

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE THROUGH MARCH 18, 2007

News Release

CONTACT: John I. Russell, Executive Director

PHONE: 203-775-4526 X102

WEBSITE: <http://www.Brookfieldcraftcenter.org>

EMAIL: craftcenter@charterinternet.com

DATE: January 2, 2007



Clay Marimba by Ward Hartenstein

ARTIST-MADE CERAMIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS EXHIBITION

Brookfield, CT --- A new group exhibition entitled "The Sound of Earth: Ceramic Musical Instruments" will open in the Lynn Tandler Bignell Gallery at Brookfield Craft Center on Sunday February 4th and will run through March 18th, 2007. The specially-curated show, created by Barry Hall, the author of the book "From Mud to Music: Making and Enjoying Ceramic Musical Instruments," showcases handmade musical instruments made from clay. An opening/reception will be held Sunday February 4th from 2-4pm with a special Curator's Talk at 3pm. Admission is free. Gallery Hours are Monday - Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sundays 12-5pm.

With a history reaching back to ancient times, creating ceramic musical instruments is a vibrant pursuit for many innovative artists today. The artists included in this exhibition represent the vanguard of creative contemporary ceramic instrument builders. Much of the work on display draws inspiration from ancient instruments. All of the instrument families: winds, strings and percussion are represented in this exhibition. A CD soundtrack for this exhibition is available which includes selections performed on ceramic instruments by artists from around the world along with digital images and text from the show.

The participating artists are: Don Bendel, Frank Giorgini, Ward Hartenstein, Rod Kendall, Rob Mangum, Brian Ransom, Susan Rawcliffe, Sharon Rowell, Steve Smeed, Lori Twardowski-Raper, Troy Raper, Richard Schmidt and Barry Hall.

This exhibition has been made possible by The Lynn Tandler Bignell Foundation and the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism. The Lynn Tandler Bignell Gallery is located in Brookfield Craft Center's historic Mill Building on Route 25, just east of the Four Corners intersection with Route 7/202. For further information call the Center at 203-775-4526 or visit Brookfieldcraftcenter.org.

The nationally respected Brookfield Craft Center recently celebrated its 50th year of public service. It was founded in 1954 to promote and preserve the skills and values of fine craftsmanship and to support American craft artists by the exhibition and sale of their work. Today it is ranked as one of the nation's finest non-academic schools for professional craft studies.

