

# Raku Firing Workshop

with Eddie Kent



## Course Summary

- **A one-day Raku Firing Workshop for all abilities.**
- **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> August, 10am – 5pm at the Phoenix Studio, Towersey**
- **(website: [www.phoenixstudio.co.uk](http://www.phoenixstudio.co.uk), address: Phoenix Studio, Towersey, Chinnor Rd, Towersey, Nr Thame, OX9 3QZ).**

## Raku - happiness through chance!

This fascinating technique originates from Japan and is an exciting fast, low firing process. It is achieved by manipulating chemical and physical properties within a piece of ceramic or its glaze through introducing the work to different elements during the cooling process. The results vary between unique bright crackled glazes through to a deep copper luster set off against the black of unglazed areas. It's fun to try and produces unique work with striking results.

## The Workshop

This is a full days experience and is aimed at all levels from complete beginners to those with experience (previous attendees very welcome). My workshops are run very informally in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere giving a freedom to experience and learn more about this exciting firing technique. The numbers will be kept low (6-8 students) so that everyone gets as much from the day as possible

## Outline of Day

I always start the day with a 'get to know' each other session that gives us all chance to get to know each other, this will comprise of:-

### **Introductions**

- About the raku firing and my technique
- Prepare glazes (if not already done)
- About glazes (colors, effects, warnings, how to use)
- Tools and tips (masking, waxing etc.)
- Introduction to the kiln(s) (construction, features, kiln safety, general safety)
- Turning kilns on low ready for first firings
- Q & As about above

### **Getting started**

- Experience students can get going
- Beginners will be given instruction and guidance
- Start glazing

## Course Details

I fire the kiln(s) once enough work is ready – it is not a race and as each firing takes a total of about 50 minutes it's always good to see the results of the first glaze especially for beginners. Firings will continue throughout the day as required and I will be available to guide and instruct.

I aim to have the last firing at 4pm so that we can all get together once completed so we can tidy up and we can all review the results of our days firing and everyone has a chance to ask questions.

I can assure you it will be an enjoyable day where flame of inspiration will set alight by the fantastic firing technique that is RAKU.

## General Notes

- Bring lunch (local shop is some distance), tea and coffee and light refreshments are available in the purpose 'chill out' chalet.
- Make sure you wear old clothes and sensible shoes (no sandals), a coat maybe needed as firings take place outside.
- The course includes: tools, glazes, firing, tuition (you are also welcome to bring your own glazes and tools)
- The aim of the course is to allow all participants to fire 5 to 6 small to medium pieces of work to help achieve this any large pieces will be left to last and may incur a surcharge to cover extra glaze and firing required. Firing of any work is at my discretion.
- Maximum height for any single piece is 400mm
- Insurance, I am covered for public liability but must point out there is an element of hazard and all participants take part at there own risk.
- Any Health issues such as breathing or allergies must be brought to my attention at first briefing.
- Follow-up help regarding the workshop will be available via email after the workshop.

Full details will be sent to all participants on receipt of payment

## Booking a Place

Please use the following link to download the [Online Application Form](#) or call James Ort (07765980508) to discuss the availability of places on the course.

I look forward to hopefully seeing you soon!

Eddie

