LEE AKINS
SABBATICAL REPORT

I was a Self-Directed Resident Artist at The Banff Centre, Banff, Alberta, Canada from March 13–31. For three weeks, I made new forms and tested finishes and glazes. Numerous art openings, art performance pieces, art installations, lectures, and concerts were there for me to experience. I was able to meet and interact with artists, musicians, and writers from all over the world, including:

- Trish Lyon, Senior Lecturer in Sculpture, Camberwell College of Art, London, UK: lecture, “A Natural History of Rocks”
- Jaime Angelopoulos, Nova Scotia, Canada, installation/performance artist: two performance art works
- Steven Raynor, Ireland, sculptor: installation/conceptual piece of full size VW van
- “Almanac” serial publication: launch reception
- Guy Davis, Harlem, NY blues musician: concert recorded for live CD release
- Jupiter String Quartet, Boston, MA: concert, Fall Concert Series
- String quartet, Sweden, Noon Concert Series
- Marzena Pustelnik, Poland: pottery exhibition
- Washington state nature photographer: slide lecture
- Beverley Simms, Canada and Eugene Skeef, South Africa: “Water and Music” performance piece
- Helped fire Noborigama (multi-chamber wood kiln), salt kiln with six Canadian potters

I was able to take advantage of the following professional activities:

Conferences and Workshops:

- 16th National Ceramic Competition, San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, San Angelo, TX
- David Furman: slip casting workshop, San Angelo, TX
- Randy Brodnax: raku workshop, San Angelo, TX
- Jaime Walker, Linda Sikora: demonstration, SMU, Dallas, TX
- Matthew Metz: slide lecture, Craft Guild of Dallas, Dallas, TX
- Robin Hopper: slide lecture, Craft Guild of Dallas, Dallas, TX
- NCECA (National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts), Portland, OR
- Empty Bowls benefit for North Texas Food Bank, Myerson Symphony Center, Dallas, TX
- Adjudicator for ISAS Fine Arts Festival, Episcopal School of Dallas, Dallas, TX

Because of the time I was able to devote to my artwork, I exhibited and published the following:

Solo Exhibition:

- Lee Akins, Pots and Photos, The Other Gallery, Banff Centre, Banff, Canada
Group Exhibitions:

- *Exhibition 1: Visual Arts Faculty*, The Arts gallery, Collin College, Plano, TX
- *Clay to Canvas*, Upstairs Gallery, Arlington, TX
- *Teaching Clay in Texas*, Meadows Gallery, University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX
- *Hecho en Dallas*, Latino Cultural Center, Dallas, TX
- *The HeArt Project*, Los Angeles, CA
- *Attachments 2006*, The Six Pack Show, Coop Gallery, San Angelo, TX
- *Wish*, The Dallas Center for Contemporary Art, Dallas, TX

Publication:


I also worked in my Dallas studio, producing work for the upcoming *New Clay: Invitational* in The Arts gallery, Collin College, October 28-November 18 and a solo show at the 14th St. Gallery, Plano, schedule for November 3-27. I photographed all my activities and have already shared these pictures with my students and colleagues.

My goals for my sabbatical were realized. I was able to create a new body of work in this intensive, concentrated time. The residency provided new energy and direction to my art. I was able to make connections with other professionals in my field. Three of my new acquaintances from Banff will be exhibiting with me in the *New Clay: Invitational*

September 17, 2006