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PRESS RELEASE**

The Island Gallery
400 Winslow Way E., #120
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
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EVENT:



Earth Elements

Wood Fired Ceramics by

Robin Hominiuk

May 2 – May 31, 2014

Reception: First Friday, May 2nd, 6-8 pm

Featuring

Peter Spencer & the All-Stars

in Concert on the Plaza

Location: The Island Gallery, 400 Winslow Way E., #120, Bainbridge Island, Washington

About the Artist:

Robin Hominiuk: Ridgefield, Washington artist Robin Hominiuk was born in Canada and moved to the United States in 1998. She received her clay education via community education

courses and several terms at Mt. Hood Community College. She regularly attends workshops to keep a fresh perspective and learn new techniques. In 2004 she built her home studio and has never looked back.

In addition to the beautiful functional pots she produces from her studio kiln, she also creates pottery and sculpture for wood firing. These pots are fired in huge kilns based on ancient Japanese traditions. The pots are fired for 70 plus hours with a committed group of potters and six to eight cords of wood. Pottery fired in this intense method is transformed by flame and ash; the colors and marks cannot be replicated or produced in any other way.

Robin's work has been featured in numerous national and international collections.

In Robin's words:

A lump of clay is a seductive thing - it is the beginning of a journey, an exploration of possibilities. My clay work is inspired by many things, from the practical considerations of the everyday utilitarian - the plate-cup-bowl... that you envision and know will give joy in its function and beauty, to the natural world that surrounds us, like the softly rounded water-etched rocks that are formed by the river near our home. Inspiration also comes from sources a little more obscure - a dream from the previous night, or perhaps from that weird thing that just happened to the piece you are working on!

I utilize both hand building techniques and the potter's wheel, often in combination, to achieve the form I am looking for. I give much thought to the selection of clay, glaze, firing method and kiln before picking up that lump of clay; each plays a role as I develop my vision of the finished piece.

The majority of my work is wood fired in kilns based on ancient Japanese and Korean designs. These are large tunnel shaped kilns - that are fired upwards of 70 hours, fueled only with wood and the hard work of fellow potters. Various zones within each kiln yield individual characteristics, and while I use my experience to place my pots where I feel each will receive the best effect, the outcome is always unpredictable. In these types of firings, there are no guarantees - you surrender your expectations and control to the kiln.

The unique aesthetic of wood fired pots reflects the ever changing dynamics of fire and ash, potters and clay. Your efforts are rewarded when the kiln is cool enough to open. Pots emerge from the kiln, transformed beyond preconceived ideas and anticipations. Each piece awaits your attention and slowly reveals itself - ash drips, luster, swirls of the flame path, etching - all provide a permanent record of each firing captured on each pot. Every firing is eagerly awaited, knowing that just as the kiln transforms my pots, the experience of the firing, and the coming together of likeminded souls working for a common goal also transforms me.

Peter Spencer & the All-Stars: Acclaimed fingerpicking guitarist, singer and songwriter Peter Spencer is back, along with the newly-formed (and fabulous) All-Stars. Peter and the gents will perform their trademark blend of blues/R&B and classic rock on the Plaza from 6-8 pm.

Born in Erie, Pennsylvania, Peter grew up listening to the R&B and hillbilly music played on radio stations like WLAC in Nashville and CKLW in Windsor, Ontario. He began his musical career in 1968 playing harmonica in a blues band in Pittsburgh, but soon switched to solo guitar. Peter spent the 1970s touring North America and Europe playing early blues, jazz and ragtime. Then, in the early 1980s, he began writing songs, co-founding the Fast Folk Musician's Cooperative in Greenwich Village, New York, where he worked with artists like Suzanne Vega, John Gorka, Lucy Kaplanski, Cliff Eberhardt, and Jack Hardy. These recordings are part of the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC.

After graduating from The Writing Program at Columbia University in 1989, Peter retired from performing and became a full-time music writer for magazines like Rolling Stone and Sing Out. His book "World Beat: A Listener's Guide to Contemporary World Music on CD" was published by the Chicago Review Press in 1992.

Peter returned to performing with the 2000 release "New Hope and Wise Virgins," followed by a series of releases beginning with an album of original and classic blues called "Nobody's Daddy" in 2005. "Handsignal," another album of original songs, followed in 2006. Later that year came "Gathering Light," an album of Christmas music for solo guitar. In 2007 he released "The Blues Concert," recorded live on Bainbridge Island, WA, and in 2009 "From the Island," another set of original songs.

His newest album, released in the Spring of 2011, is called "1896," recorded simply with his voice and an 1896 Washburn parlor guitar in a Bainbridge Island schoolhouse that was also built in 1896.

Peter has been called a "guitar wizard" by Seattle's Victory Music News and "a gifted lyricist with a sharp eye" by the New Jersey Star-Ledger. He tours regularly in the Northeast and throughout the Pacific Northwest and teaches guitar and voice at the Dusty Strings Music School in Seattle and the Island Music Center of Bainbridge Island, WA.

For More Information Contact: The Island Gallery, **206.780.9500** or
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