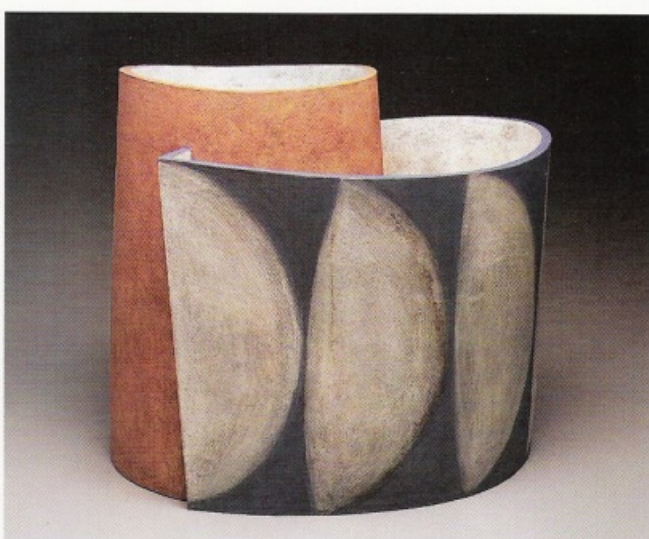


Ken Eastman



Slab-built stoneware vessel, 12 inches in height, brushed with oxides and slips.



Vessel, 13½ inches in height, stoneware with oxides and slips.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF PRO-ART



"Rise and Fall," 12 inches in height, slab-built stoneware with brushed oxides and slips, by Ken Eastman, Herefordshire, England.

Asymmetrical stoneware vessels by British ceramist Ken Eastman were featured recently at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville. The exhibition was curated by Michael Holohan and Horty Shieber of Pro-Art in Saint Louis.

They noted that Eastman's work, while "suggesting monumental architecture, possesses the ability to remain intimate and invite the viewer inside and around." Concurrently, "the surfaces owe a small debt to the [Bernard] Leach influence and its sense of formality in decorating the ceramic vessel.

"The work for this exhibition began to gather momentum while Eastman was putting the finishing touches on pots for several European group shows," Holohan and Shieber explained. But the pressure of deadlines did not have an adverse effect; instead, "these exhibitions further emphasized the importance of keeping the 'American' group together. This notion of the artist culling a body of his work and scrutinizing it as a whole lent itself to a very strong and visually inviting exhibition." ▲