



Ephraim Pottery



Studio
Collection

April 2013

Welcome!

Dear pottery and tile enthusiasts,

As you can see from this catalog, we've been busy working on new pottery and tiles over the past several months. While this is an ongoing process, we have also been taking a closer look at what we want our pottery to represent. Refocusing on our mission, we have been reminded how important the collaborative work environment is to our studio. When our artists bring their passion for their work to the group and are open to elevating their vision, boundaries seem to drop away. I like to think that our world would be a much better place if a collaborative approach could be emphasized in our homes, schools, and workplaces... in all areas of our lives, in fact. "We are better together" is a motto that is in evidence every day at EFP.

Many times in the creative process, we can develop a new concept most of the way quickly. Often, it's that last 10% that requires work, grit and determination. It can take weeks, months, or even years to bring a new concept to fruition. Such has been the case with frames and stands for our tiles. Until recently, John Raymond was in charge of glazing. As some of you know, John is also a talented woodworker who has been developing a line of quarter-sawn oak frames and stands for our tiles. While we have been able to display some of these at shows and in our galleries over the past year, we would like to make frames and stands available to all our customers. In order to achieve this goal, we have added a woodshop to our studio and John is now a full-time woodworker. We plan to make some items available in our online store later this year.



Developing the wood studio has required a shifting of responsibilities in the pottery studio. Paul McVicker has enthusiastically taken the reins on glaze development. Under Paul's leadership, we have been

aggressively pushing boundaries, developing new families of glazes, and breaking out of our comfort zone. Until recently, most of our glazes were part of the faience glaze family. We now have new families in our stable of glazes, including glossy and satin mattes; a red faience, Cranberry; and new colors in the "Antique" matte crackled glaze family. Some of these new glaze developments have allowed us to begin creating hand-painted ceramic plaques, opening up many possibilities for the future.

As you can imagine, such a great amount of change has also taken sacrifice. Over the past year, we have reduced our involvement in outside commitments and engagements, including shows. While enjoyable, we were stretched too thin. Realizing that we can't be everything to everyone, we decided to concentrate our energies on the creative collaboration that is central to our work. Each person has stepped up their efforts in response to the new challenges. This, in turn, has led to new ways of seeing and creating. Of course, all of these changes will take a while to integrate, but they have given our passion and creativity a lift.

Thank you for your support of our particular expression of the Arts and Crafts ideal. We are very excited about our new offerings. We hope our new creative developments will be evident in the work you see here and that you are looking forward, as we are, to seeing what the future holds for Ephraim Pottery.

With appreciation,



Kevin Hicks
President, Founder, Potter



What you see in this catalog is only the tip of the iceberg!
If you like what you see here, we invite you to browse our
web store. There are many more beautiful pieces available at
ephraimpottery.com.



Just as the north star has always guided those who journey, the pottery of the Grueby Faience Company has always been a fixed point of reference for our work. Our artists continue to look to Grueby for inspiration even after all these years because their pottery is among the truest expressions of the historical American Arts and Crafts style. The hand of the artist is visible in the delicately sculpted leaf, while the star-shaped top provides a unique reminder of the inspiration behind this piece.

North Star

Approx. 10¾" x 3½"

G01 \$268

Colors: AG, AL, AR, RA



With their diminutive size, pointed petals, and bright yellow color, wild tulips are as beautiful as they are hardy. Able to survive harsh conditions with grace and style, they now thrive in modern gardens far from their native Central Asia. This cabinet-sized piece with its classic Arts-and-Crafts styling would be welcome in any home.

Wild Tulip

Approx. 4¼" x 3¾"

G02 \$118

Color: AG

Important Information About Our Pottery

OUR POTTERY IS NOT WATER-TIGHT. We do not recommend putting water directly in our vases. If you wish to display live flowers, we suggest using a protective floral liner (a glass or plastic cup works fine) and a drip pan in order to protect the life of your piece and your furniture from water damage.

As with any other work of art, exposure to extremes in temperature is not recommended. Art pottery should be dusted with a dry, soft cloth. Although there is no lead in any of our glazes, we do not consider our art pottery to be food safe.



Floating above the newly green earth, profusions of cherry blossoms billow like clouds. Their beauty is fleeting, lasting only a day or two before they fall, carpeting the earth with their fragrant white petals. Like life itself, the delicate and ephemeral sakura can only be enjoyed in the present moment.

