

## Rina Peleg

Rina Peleg traces her interest in basketry to the origins of man-made form, as fiber and clay were among mankind's earliest building materials. She is persuaded that the imprints made by early crude baskets on primitive fired clay, when ceramics was in its infancy, contributed a vital and enduring link between pottery and basketmaking. Employing hand-made coils of clay to construct baskets by traditional wickerwork and plaiting methods, she creates a broad range of open and cylindrical structures in buff and brown kiln-fired earthenware. Unlike pottery vessels with dense clay walls and water-tight surfaces, these constructions 'breathe' like typical baskets in fiber. The resulting works are convincing transformations of method and material that sustain an intriguing visual ambiguity between the apparent pliancy of basketry and the hard and brittle nature of kiln-fired clay.

Born in Israel, 1940. Studied: Bezalel Academy of Arts and Crafts, Jerusalem, Israel (1958-60); Alfred University, New York (M.F.A., 1980). Currently teaching ceramics at Alfred University. N.E.A. Craftsman's Fellowship, 1981. Lives in New York.

### Solo Exhibitions

1981

Ceramic Sculpture, Nina Freudenheim Gallery, Buffalo, New York.  
Ceramic Sculpture, Branch Gallery, Washington, D.C.  
Ceramic Sculpture, Theo Portnoy Gallery, New York.

1979

*Plaiting in Clay*, Ceramic Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel.  
*From Clay and From Tradition*, Beit Aba Hushi, Haifa, Israel.

1972

American Israel Cultural Foundation, New York.

### Selected Group Exhibitions

1981

*National Crafts '81*, Greenville County Museum of Art, Greenville, South Carolina.  
*Lake Superior '81*, Tweed Museum of Art, Duluth, Minnesota.  
*Westwood Clay National*, Downy Museum, Los Angeles.

1980

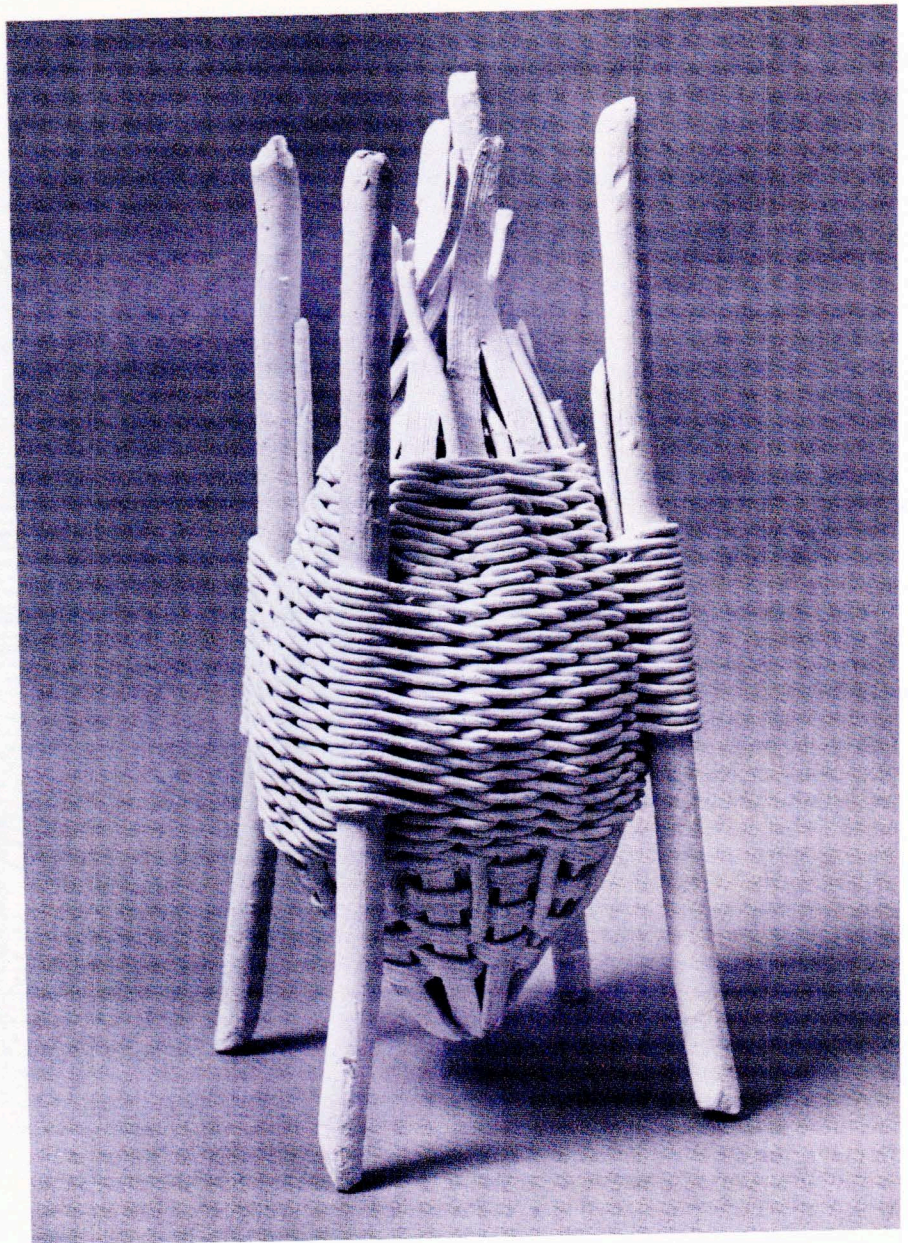
*38th Western N.Y. Regional*, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York.  
*Westwood Clay National*, Parsons School of Art and Design, New York.

1978

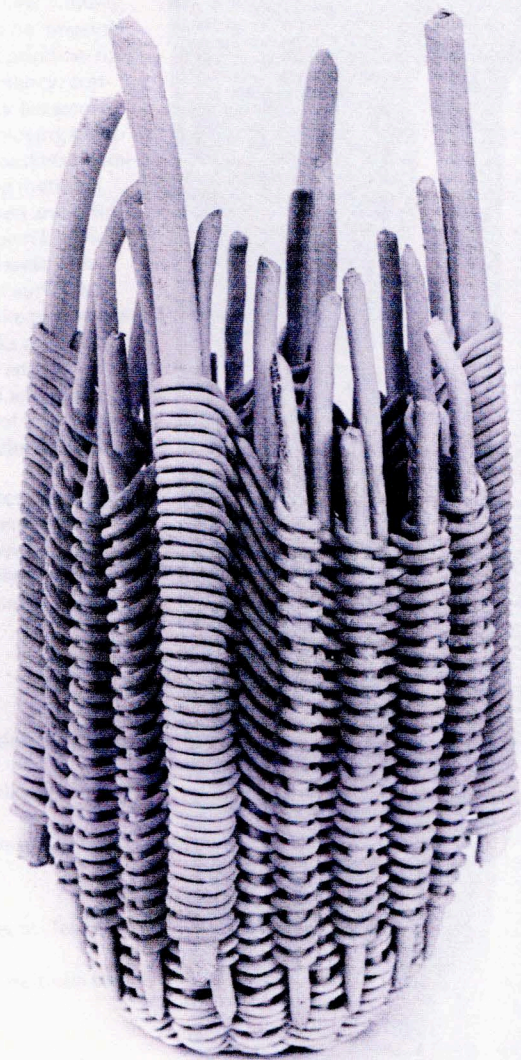
*Sculpture in Clay*, Traveling Exhibition, Israel.

1977

*Discovery in Nature*, Crafts Concepts, Ridgewood, New York.



1981; plaited white porcelain



1981; plaited yellow gold art clay