



EXHIBITION ADVISORY

Exhibition: *Fired in Revolution: Ceramics from the People's Republic of China*

On View: October 25, 2025—April 26, 2026

Reception: October 25, 2025, 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm • Opening Remarks @ 4:30 pm

Location: American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA



(Pomona, California—September 24, 2025) Opening October 24, 2025, *Fired in Revolution: Ceramics from the People's Republic of China* presents ceramics created during the Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976. Guest curated by Dr. Jamie Kwan, this exhibition explores Cultural Revolution ceramic production.

China has a long history of ceramic production that dates to ancient times. The kilns at Jingdezhen—China's most famous site of porcelain production—served as an imperial manufactory since the 11th century. However, this production drastically changed during the Cultural Revolution when the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) closely controlled all forms of literature, art and media. The cultural realm was turned on its head, as artists were forced to change their imagery and styles or face serious consequences.

This exhibition explores Cultural Revolution ceramic production, specifically works made at Jingdezhen. Presenting ceramic figures, plaques, molds, and decorated vessels, alongside posters and other period ephemera, *Fired in Revolution* demonstrates the major styles and imagery of the movement while highlighting how artists maintained artistic agency and preserved traditional methods of production in the face of government censorship.

Executive Director Beth Ann Gerstein says, “This exhibition offers visitors a window into ceramic production during the Cultural Revolution, a unique movement in China’s history. This time of social and economic disruption, brought on by radical government ideology, reverberated into art and culture. The hundreds of pieces on view in *Fired in Revolution* give us a glimpse into the creative lives of traditional artisans as well as reveal the concerns and preoccupations of the Chinese people during this period of upheaval.”

Fired in Revolution will be on view in the Julianne and David Armstrong Gallery at AMOCA October 25, 2025-April 26, 2026.

Exhibition Overview

Fired in Revolutions presents Chinese works created during the Cultural Revolution, 1966-1976.

On view will be hundreds of distinctive Cultural Revolution ceramics, including molded busts, figures, vessels, and plaques. These pieces explore the major styles and imagery of the movement and highlight how ceramicists maintained artistic agency and preserved traditional methods of production in the face of government censorship.

Complementing the in-person exhibition experience, numerous public and educational programs will be mounted, including lectures, conversations, college-level tours, and tours for Title 1 schools serving grades K-12.

Exhibition Credits

Fired in Revolution is guest curated by Dr. Jamie Kwan, Assistant Curator of Drawings, Prints and Graphic Design at Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. She received her B.A. from Stanford University and her Ph.D. in art history from Princeton; she has served as the Associate Curator at the Wende Museum and has held positions at the Morgan Library & Museum, J. Paul Getty Museum, Huntington Library, and Getty Research Institute.

The museum extends its sincere thanks to Fiona Chalom and the Wende Museum for loaning works for the exhibition.

This exhibition is part of Craft in America's *Handwork: Celebrating American Craft 2026*, a nationwide Semiquincentennial initiative to showcase the importance of the handmade, both throughout our history and in contemporary life.

This exhibition is funded, in part, by grants from the Dew Foundation, the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, and by support from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Department of Arts and Culture.

CALENDAR LISTING

Fired in Revolution opens at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, 399 N Garey Ave, Pomona, CA 91767 on October 25, 2025, with an opening reception on Saturday, October 25 from 4-6 pm. The exhibition runs through April 26, 2026. The museum is open Friday-Sunday, 11am to 4pm.

For more information: https://www.amoca.org/future-exhibitions/fired_in_revolution/ 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
Pay-what-you-can First Fridays are the first Friday of each month.

Location

American Museum of Ceramic Art
399 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767

(909) 865-3146 • www.amoca.org

Contact

Press: Genevieve Kaplan • communications@amoca.org • (909) 865-3146 x6

Education and Coordinated Programming: Chinelo Ufondu • education@amoca.org • (909) 865-3146