

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: EXHIBITIONS**

Thursday 27 May 2010

**Owen Rye, *Golden Ashes***

Curated by Joe Pascoe in celebration of Craft Victoria's 40th anniversary

Opening Thursday 17 June, 6-8pm. Showing until 24 July.

Craft Victoria, 31 Flinders Lane Melbourne (Gallery 1)



Images: Woodfired ceramic vessels by Owen Rye

**Owen Rye has explored the aesthetic of the woodfired ceramic process for more than thirty years. *Golden Ashes* exhibits retrospective markers from these investigations alongside some of Rye's most recent work.**

In giving his pieces form on the potter's wheel Rye aims "... for an interplay, for tension between the man-made form and the organic or natural fired surface. The best results have a feel of inevitability, when there is no other way it could be".

Using wood as a fuel in the firing process has distinctive consequences; ash and clay combine to create a glaze that is highly variable depending on the type of wood, the type of clay and the placement in the kiln. Consequently every piece is different, unique in its distortions and flaws, its colours and aspect, predicating an attitude where logic is balanced by impromptu deviations. The final result asks for an unfettered response.

In a career spanning over 40 years, Rye's contribution to the field of ceramics is internationally recognised. His works are held in the Australian National Gallery as well as public collections in USA, China, Korea, Germany, and Japan. Alongside a prolific artistic practice Rye has worked across other aspects of ceramics including archaeology, lecturing, curating, authoring articles for ceramics magazines and penning numerous books.

This exhibition will be opened by Janet Mansfield, ceramicist, founding editor of *Ceramics: Art and Perception* and currently President of the International Academy of Ceramics.

**Further information:** Print-ready images and curator interviews available on request.

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**KEY DETAILS:**

<b>Owen Rye: <i>Golden Ashes</i></b> <b>Showing</b> 18 June – 24 July <b>Opening</b> Thursday 17 June, 6-8pm.	<b>Craft Victoria</b> 31 Flinders Lane, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000 Hours: Monday to Saturday 10am-5pm
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This exhibition has been kindly supported by: