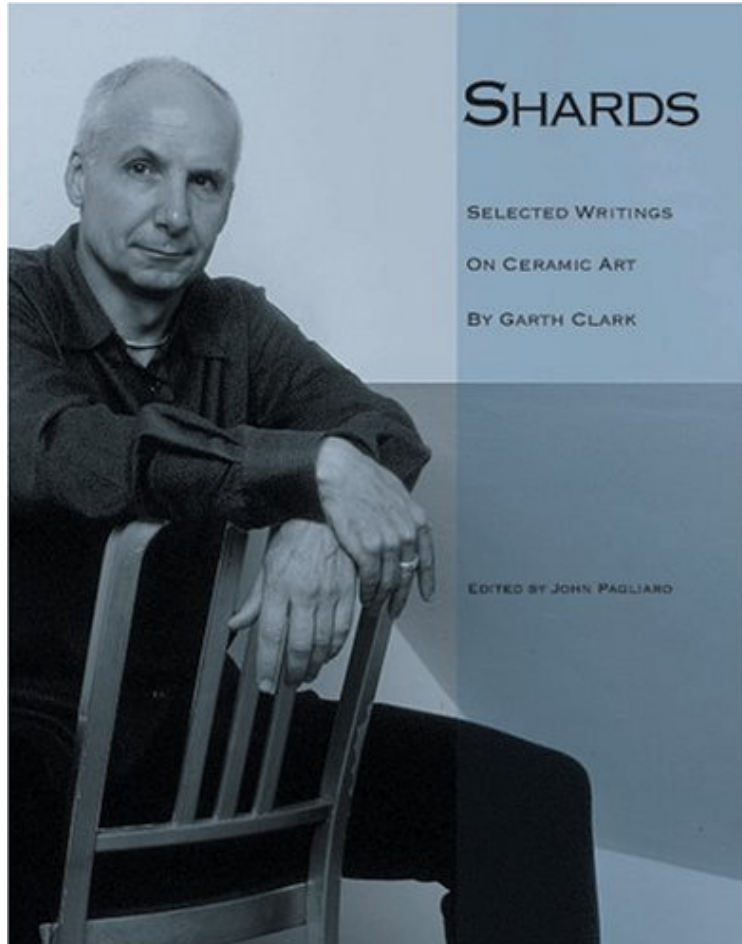


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Shards: Garth Clark on Ceramic Art

Edward Lebow, Ed Lebow, Peter Schjeldahl
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Edward Lebow, Ed Lebow, Peter Schjeldahl : Shards: Garth Clark on Ceramic Art before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Shards: Garth Clark on Ceramic Art:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It is good to read books to know how people think they ...By COLIN E LEVYMr. Clark hasn't got a clue as to the 'art of the potter', which he has euphemised into the word 'ceramic art' to give it some sort of academic credence to fit in with the sinecure existence in which it thrives.....universities!. Nescience is the operative word here! It is good to read books to know how people think they know, as Mr. Clark does in his pontifications. He argues from a 'fine arts' viewpoint which has nothing to do with the 'art of the potter'. Clay is merely the medium with which both 'art forms' work. Each has it's own aesthetic parameters. There is excellence and mediocrity within both! The critic, if he is knowledgeable, is there to extrapolate this. Bigotry is unforgivable. The trouble is Mr. Clark is still alive, and potificating his nescience! I am only too willing to help Mr Clark comprehend the quiddity of the potter's art if he cares to visit.

Breaking the ceramic arts up into incisive, historic, award-winning essays, *Shards* is an anthology of writings by Garth Clark, one of the most noted proponents of the medium. The writings in this volume span 25 years of Clark's important career as a critic, historian and dealer in ceramics. The compilation is divided into two parts and features over 150 duotones of seminal ceramic works. Part one deals with artists and contains catalogue and exhibition essays that focus on individual artists--contemporary and historic, domestic and foreign. Part two is dedicated to issues, including American ceramic history and general history; criticism, theory, scholarship and semantics; function and design; and finally, the marketplace. This volume also contains, among many of Clark's seminal works, six previously unpublished articles, several on artists and others confronting some of the field's more controversial topical issues. Sure to raise hackles among ceramists, not least of all among ceramics' many teachers, is the chapter "Ceramic Education and the Culture of Amateurism." Artists and students alike will be compelled and delighted by some of Clark's best and most recent musings on maverick artists like British potter Grayson Perry, widely collected and celebrated by the likes of Charles Saatchi and Damien Hirst. *Shards* is the most comprehensive grouping of Clark's writings to date.

About the Author Garth Clark was born in Pretoria, South Africa, in 1947. In 1979, three years after arriving in the U.S., he and Margie Hughto curated the groundbreaking show *A Century of Ceramics in the United States*, the first survey of its kind, for the Everson Museum of Art. This exhibition resulted in the formation of the Institute for Ceramic History, known today as the Ceramic Arts Foundation (CAF), of which Clark is the director. Responsible for nearly 400 exhibitions, Clark is also the author of numerous catalogue essays, articles and books, which garnered him the 1980 Art Critics Award from the NEA.