



**Untitled work by Antonio Pasin**

Antonio Pasin is a new Blue Moon potter and sculptor in the Cable area. His recent body of work has consisted of lidded vessels.

"This body is inspired by two elements — the forms that man creates in juxtaposition to the patterns that occur throughout nature," he said. "The forms are all thrown on the wheel from a porcelain stoneware hybrid clay. After throwing the basic form, I alter, trim, and carve them to achieve the very precise quality of the piece. The pattern work is then applied by covering the piece with an underglaze (while dry but unfired) and painting the pattern with wax. When the wax dries, the negative space is wiped away with a damp sponge to reveal the pattern. After the pattern is revealed, I carve some of the negative space to highlight certain parts of the piece, or emphasize specific rhythms in the pattern.

He added, "the surface work is inspired by the patterns we see throughout nature which repeat themselves over and over in different forms.

The veins in our hands like the veins in a leaf and the tributaries of a river when viewed from the air. Similarly, we see these same patterns in the wings of a butterfly or the roots of a tree and the neurons in the brain. These repeating patterns have fascinated me since I was a child and I have grown to see them as the vehicle through which energy brings life to matter."

Pasin says each piece is unique; each pattern evolves from a single curving line.

"I repeat that initial line around the piece, paint another line that may connect to the original line, repeat that line, and so forth," he said. "The pattern begins to take on a life of its own very quickly, and after just a few lines I feel that the pattern in revealing itself to me and it is just my job to put it onto the pot. At times, the patterns are identifiable in a literal way, such as a leaf or a wing, and at other times, it remains very abstract, as if you were looking at something very closely."

He added, "I use minimal

glaze as for me the piece is about the interaction between the form and the pattern and the glaze only serves to highlight and reinforce that relationship," Pasin said.

The creations are "inspired by functional forms" but the "intent" is for each piece to be a "sculptural expression."

Pasin received a degree in architecture with an emphasis in urban design and fine art/ceramics from the University of Kansas in 1986. While a student in Kansas, he also studied abroad at the Royal Academy of Art in Copenhagen, Denmark.

He worked initially as an architect and eventually moved to residential interiors.

"I began work with clay after again in Chicago taking classes and teaching at the Lill Street Art Center where I was also a studio artist," he said.

Pasin's work can be seen at his studio, 47980 Blue Moon Road.