Fleeting Beauty

Approx. 11" x 3¾"

G05 \$218

Color as shown



Lilies of the Valley are called Maiglöckchen in German, which literally translates as "Little May Bells." One of the first flowers to bloom in the spring, it is easy to see why in the language of flowers, the lily of the valley signifies the return of happiness. Here, the beautiful white flowers are presented against different colored backgrounds that evoke different times of the day. You choose the one that best suits your mood or decor.

May Bells

Approx. 6½" x 5½"

G03 \$258

Colors: AW, LG, SB



Our Wisconsin Gallery

Lake Mills, Wisconsin, is home to Ephraim Pottery's studio, offices, and our first gallery. Conveniently situated between Madison and Milwaukee, Lake Mills has a charming downtown just waiting to be discovered. Travelers who venture beyond the tangle of franchises at the I-94 exit are rewarded with a scene straight from a Norman Rockwell painting. Renovated Victorian-era buildings housing shops and cafes cluster around jewel-like Commons Park with its old-fashioned band shell. Residents walking their dogs or pushing strollers stop to chat with friends and neighbors. There is a friendly, welcoming vibe that invites visitors to slow down, explore, and stay awhile.

Our gallery in downtown Lake Mills is a destination for art pottery enthusiasts from across the United States. The gallery showcases pieces from our Studio Collections along with unusual pieces and experimental work. A carefully chosen selection of furniture and accessories created by other artisans working in the Arts and Crafts style complements the pottery and tile. Bargain-hunters love the seconds and irregulars section, where pieces with minor flaws can be had for 25% to 50% off the retail price.

Lake Mills is conveniently located on Interstate 94 between Madison and Milwaukee. Our gallery has been located at 203 West Lake Street, but we will be moving two blocks east to 130 East Lake Street this summer, most likely sometime in June. The new location is on the downtown triangle, almost directly across the street from the band shell in Commons Park. See ephraimpottery.com/buying-our-pottery or call 920-648-3534 for current hours and location.



The unique and dramatic shape of the iris flower make it a favorite of both our artists and our customers. The three large, distinct petals of the iris—called “standards”—have traditionally symbolized the three virtues of wisdom, faith and valor. The fleur-de-lis, a stylized iris that the kings of France adopted as their emblem, reflects this symbolism. Irises come in a rainbow of colors, but the flower on this piece is deep blue, a color that symbolizes faith and hope.

Three Virtues

Approx. 11½" x 4"

G04 \$258

Color: CR



The edges of roadways, vacant lots, and other barren and rocky places are inhospitable to all but the toughest of plants. Where others may see weeds, we see wildflowers. The creamy white of Queen Anne's Lace plays off the cool blue of chicory, dainty petals mixing with woody stalks and spiky leaves. This piece celebrates the resilient kind of beauty that thrives despite long odds.

Blooming Prairie

Approx. 13¾" x 5"

G07 \$328

Colors: AW, LS



One of our favorite Arts-and-Crafts motifs returns on this unusual, low piece glazed in our new Cranberry faience with blue overspray. A bat, wings outstretched, flaps past a gnarled old cedar as the sun sets behind the trees, the horizon glowing red.

Woodland Bat

Approx. 3½" x 6½"

G08 \$218

Color: CR



This vase is the first of its kind to be offered in our Studio Collection. The process used to create this piece required many hours of hard work, trial and error over the course of several months. The glazing process begins with the artist painting freehand directly onto the bisque-fired vessel using colored underglazes. The process

is similar to oil painting. The artist will often mix and layer 15 or more different colors. A translucent overglaze is then applied which gives the vase a satiny, vellum finish after firing. Because of the difficulty in predicting what the final painting will look like, this technique is incredibly challenging to master.

The Calm Seas vase was inspired by hand-painted Arts and Crafts vases executed so superbly by the artists at the old Rookwood Pottery. Rookwood's scenic vases, executed with such virtuoso skill, have inspired and motivated our artists to strive for a similar aesthetic. Calm Seas depicts two ships at sail in fair weather under a bright, cloud-dotted sky. It is hand painted with underglazes in tones of violet, grey, and pale turquoise and finished in a satin matte vellum.

