

RINA PELEG

Ceramic Structures

May 7 - June 19, 1988

The Queens Museum

New York City Building
Flushing Meadow/Corona Park
Flushing, New York

Rina Peleg's ceramic sculptures echo a primeval world of spontaneous energy and organic growth. Shapes resemble colonies of underwater coral, branching limbs of vegetation and skeletons of animals. The work, exhibited hanging on the wall or free-standing, is tied to the topography and ancient history of Israel, Peleg's native land. It was here, inspired by pottery ruins strewn on archaeological sites, that the artist's affinity for clay first developed.

There is a spiritual quality to the sculptures, a mysticism that stems from shaping an elemental material like clay. The techniques of weaving and basketry have also influenced Peleg's imagery. The artist communicates her deeply rooted respect for these ancient forms and media. Although the allusions to prehistory are always present, Peleg's sophisticated working of her materials translate into an unmistakably contemporary and personal expression.

Ms. Peleg studied at Bezalel Academy in Israel and received a Master of Fine Arts from Alfred University, New York. Her work has been represented in group exhibitions at the Cooper-Hewitt Museum, New York City, 1982; The Institute of Contemporary Art, Boston, 1982; and the Renwick Gallery, Washington, D.C., 1982. One-person exhibitions include the Ceramic Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel, 1979 and The Everson Museum, Syracuse, New York, 1985. She was a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Craftsman Fellowship in 1981 and a Pollack-Krasner Foundation Grant in 1987.

Barbara C. Matilsky
Curator

CHECKLIST

1. SKELETON, 1984
Earthenware
13 x 29 x 27 in.
2. BASKETS REBORN, 1984
Earthenware
32 x 22 x 18 in.
3. POLARITIES, 1986
Earthenware
40 x 40 x 12 in.
4. INNER PATH, 1986
Earthenware
26 x 19 x 15 in.
5. INTERIOR JOURNEY, 1986
Earthenware
29 x 18 x 12 in.
6. TREE OF LIFE, 1986
Earthenware
32 x 28 x 17 in.

7. UNFOLDING ENERGIES, 1986
Earthenware
33 x 48 x 23 in.

8. EAR SYSTEM, 1986
Earthenware
22 x 35 x 29 in.

9. GARDEN OF PARADISE, 1986
Earthenware
22½ x 36 x 22½ in.

