



## Touch & Shadow

an exhibition of ceramics by

# SIRAJ SAXENA

at The new Taipei City, Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taiwan  
from 30 November 2011 to 15 December 2011



What does clay mean to me? I believe clay is complete in itself. This is a very old medium of art & expression. Clay has many shapes and forms in it. I wish to take the clay where it has never been before. I work through my fingers. I see forms through my touch.

The touch which my heart feels lets my fingers go to fulfill its desires. Through this the journey of self discovery begins. Many small and big forms appear. When I arrange my tiny forms on surfaces they create a magic of illusion. I seem to repeat my forms but when you look at each form, they are different from each other, like leaves of a tree or curly hair of Buddha (Stone Sculpture).

Touch is a very sensuous feeling for human beings and they have to express it beautifully through poetry, music and dance but I believe one can also touch and feel through the eyes of a visual artist. I expect my viewers to feel the touch without any prejudice. My works are like poems and one has to find and create his or her own meaning. I believe there is a lot for the viewer to perceive. One can say my works are very simple and like a play. I don't impose my technical skills in my work. My work has a story of itself like a tree or bird has its own story. They are not about others but themselves. I belong to the country of Gandhi who always emphasizes on non-violence truth and simplicity. But I also know that it is not easy to practice simplicity in life or in work.

It's a journey of an artist through his touch for self discovery in MATI (Clay).

Siraj Saxena  
Yingge Taiwan, 21.11.2011





我們很高興能邀請來自印度的陶藝家斯拉吉·塞司納於陶博館駐村一個月。駐村期間他不僅努力在工作室創作，也積極體驗臺灣的在地文化與生活。為了讓更多人了解他的創作，我們在本館一樓大廳為他舉辦了一個名為「Touch & Shadow」的個展。塞司納先生的作品深受印度文化及地景例如象頭神，廟宇及丘陵的啟發。他的作品以陶土為主要媒材，其中常見的重複性裝飾，呈現一種簡單而純粹的質。當他將許多微小的元素聚集起來，產生令人驚歎的巨

### Touch & Shadow

It's our pleasure to invite the Indian artist Siraj Saxena as our artist-in-residence at Yingge Ceramics Museum and to work here for 3 months. During his stay, he devoted himself not only to his work, but to experience the local culture and life in Taiwan by making friendly connections to the local people. In order to display his results of the residency to the museum audience, we organized a solo exhibition for him in the lobby entitled "Touch & Shadow: Siraj Saxena Solo Exhibition". The works of Saxena present a strong Indian style by adopting the Indian culture and landscapes, elements such as Ganesha (Elephant God), temples and hills have been widely used in his creation. The repetitive decoration used in his works originates from daily accessories in India to show the beauty of repetition. Mr. Saxena often expresses his inner affections through clay by using traditional pinching technique to show the plain and pure essence of clay. When he organizes the small pieces together to a complete work, the powerful energy breaks out surprisingly from the simple installation.

Yu Jan-chi  
Director of the New Taipei City Yingge Ceramics Museum



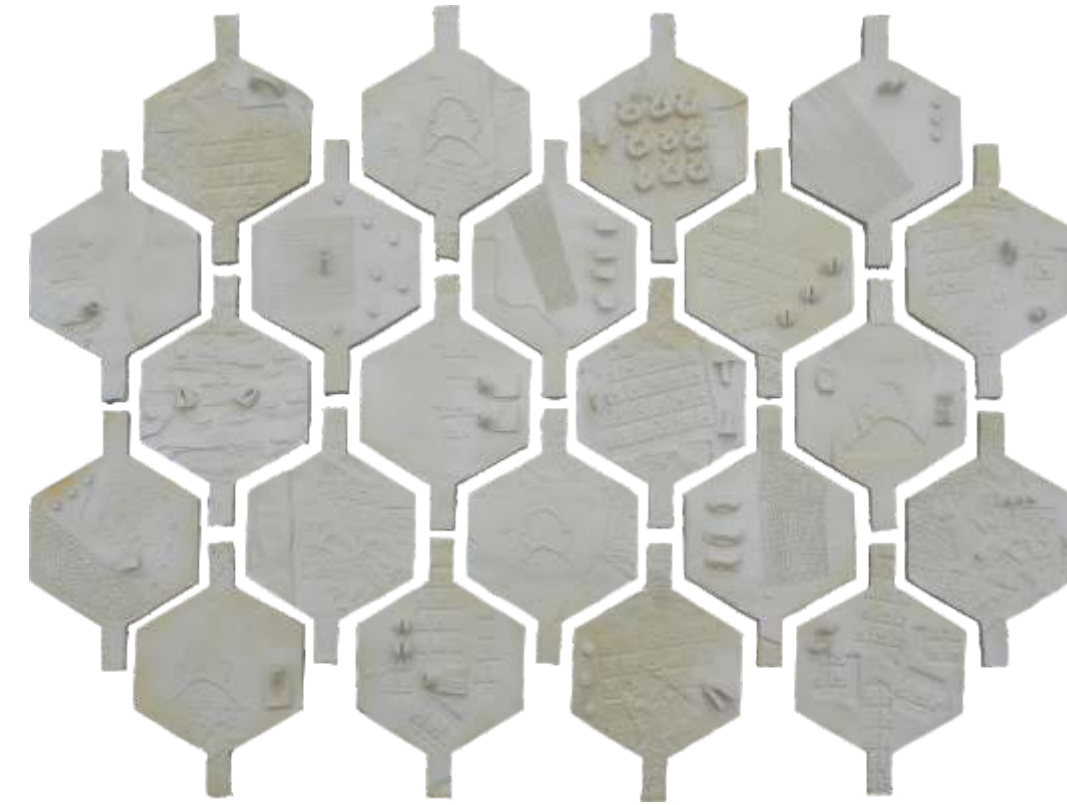
JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE : 60 X 40 INCHES







JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE : 60 X 40 INCHES



JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE 84 x 40 INCHES





JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE 72 X 36 INCHES



JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE 60 X 38 INCHES

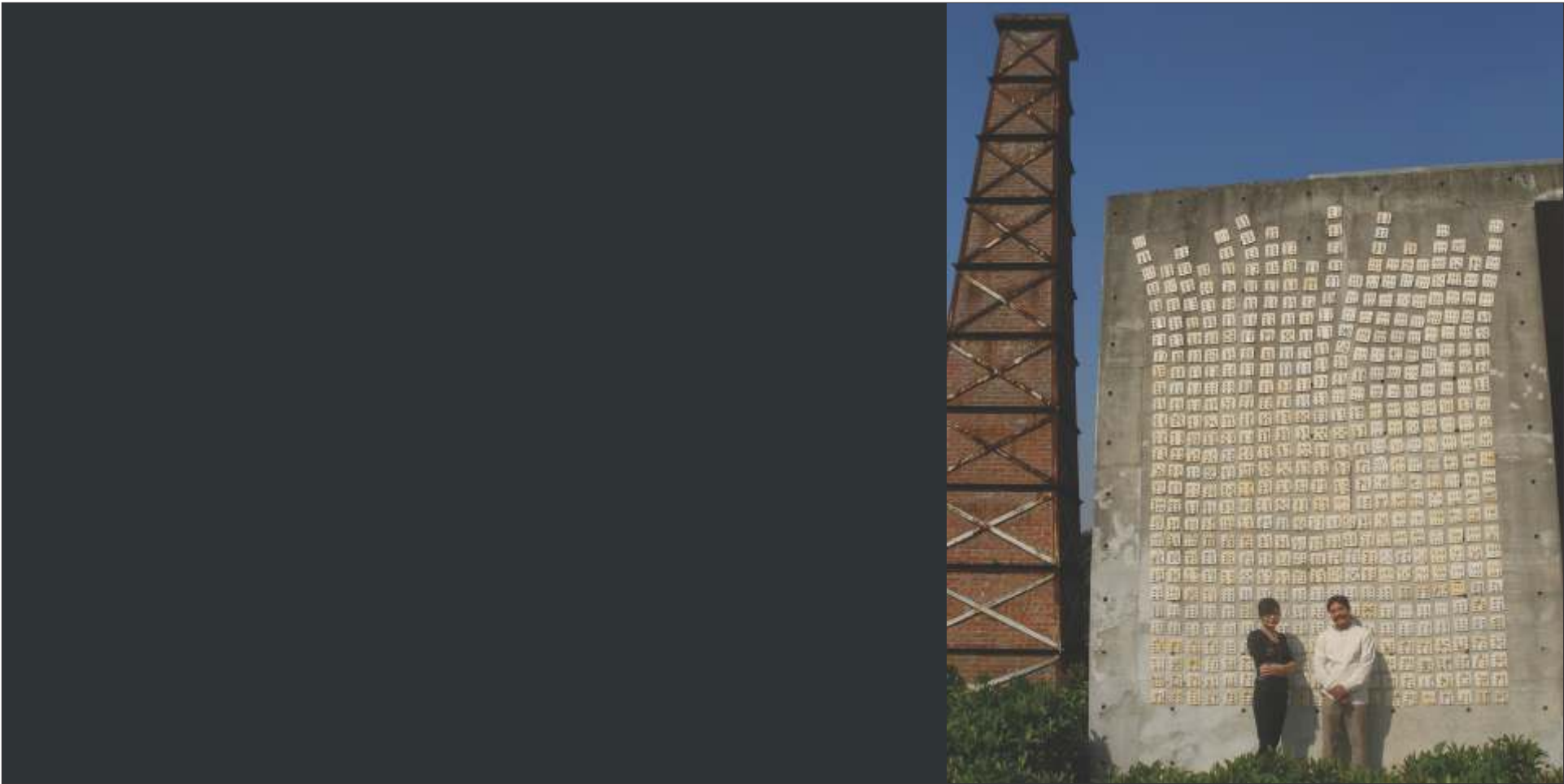




JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE 60 X 36 INCHES







JAPANESE STONEWARE ELECTRIC KILN FIRED AT 1230°C | SIZE 240 X 360 INCHES





# SIRAJ SAXENA

BORN : 30-01-1974, Mhow (M.P.), India

## EDUCATION :

~ Govt. Bal Vinay Mandir School, Indore  
~ B.F.A. 1996 Govt. Institute of Fine Arts, Indore

MARRIED TO : Aagesh Nag (Theatre Actress) 1999  
SON : Kunthu

## Solo Exhibitions

~ Taj Arts Gallery, Indore 1993 ~ Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 1995 ~ "Khajuraho through the eyes of Siraj" Deolalikar Art Gallery, Indore 1996 ~ "Homage to unknown sculptor of Khajuraho" Triveni Art Gallery, New Delhi 2002 ~ "Kavita-Shilpa" An exhibition of Pottery at India International Centre, New Delhi 2002 ~ Homage to unknown Sculptor of Khajuraho, Studio-55, New Delhi 2002 ~ Homage to unknown Sculptor of Khajuraho, Indusind Bank's art Gallery, Chandigarh, 2004 ~ "The Expanse of Depths" MEC Art Gallery, New Delhi, 2005 ~ "The Expanse of Depths" The Contemporary Art Gallery, Ahmedabad, 2005 ~ Aspect of Art London 2006 ~ "Approximations" Polka Art Gallery New Delhi 2006 ~ "Rejoicing in the visual" Time & Space Art Gallery, Bangalore 2006 ~ "Nishshabda" Reflections Art Gallery, Indore 2007 ~ Nishshabda" Anant Art Gallery, Kolkata 2008 ~ "Ayonijaa" The Art Shop Kathmandu, Nepal 2008 ~ "VARNANAM" David Hall Fort Cochi, Kerala 2010 ~ 'Visible Invisible' at Gallery Art Konsult, New Delhi 2011 ~ "Touch and Shadow" Yingge Ceramics Museum Taiwan 2011 ~ "BEYOND WORDS" ABA Art Contemporani Spain 2012 ~ "Beyond words" ART en Hotel de la missio Spain 2012 ~ "Beyond the words" Espacio micus contemporary arts Ibiza Spain 2013 and Participated in 100 group exhibitions in India and abroad.

