

Doug Delind

Doug DeLind graduated from Michigan State University with an MFA in ceramics in 1976, having worked with Louis Raynor. Since then he has been a professional artist whose works, primarily Raku-fired clay sculptures, have appeared in galleries throughout the country. Doug's most recent sculpture, the bronze "Gateway to Good Health," is located in front of the IM West Building on the MSU campus. Another, an 8' x 40' Raku-fired clay mural titled "Take Me to Tomorrow," is located in the CATA bus terminal in downtown Lansing.



The process: Raku firing

Imagine holding a glowing, red-hot piece of clay at arms length with iron tongs and then dropping it gently into a metal container full of newspapers. The papers ignite, almost exploding. You then put a lid on the container to prevent, oxygen from reaching the clay piece and the newspapers. Immediately you are enveloped in a dense cloud of smoke. Hot and sweaty (and smelling like a bonfire), you have just experienced the essence of raku firing. Raku is a strange and exciting firing technique which originated in Japan and is now practiced by pyromaniacs all over the world. The drama of the firing is evidenced in the colorful and unpredictable effect it has on the glazes and clay body - the result of extreme temperature and atmospheric changes.