

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 11 – June 6, 2009**

**Receptions: Saturday April 11, 6 - 9pm  
Saturday May 9, 6 - 9pm**

## **Natural Connections**

Armstrong's presents "Natural Connections," a group show featuring the work of ceramic artists heavily inspired by nature with all its beauty, mystery, and wonder. The exhibition will run from April 11 through June 6, 2009. Artists featured in the show include Shane Keena, Susan Clusener, Eileen Braun, and Damien Jones.

There is a balance between humanity and nature, a connection most see and feel. "Natural Connections" displays ceramic artworks with a similar correlation of inspiration and motif in the artistic expression which revolves around this phenomenon of the physical world. The artists are creating and drawing new associations and connections between the human condition and our natural world.

The artists featured in "Natural Connections" explore the theme of nature, as a direct thesis in their work or an element of purpose in their artistic inspiration. Shane Keena's work is inspired by ocean life, especially the territorial creatures found in shallow tide pools. These subjects reflect Keena's interest in the structural defense and protective mechanisms found in nature. Susan Clusener's ceramic work is profoundly influenced by nature, but not about recreating its beauty. The emphasis in her art is how one responds to it. She draws on the connotations of the wholesomeness and simplicity of fruit and ties it in with the comfort and protection that is provided by a home or shelter. Eileen Braun's unifying theme in her work is growth. This is a powerful element found in nature. Also, producing multiple but never identical forms on her pieces displays an appreciation of the natural world around us. Damien Jones explores the interplay of order and chaos, which focuses on the human desire to control a life within the environment. He frequently employs a large scale totem pole form, which he uses as a connection between the physical and spiritual world.

Armstrong's is located at 150 East 3rd Street Pomona, Calif., 91766. The gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday 9 a.m. to 4: 30 p.m. and every second Saturday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. The opening reception for "Natural Connections" will be held on April 11 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. A second reception will be held on Saturday May 9 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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**CONTACT:** Armstronggallery@verizon.net  
**HOURS:** Tuesday – Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** 150 East 3rd Street Pomona, CA 91766  
**PHONE:** (909) 623-6464

**[www.armstronggallery.net](http://www.armstronggallery.net)**