## Others

~ Worked at Ceramic workshop, Bharat Bhawan (A multi Art Complex) Bhopal, 1996-2000, Conducted a Terracotta workshop for school Children at Blue Bells International School, Organized by CASP, New Delhi 2003 ~ Conducted a Terracotta workshop for the students of B.R. Nahata Pharmacy College, Mandsour organized by Spicmacay at Mandsour 2000 ~ Extensively Traveled South of Madhya Pradesh on bicycle sponsored by Rajiv Gandhi Shiksha Mission, M.P. Govt. Bhopal 1998 ~ Extensively Traveled Narmada Valley (West of M.P.) on bicycle, 1999 ~ Worked for CESC Madurai, 2003 ~ "Yamuna Yatra" Extensively Traveled River Yamuna Valley, organized by "We for Yamuna", 2004 ~ Worked for Gandhi Peace Foundation, New Delhi 2004 ~ Conducted a design & Technical development workshop in Ceramic Art at Khurja 2005 ~ Conducted a Art workshop with the students of Shri Ram College of Commerce, New Delhi 2005 ~ Counducted a Painting Workshop for Sathi Centre, Delhi 2007 ~ Done a Commission Art Work for National Gandhi Museum, New Delhi 2010 ~ Designed a book of children poetry written by- Prayag Shukla "Uunt Chala Bhai Uunt Chala" 2010 which is published in Hindi, Marathi and English by Pratham Books 2012 ~ Counducted a Ceramic Art Workshop at Yingge Ceramics Museum Taiwan 2011 ~ Color and Fun Art Workshop with Kids at Govt. Elementary School, Yingge, Taiwan 2011 ~ Visited Spain 2012, Taiwan 2011, Nepal 2008, Srilanka 2004, Japan 1997 ~ I am participating in national ceramic exhibition of ceramic art at Bharat Bhavan from 15th feb . Few more ceramic artist from all over the country are also coming for the opening .

STUDIO : Flat No. S-2, Plot No. 7,  
Sector-1, Vaishali, Ghaziabad, U.P. 201010, INDIA

Phone : 91-120-4324534 | Mobile : 09868514534  
Email : siirajsaxena@gmail.com



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