

LUCIEN M. KOONCE

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Artist Biography

Lucien M. Koonce was born in the North Carolina town of Greenville (Pitt County) and attended undergraduate school at East Carolina University, Greenville, NC. Studying Ceramics under Art Haney (MFA, Alfred University) and Charles Chamberlain (MFA, Alfred University), he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1978.

His graduate Ceramics studies were at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Under the instruction of Chuck Hinds (MFA, Rhode Island School of Design) and Bunny McBride (MFA, Alfred University), he received a Master of Arts degree and a Master of Fine Arts degree. This three year combined degree program was completed in 1981. His MFA thesis was entitled, *Technicalities and Aesthetics of Clay Extrusion for the Artist/Potter*.

Lucien lived in Robbins, NC (Moore County; located within the Seagrove, NC radius) from 1986 to 2002. This eastern Piedmont region of North Carolina has had a heritage of pottery making since the mid-1800s. It was there that he established Horsepen Kiln Studio. From Robbins, he relocated to Charlotte, NC where he was an adjunct lecturer with UNC-Charlotte, teaching Ceramics Handbuilding and Three-Dimensional Design. During this time period he re-established Horsepen Kiln Studio in the Asheville, NC (Buncombe County) area. This region also enjoyed being a major pottery center during the mid-1800s, and continues to be so.

In 2008 Lucien left North Carolina and now resides in the western Massachusetts village of Haydenville, where he maintains Horsepen Kiln Studio. His ceramic work consists of hand built functional and sculptural forms, which are wood fired, and he has exhibited nationally since 1978.