Calm Seas

Approx. 7.75" x 3.25"

G10 \$248

Color as shown



Southern Oak marries Ephraim's new painting and glazing techniques used on the Calm Seas Vase with our artists' long-standing passion for sculpting. Ancient oak trees draped with Spanish moss carved in subtle relief dominate the foreground of this moonlit landscape. The bisque-fired piece is hand-painted with underglazes in delicate tones of blue and green and finished with a satin matte vellum overglaze. The motif and style of this piece was inspired by the pottery created by the art students at Newcomb College in early twentieth-century New Orleans.

Southern Oak

Approx. 7½" x 4¾"

G09 \$298

Color as shown

Marks

Ephraim Faience Pottery impresses a mark onto the foot of each piece before it is fired. This helps collectors authenticate the piece and determine when it was made. Each January, we introduce new marks that are used for all pieces made during the course of that year. From mid-1999 through 2012, the foot of each vase bore the studio mark and the impressed signature of the principal artist, which was generally the potter and/or sculptor. Beginning this year, each piece bears the initials of the potter, the sculptor, and the glazer in addition to the studio mark. Since our work is collaborative, in almost all cases more than one artist works on each piece. We are proud of the talents of our individual artists as well as the collaborative nature of our work. We hope that this new system of marks better reflects how our pieces are made.

You can read short bios of our artists and learn more about our marks on ephraimpottery.com.

This example shows the new marks for 2013. In addition to our large studio mark, this piece bears the potter's mark of Paul McVicker, the sculptor's mark of Laura Klein, and the glazer's mark of Jennifer Grelk.





Dance, O dragonflies,
In your world
of the setting sun.
(unknown)

Evening Dragonfly

Approx. 11¾ x 4½

G06 \$228

Colors: DO, LS



TILES

Our art tiles are made by hand, making each slightly different and uniquely beautiful. Handmade art tiles have a looseness and spontaneity that commercially manufactured tiles found at big-box hardware stores and tile retailers do not. The hand of the maker is visible on each tile we create. We plan to offer quarter-sawn oak frames and stands to display our tiles sometime later this year (see p. 2–3).

Unique qualities of handmade tile

- Each tile is pressed and trimmed by hand. This means that the thickness and dimensions will vary more than is typical with commercial tile.
- Each tile is glazed by hand. Glazing tiles is not a simple “paint-by-number” exercise. No two tiles will look exactly the same, and no tile will look exactly like the example pictured in this catalog and on our website.

Installation information

Ephraim Pottery tiles are porous. They are not suitable for wet areas such as tub surrounds. If our tile is going to be installed, we recommend sealing the glazed surface completely prior to grouting. This can be done by completely covering the front surface of the tile with masking tape. If a sealer is preferred, we recommend consulting a professional tile installer in your local area for advice on what would be the best product to use for your project. The Handmade Tile Association is also a good resource and can be found online at www.handmadetileassociation.org.



AW



LS

The image of a tree with its branches reaching up to the heavens and its roots penetrating deep into the ground can be found in many cultures, theologies, and philosophies around the world. Often referred to as the Tree of Life, it is commonly used to depict the interconnectedness of all life on Earth. It is an enduring and pervasive symbol, appearing on Chinese bronzes dated to 1200 BC as well as in contemporary art and popular culture. The curved, horizontally oriented sections on our version convey a sense of strength and stability as well as graceful ease of flow. The beautifully colored raised sections recall mosaics and stained glass.

Tree of Life

Approx. 5"h x 7"w

G66 \$68

Colors: AW, LS



GAM



GBL



GGA

Once upon a midnight dreary, while I pondered, weak and weary,
Over many a quaint and curious volume of forgotten lore,
While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.
"Tis some visitor," I muttered, "tapping at my chamber door—
Only this, and nothing more."

—From "The Raven" by Edgar Allen Poe

Edgar

Approx. 5" w x 5" h

G61 \$55

Colors: GAM, GBL, GGA



DO



AR

Owls have long been a symbol of wisdom and knowledge. The owl was sacred to Athena, the Greek goddess of learning, and some Native Americans regarded the owl as the keeper of sacred knowledge. This tile repeats the popular motif featured on the vases *The Old Sage* and *The Scholar* and is offered in coordinating colors.

Old Sage Tile

Approx. 5" w x 5" h

G65 \$55

Colors: AR, DO



This tiles on these two pages are glazed in colors from the newly expanded palette in our "Antique" family of glazes. These glazes have a cracked texture with some curdling, which creates broken, variable areas of color. The nature of these glazes dictate that no one tile will be exactly like another; the hand of the artist and the delightful unpredictability of the ceramic arts are evident in each example of this design. Multiple examples of each design are shown in order to give an idea of the variation that is possible.

