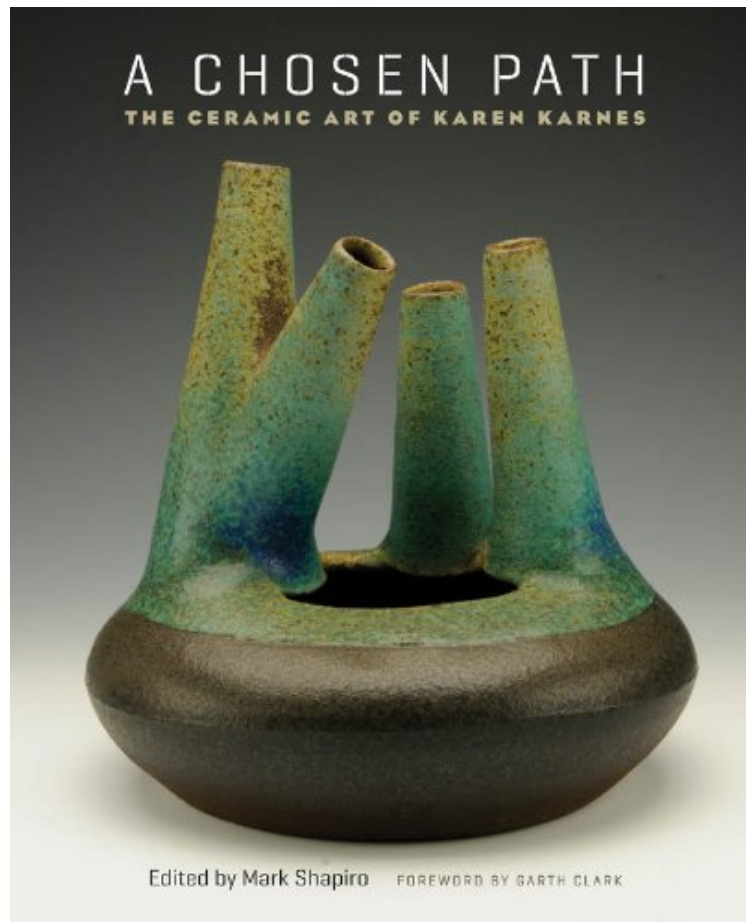


A Chosen Path: The Ceramic Art of Karen Karnes

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From The University of North Carolina Press : A Chosen Path: The Ceramic Art of Karen Karnes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Chosen Path: The Ceramic Art of Karen Karnes:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Tradition of SharingBy Bruce K. Hanson, author of For the Record: Confessions of a Vinyl- Soundtrack JunkieI was fortunate enough to be one of Karen Karnes' students at Hunter College in the mid-seventies. At first I was not educated enough to really appreciate a ceramics department that boasted Karen Karnes, Susan Peterson, and John Mason as instructors. I was a painting major who accidentally discovered Karen's wonderfull teaching techniques when I attended the class of my best friend. The following semester I signed up for Karen's ceramics class, and stayed with clay for the rest of my life. That was 40 years ago! Yikes!Karen exemplified the sharing qualities that are often associated with potters. She was an excellent advisor to handbuilders as well as wheel throwers. Patient, kind, softspoken, and oh so talented and wise, I find that I am still influenced (consciously and unconsciously) by Karen's style, forms, and excellent craftsmanship. Often, when I asked for advise by my own ceramics students I will automatically say, "I'd like to suggest..." rather than coming on like

gangbusters. (I must also admit that John Mason and later, in graduate school, Doris Licht, were also true mentors.) "The Chosen Path" is a beautifully realized tribute to one of America's living treasures. The essays are interesting and informative, the photos are well chosen, and, in particular, Karen's stunning works are handsomely photographed and presented throughout the book. I was given a copy of the book for Christmas about four years ago and then, a few months later, Karen sent me a signed copy. That one I keep home while the other is on my desk in school to share with my students. So...even today, Karen shares her talents with others through her actual work and through Mark Shapiro's excellent book. My only regret: when Karen and her partner, Ann Stannard, were invited to my wedding 37 years ago, I told Karen not to give us her pottery; knowing her, being her student, and receiving recommendations for graduate school, were more than enough. Karen complied with my wishes but still gave a lovely book about love and commitment. Years later, I wish I had kept my big mouth shut. :) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. We want to see. By Dale Ann An informative text with far too few images of her work. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Terrific! By Customer Beautiful book with lots of great photos.

Renowned ceramic artist Karen Karnes has created some of the most iconic pottery of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. The body of work she has produced in her more than sixty years in the studio is remarkable for its depth, personal voice, and consistent innovation. Many of her pieces defy category, invoking body and landscape, pottery and sculpture, male and female, hand and eye. Equally compelling are Karnes's experiences in some of the most significant cultural settings of her generation: from the worker-owned cooperative housing of her childhood, to Brooklyn College under modernist Serge Chermayeff, to North Carolina's avant-garde Black Mountain College, to the Gate Hill Cooperative in Stony Point, New York, which Karnes helped establish as an experiment in integrating art, life, family, and community. This book, designed to accompany an exhibit of Karnes's works organized by Peter Held, curator of ceramics for the Arizona State University Art Museum's Ceramic Research Center, offers a comprehensive look at the life and work of Karnes. Edited by highly regarded studio potter Mark Shapiro, it combines essays by leading critics and scholars with color reproductions of more than sixty of her works, providing new perspectives for understanding the achievements of this extraordinary artist.

Wonderful full-page colour photographs. . . . Will be welcomed by all who have admired and appreciated the utilitarian pieces and sculptural vessel forms Karen has produced during her distinguished career over 60 years as one of the USA's foremost potters.--The Log Book Filled with high-quality images spanning 60 years of [Karnes's] work. After reading the book, you will understand why she is commonly referred to as the 'grandmother of American ceramics.'--American Style An excellent read for art biographies and art libraries in general, highly recommended.--The Midwest Book Fascinating. . . . Thoughtful, intimate, and clear descriptions of the individual phases and turning points in Karnes's life. . . . A pleasurable read and an excellent resource for learning about contemporary American ceramics. . . . Recommended.--Choice A beautiful, fascinating look at [Karen Karnes].--The Chronicle A great book about one of the important potters of our time. Seven artists, critics, historians, and friends, followed by Karen's own observations, document her life and work. Central, analytical, and factual, it is a fascinating story of creativity and dedication. Inspiring and long overdue, it is important reading for all artists.--Warren MacKenzie, potter Mark Shapiro has assembled a stellar cast of essayists to explore the intriguing life and work of potter Karen Karnes. They write with a grace, clarity, and reverence befitting this maker of sublime yet curiously humble clay masterpieces.--Mark Hewitt, potter and co-author of *The Potter's Eye: Art and Tradition in North Carolina Pottery* There are too few books that treat pottery as seriously as other art forms; too few that pay sufficient tribute to the achievements of women artists; and too few that situate great art within a rich biographical context. This finely textured book does all three, providing in-depth analysis not only of Karnes's pots and sculpture, but also of the life of the fascinating person who made them.--Glenn Adamson, Deputy Head of Research and Head of Graduate Studies, Victoria and Albert Museum From the Inside Flap Renowned ceramic artist Karen Karnes has created some of the most iconic pottery of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. The body of work she has produced in her more than sixty years in the studio is remarkable for its depth, personal voice, and consistent innovation. This book offers a comprehensive look at the life and work of Karnes. Edited by highly regarded studio potter Mark Shapiro, it combines essays by leading critics and scholars with color reproductions of more than sixty of her works, providing new perspectives for understanding the achievements of this extraordinary artist.