art was founded in 2003, in Pomona, California. The mission of the museum is to champion the art, history, creation, and technology of ceramics through exhibitions, collections, outreach, and studio programming.

**Museum Hours**

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 11am – 4pm

**Admission**

General $14, Senior $9, Student/Pomona Resident $7, Members & under 12 Free

**Location**

American Museum of Ceramic Art
399 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767
(909) 865-3146 • [www.amoca.org](http://www.amoca.org)
Contact
Press: Genevieve Kaplan • communications@amoca.org • (909) 865-3146
Education and Coordinated Programming: Carly Lake-Irigoyen • education@amoca.org • (909) 865-3146