

PRESS RELEASE - SARATOGA CLAY ARTS CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 21, 2011

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Images and additional information available upon request

Grand Opening Celebration

July 22 - July 24, 2011

Saratoga Clay Art Center

167 Hayes Road

Schuylerville, NY 12871

Opening Lecture: 5-7 PM Friday, July 22, 2011

Official Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 3 PM, Saturday, July 23, 2011

Opening Reception: Schacht Gallery at Saratoga Clay Arts Center 5-7 PM, Saturday, July 23, 2011

Admission: Free

Schuylerville, NY June 21, 2011: The *Saratoga Clay Arts Center* (SCAC) will hold its official grand opening with a tribute and celebration of the life of world-renowned clay artist and friend **Toshiko Takaezu** and a weekend full of activities.

On Friday evening, July 22, 5 -7PM ceramic artist **Tim Jones**, Professor at the Universitat des Saarlandes in Saarbrücken, Germany, and former apprentice to **Toshiko Takaezu**, will give a slide lecture of his work. This lecture is open to the public. Following the lecture on Saturday and Sunday, an Inaugural Workshop, given by **Tim Jones** will take place from 9AM – 3PM at the center. Cost of the 2-day workshop is \$175.00. Registration forms are available on line at www.saratogaclayarts.org.

The official Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will take place at 3 PM sharp on Saturday, July 23rd followed by an open house and guided tours of the facility, classrooms, kilns and artist studios. The open house will last for 2 hours. Immediately following the open house at 5PM will be the grand opening of the Schacht Gallery at Saratoga Clay Art Center. The event will be a tribute and celebration of the life of clay artist and friend **Toshiko Takaezu**. *The New York Times* wrote, "Toshiko Takaezu, a Japanese-American ceramist whose closed pots and torpedolike cylinders, derived from natural forms, helped to elevate ceramics from the production of functional vessels to a fine art". An exhibit of her work, curated by Curtis Fontaine, another former Takaezu apprentice, will be on display in the gallery through Sept. 23rd. The Schacht Gallery will be open daily from 11AM – 4PM.

ABOUT SARATOGACLAY ART CENTER

Saratoga Clay Arts Center is a "Community of Creation and Education", founded in 2011 by Jill Fishon-Kovachick. Dedicated to the creation, education and promotion of the clay arts and providing creative and educational resources for clay artists, educators and enthusiasts. These resources include studio space, materials, diverse firing opportunities, workshops and artist residencies. Our team coaches emerging artists to perfect their work. Our gallery promotes local and national clay artists and brings together artists and enthusiasts. The facility is handicapped-accessible. The Center is located at 167 Hayes Road, Schuylerville, NY 12871. It is one mile south of Route 29, between Wall St. and Degarmo Road. The Center is open daily from 9AM to 9PM. For more information call: 518-581-CLAY, visit our website at www.saratogaclayarts.org or join us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/saratogaclayarts

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