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Hand-built Abstract Sculpture

Assignment #: _____ Due Date: _____ Name: _____

Ceramics is a gigantic realm of many different art forms. In the 1950's some ceramic artists such as, Peter Volkus, Paul Soldner, Tom Mason, and a few others began to move away from the functional pot. They started a movement in ceramics called Abstract Expressionism.

When the movement began the work was not very well accepted. The argument of, "Clay is Craft not Art," seemed to always come into play. As time went on Abstract Ceramic Sculpture, became a more and more of a popular art form. Today it is widely accepted even though the argument of, "Clay is Craft not Art," still exists.

In this assignment you will have a chance to make your own abstract sculpture. Forget about all of your ideas that have to do with making something functional or perhaps a Christmas present for Grandma. This assignment has to do with making 10 Three-Dimensional forms, that will be constructed and then cut apart and assembled into one sculptural object.

In the demo I demonstrated how to start this project. Later on I will do another demo which illustrates how to assemble all the parts. Follow the directions from the first demo remembering these important specifications.

- Make a total of ten volumetric forms. Five of your own forms and 5 geometric forms.
- These forms must be built using the coil building method and slab construction.
- You must experiment with at least three different textures. (carved and imprinted texture)
- Put textures onto the clay slab before constructing the forms.
- Use at least one texture impression that you have brought from home.
- Let the parts or shapes set up, before assembling them into one sculpture.
- Draw 10 different shapes below and practice the lay out of your surface decoration for the sculpture. Draw either in the space below, or in your sketch book.

Draw out the ten, shapes that you are making for this project. There should be one cylinder, one cone, one pyramid, one sphere, and one square or rectangle. The other five shapes should be shapes that you have made up.