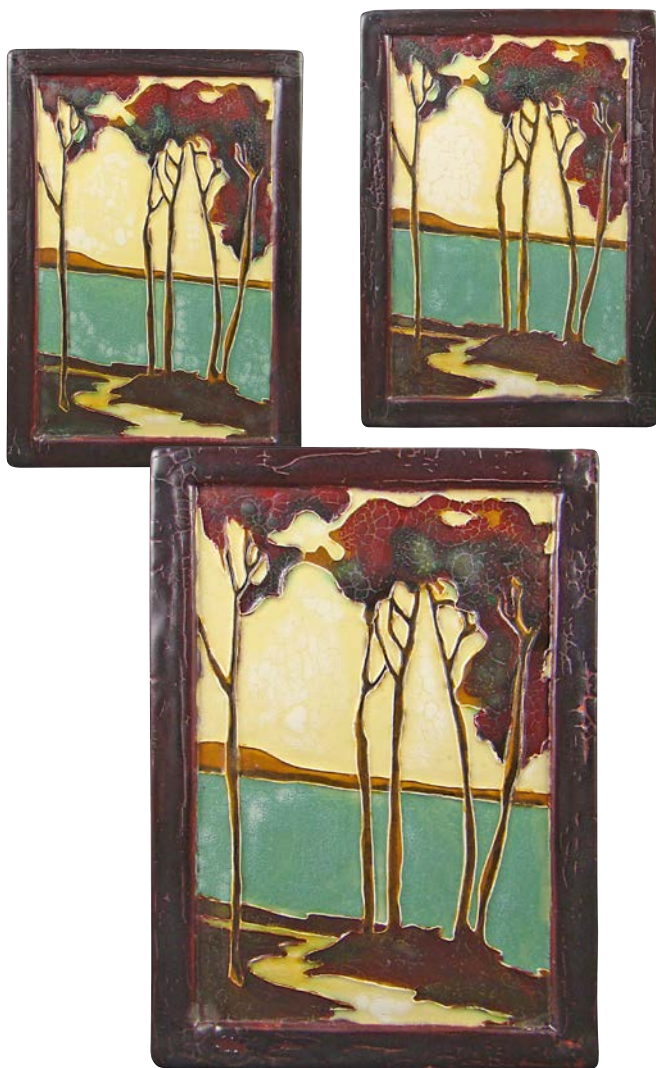
The late afternoon sun casts its rays across the meadow. In the long shadows under the trees, a barely damp coolness hints at the coming of autumn.

Long Shadows

Approx. 5" w x 5" h

G68 \$85

Color as shown



Rounding a bend on a wooded path, a lake vista opens before you. The brightness of the golden sun sparkling on the water contrasts with the intensely colored autumn leaves.

Autumn Path

Approx. 5" h x 7" w

G67 \$100

Color as shown



CL



LS



LS

Legend says that the king gave the first koi fish as a gift to Confucius when one of his sons was born. The Chinese later passed their knowledge of raising koi on to the Japanese. Originally, koi, a type of carp, were raised for food. It was the Japanese that began raising koi as pets and breeding and developing their bright colors. In feng shui, the golden-colored koi fish, known as Yamabuki, are said to bring riches and wealth. Because koi can live a very long time, they are also a symbol of longevity.

Two examples of the version in Light Stone (LS) are shown in order to give an idea of the variation possible with this glaze.

Koi Tile

Approx. 5" w x 5" h

G63 \$55

Colors: CL, LS



Our California Gallery

Ephraim Pottery West, our second retail store, is located in Cambria, California. A popular destination along scenic coastal Highway 1, about halfway between San Francisco and Los Angeles, Cambria is a pretty oceanfront town brimming with art galleries.

Located in Cambria's charming West Village, Ephraim Pottery West carries our full line of pottery and tile, including experimental pieces (as available). A carefully chosen selection of work by other artists and craftspeople is also available, including furniture by Voorhees Craftsman, textiles by Archive Edition, and lamps by William Morris Studio. We also exhibit the work of local artists working in complementary styles.

If you live in California or are traveling in the area, we hope you will stop in Cambria and pay us a visit. We look forward to welcoming you to our new gallery. Please see ephraimpottery.com/our-cambria-gallery or call 805-924-1275 for hours.



