

## Joe Vitek

### A BRIEF HISTORY OF MY 35 YEARS AS A POTTER

1964 Painting and drawing classes, Corcoran School of Art, Washington, D.C.

1965-66 Beginning through advanced ceramics, Corcoran.

1966 Studio assistant, Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburg, PA.

1966-68 Apprenticeship at the studio of Teruo Hara in Warrenton, VA.



1969-70 Private studio, Washington, D.C. Taught beginning wheel classes, Corcoran. Associated with Hinckley-Brohel Gallery, Georgetown, Washington, D.C. Taught classes at H.B.

1970-71 Studio manager at Potter's Studio, Berkeley, CA. Production pottery and teaching.

1972 Private studio, Washington, D.C. Production pottery and teaching at Eastern market Pottery. Consultant and illustrator for Early American folk Pottery, by Harold Guiland. Associated with Capitol Hill Gallery, Talking of Michelangelo. Began Saturday craft sales outlet at Eastern Market farmers market.

1973 Privately funded pottery project, Pacific Trust Territory, Ngersul, Palau. Set up pottery and taught basic clay skills to Palaun women, (local culture saw these skills as women's work!) Set up private studio at University of Guam. Taught basic ceramics at U. Guam. Associated with Haleakala Gallery. Set up Raku workshop at craft fairs. Traveled to Tamba, Japan. Worked as trimmer in commercial Jigger factory (trimming 500-800 rice bowls a day). Made Tamba style rice wine bottles using local clay and assisted with anagama firing.

1974-75 Nan Rothwell studio, Crozet, VA. Worked with salt glazed pottery. Associated with Crafter's Gallery, Charlottesville, VA.

1976-77 Resident artist at Crafter's Gallery, Charlottesville. Set up production studio for owners and built 35 cubic foot side draft propane kiln, based on

Japanese noborigama principles. Unique to this kiln was a 3 stage, monolithic cast refractory arch with a double radius curve. Production potter, making mingei style pottery and large one-of-a-kind planters.

1977-85 Illustrator for Brady Publishing, a Prentice Hall company, illustration and design of EMT/nursing level textbooks. Studied photography at Maryland Institute. Studied painting and drawing and etching at Prince George's Community College. Photography included in The Best of Photography Annual, 1982.

1985-87 Art Services, Inc., worked as a production artist and graphics technician.

1987-95 Baltimore Clayworks. Production pottery under trade name, Bluemist Pottery. Teaching intermediate and advanced classes in pottery. Published Baltimore Sun Style magazine 1989. One-of-a-kind pieces for Center Stage production. Associated with Baltimore Clayworks Gallery, Tomlinson Crafts Gallery, and other galleries in the Delmarva area.

1995-00 Production potter at Bluemist pottery, Towson, MD. Private pottery lessons at my studio and classes at Baltimore Clayworks. One-of-a-kind commissions for Baltimore Clayworks, American folklore society, Maryland folklore society and individuals. Pursuing avocation in photography.

