Ozarkagama
College of the Ozarks
Firing the Anagama
Noborigama
College of the Ozarks
Cairns: A Personal Journey

I am interested in markers or objects that symbolize important places or the passage of time in our lives. In ancient Britain people left piles of rocks or markers called cairns. Though the exact meaning of the original cairns is not clearly known the work has come to mean markers used by surveyors as well as stacks of rocks left by hikers to mark a trail. My cairns record my personal journey and experiences.

My earlier training in architecture has had a lasting influence on my use of forms and space. Fragments from architectonic, man made objects, are used like fossils and are juxtaposed to natural forms indicating a continuous cycle of decay and rebirth.

A sabbatical to Taiwan and trips to Japan, Korea, and Thailand have shown their influence on my work. I encountered many examples of folk furniture and architecture. The universal nature of some of the furniture and its similarity to western examples fascinates me. They are markers or cairns left by the cultures that made them. These images are creeping into my work.

My cairns are charged with many emotions but ultimately are markers of the human condition on our fragile planet.

Jeff Johnston
Taiwan
International Workshop on Wood Firing

Shui-Li Snake Kiln Cultural Park, Taiwan
Tachi Folk Bench
Ozark Folk Bridge”
Wood, salt, oxidation fired stoneware
Inspiration-Collaboration
Isamu Noguchi
Roy cartwright
HEATED COLLABORATIONS

• JANET MANSFIELD MODERATOR
• SCOTT MEYER
• RICK HIRSCH
• KEITH EKSTAM

• Proposal: Jeff Johnston
Chi Chi Cairn
180 cm
Sukhothai, Thailand, palace and temple ruins, 1300AD

Sukhothai, Thailand
Sukatahi series

Sukatahi I

Sukatahi II
Jingdezhen
China
Pottery Workshop
Xian China
Convergent Pillar I
Convergent Pillar II
Patricia’s Column
Folk Bench Series: Bolster
Concurrent Pillar III
Pattern Mold
Series III
Pattern Mold
Series: Setup