

January 7, 2021 Program (Gary Guenther)

Our January 7, 2021 MCW Program will be our **12th-annual Show Tell & Ask Panel Critique** -- done remotely this time around.

The Panel this year will be a repeat of our 2019 Panel that was a lot of fun and well received -- JRA Director **Jaimianne Jacobin (née Amicucci)**, ceramic artist extraordinaire **Greg Holmes**, and professional woodturner and all-around great guy, **Allen Alexopoulos**. We appreciate their willingness to join us again, particularly in these difficult times.



We will handle it just like we do our regular, monthly Show Tell & Ask -- Mike Colella will put up the images, the maker will get to talk briefly about why they are showing this piece and what they hope to learn from the Panel, and then the Panelists, who will be attending remotely like everyone else, will take turns providing their insights and encouragements. The Panel will have had prior access to the images so they have plenty of time to review them carefully, form opinions and questions of their own, and take notes for use during the live show. The Panelists have already told me that it is going to be difficult for them to evaluate the works without being able to pick them up and hold them, and it is obvious that the photographs they work from must be multiple, comprehensive views shot against a proper background.

For those of you who may not have done this before, it's just like our normal Show Tell & Ask session each month except instead of the silence after you show your work, you will get constructive criticism from the Panel of professional artists who understand shape and form and making, and one who is expert in the act of placing sharp tools against rapidly-spinning wood. Many of you may want to show completed works, but that is not a requirement -- it could be a work in progress that you need advice on. The bottom line is that we intend for it to be informal and, most of all, FUN. Why would we want to do something, particularly now, that was not fun? We're just out to have a good time sharing our work and getting other people's thoughts and ideas about it so maybe we might be able to do it differently or better the next time around. In a past Critique, Jaimianne made a half-joking comment that opened up a whole new avenue in my work. That's why we do things like this.

There will be a limit to the number of presenters we can handle. First come, first served. My intent is to do fewer pieces than in the past, to reduce time pressure, so get on my list now to avoid disappointment. If you would like to enter a piece and have not already signed up, please email Gary Guenther at gary.guenther@iname.com right away.