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## Betty Spindler

American, b. 1943

California ceramic sculptor Betty Spindler specializes in recreating the fruits, vegetables and other familiar still life subjects commonly found around her kitchen. Whether presented as single objects or contained in bowls or platters, these joyful still lifes typically boast brilliant colors, highlighted by her use of glossy, clear glaze finishes. She produces the works in a range of sizes, from life-size to heroic. Their appeal is universal and her artwork is widely collected.

Working with special-mix clay, the artist hand-builds her pieces over newspaper armatures, pressing and smoothing the thick clay with her hands until she has achieved the desired shapes and textures. She then low-fires her bisque forms, and, following overglazing, returns them for a second firing to produce their high gloss finish. The spectacular brilliance of her colors comes from her blending of various hues, her use of complimentary colors within a piece, and her overglazing process which heightens the colors and creates their sensual sheen. All combined, the artworks virtually sing with color.

### Statement

*I don't try to interpret my work, and I don't title it. When I look at art I never read the title. I like my art to communicate its own sense of self. When I show my work in places that house a lot of real accomplished artists, mine seem so simple. And yet, that's exactly what I strive for, capturing the essence of what it is, without sacrificing the character that is my signature.*

## **Resume**

### **Education**

1990 University of California, Santa Cruz, CA, Ceramics

1966 AA Cerro Coso Community College, Ridgecrest, CA, Ceramics and oil painting

### **Awards**

1990 Kersage College, University of California, Santa Cruz Calendar

1984 Artisan Scholarship Winner

1982 Sacramento State Capital Community College Art Show Participant

### **Bibliography**

2001 Gamble, Harriet, Celebrating the Familiar: An Interview with Betty Spindler, Arts & Activities, May

2001 Lark, Frank, A Gallery of Contemporary Design Work, The Ceramic Design Book

1998 Crawford, Lisa, Betty Spindler's Full Harvest, Ceramics Monthly, September

### **Shows**

2000 Food Fare 2000, Planned Parenthood, Santa Monica, CA

1999 Pacific Craft Show, Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA

1999 Ceramic Still Life, Sherry Frumkin Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1998 SOFA Exposition in Chicago with Winfield Gallery, Carmel, CA

1998 Appetite for Art, LACMA, Los Angeles, CA

1998 Feast on Art, Orange County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA

1998 Sherry Frumkin, Santa Monica, CA

1998 Winfield Gallery, Carmel, CA

1997 SOFA Exposition in Chicago with Winfield Gallery, Carmel, CA

1997 Ceramic Still Life: The Common Object, CCAC, Oakland, CA

1997 Feast on Art, Orange County Museum of Art, Newport Beach, CA

1997 A "Sense of Humor", Millard Sheets Gallery, LA County Fair Complex, Pomona, CA

1997 Prelude to the Season, Sacramento, CA

1997 Introduction to a New Space, Michael Himovitz Gallery, Sacramento, CA

1997 On the Small Side – On the Wild Side, Sherry Frumkin Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

1996 An Appetite for Art – An Evening of Art, Sex, Food, Video, LACMA, Los Angeles, CA

1996 Sculpture to Hold, Stewart Kummer Gallery, Gualala, CA

1996 Feast on Art, Laguna Art Museum, Laguna Beach, CA

1995 Prelude to the Arts, Business Volunteers for the Arts, Sacramento, CA

1994 New Installations, the Sacramento Capital Club, Wells Fargo Building, Sacramento, CA

1994 Introduction 1994, Michael Himovitz Gallery, Sacramento, CA

1994 Directions of Clay, Davis Art Center

1992 Sylvia Winslow Gallery, 1992, Maturango Museum, Ridgecrest, CA

1991 East Wall, 1991, Cerro Coso Community College

1990 Senior Review, University of California, Santa Cruz

1988-90 Student Shows, University of California, Santa Cruz

1988 Differences Art Show, 1988, Los Angeles Art Center

1980-87 Student Shows, Cerro Coso Community College