GGA



GBL



GAM

A little farm girl sits in the shade under a chestnut tree, a bowl of food in her lap. A curious goat comes over to see what's for lunch. If she doesn't share with him, he might just eat her straw hat!

Under the Chestnut Tree

Approx. 5"h x 7"w

G62 \$45

Colors: GAM, GBL, GGA



PK



IN



SY

Our stylized rose design is an updated version of Mackintosh's Craftsman rose. The petals swirl in raised relief, while gentle variations of color add depth and interest.

Blooming Rose

Approx. 5" w x 5" h

G64 \$58

Colors: IN, PK, SY



In Greek mythology, Persephone (pronunciation: per-SEH-fah-nee) was the daughter of Demeter, goddess of the harvest. Persephone was famously abducted by the god Hades and taken to the Underworld to rule as his Queen. Demeter searched in vain for her daughter, and in her sorrow, caused nothing to grow upon the earth. The people in their hunger and distress cried out to Zeus, who forced Hades to allow Persephone to return to her mother above ground. Reunited with her daughter, Demeter once again allowed plants to grow and the spring-summer-harvest cycle returned. Hades, however, had tricked Persephone into eating a pomegranate while she was with him in the Underworld, creating a loophole whereby she had to return to him for a third of the year. Each year, Persephone descended into the Underworld after the harvest, marking the beginning of winter. Her return each year heralded the arrival of spring and new growth.

Persephone's Lament

Approx. 4"h x 8"w

G60 \$78

Colors: Black, Red

Ordering from Ephraim Pottery

This section contains important information about our ordering and return policies. If you have any questions, please call us at 888-704-POTS.

Delivery Time

The pieces shown in this catalog usually ship within two weeks (10 business days). For pieces shown only in our online store, the approximate order fulfillment time is shown for each collection. Please call our office if you have any questions about lead times.

Return Policy

Because each item is made by hand, no two pieces are exactly alike. The piece you receive will differ slightly in color, size and decoration from the example pictured. These variations are natural parts of the pottery-making process and should be expected. We carefully inspect each piece for defects, such as chips, cracks or glaze misses, before it leaves our studio.

We guarantee that all items shipped will be first-quality, non-defective and substantially the same as the example pictured. Your satisfaction is very important to us. If you are unhappy with your purchase in any way, please call us within 30 days of receipt of your order. We will work with you to find a mutually agreeable solution to your concern. Shipping and handling charges are only refundable in cases where we made an error. If there is a problem with your shipment, please save all packing materials and call our office within 1 week of receipt.

Shipping to Addresses in the Continental United States

Orders up to \$79 are shipped by USPS Priority Mail. Orders of \$80 or more are shipped by UPS Ground service. Shipping and handling charges are calculated based on the total cost of your order. The chart below lists our shipping charges. Additional charges apply for overnight, 2-day, or 3-day shipment. If Priority Mail is requested for orders over \$79, additional charges may apply.

Note: Orders of any amount going to APO/FPO addresses are shipped via the US Postal Service, insured Priority Mail.

If your order totals: Add:

\$26-\$79	\$7.50
\$80-\$100	\$15.00
\$101-\$200	\$20.00
\$201-\$350	\$25.00
\$351-\$500	\$30.00

If your order totals: Add:

\$501-\$750	\$35.00
\$751-\$1,000	\$40.00
\$1,001-\$1,250	\$45.00
\$1,251-\$1,500	\$50.00
\$1,501 and over	FREE

See ephraimpottery.com or call for shipping charges for orders to Canada. For shipping to Alaska or Hawaii, please call.

Ready to make a purchase?

For your convenience, we offer several ways to purchase our pottery and tile.

1. Order online at ephraimpottery.com. Our online store is open 24/7. You will receive an email confirmation of your order with an approximate ship date.

2. Call us toll-free at 1-888-704-POTS (7687). We will be glad to assist you personally from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT Monday through Friday. After hours, you may leave a voice mail message and we will get back to you.

3. Shop our galleries in Wisconsin (see p. 8) or California (see p. 23).

4. Mail your order to the address shown below. Be sure to add the correct shipping and handling fee. Please see the chart on page 27 for rates.

5. Shop at one of the shows we do throughout the year. Please see the Events Calendar on ephraimpottery.com for current listings.

If you have any questions, please call 1-888-704-POTS (7687) or email info@ephraimpottery.com. We will be happy to help you.



Ephraim Faience Pottery
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