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ArtEnchanted Studios



Om Rice Bowl set with teak wood chopsticks and holder

New Beginnings

I am excited to bring you the first newsletter for ArtEnchanted Studios!

This has been a long standing endeavor of mine and it is a true pleasure for me to have this published and shared amongst family, friends and customers.

In this newsletter I hope to share my new works, ideas, up coming sales, give-aways and many more.

As always, I love to hear feedback and any suggestions for items you want to see & read about in this newsletter. Please send any feedback you may have to info@artenchantedstudios.com

So lets begin!

Colors of Spring

Spring is here; cherry blossoms are blooming, daffodils are springing out of my backyard in surprising bunches and the lilac tree is already budding! Can you believe it?

What better way to celebrate spring by bringing in new to initiate new moods!

So what's in for Spring? What's coming across the catwalks is just as applicable to what goes into your home and onto your table (via tableware of course!). Jeweled tones like bright indigos, royal blues, emerald greens, hot reds, fuchsias and corals are coming through this season. As well as innovative patterns like ikat designs.

Translating that to dinnerware is a challenge as it is definitely a bold look that comes through. Interestingly enough, I have started testing that with my all time favorite cuerda seca (i.e. the dry line) designs.

I have resurrected the poppies dinnerware line just for the occasion! Watch out for it on my [store](#).



Red poppies bowl in white porcelain

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ArtEnchanted Studios Arts & Crafts Fundraiser!!!

Special points of interest:

- Red Poppies Collection
- ArtEnchanted Studios Arts & Crafts Fundraiser
- Using Chawan bowls and Tea holders
- Charmed I'm sure!
- Featured Artist: Kevin V. Fitzpatrick

As part of an ongoing effort to teach and empower young women in all walks of life, ArtEnchanted Studios is holding an online arts & crafts fundraiser this summer in Sep 2011.

A lovely group of ladies have joined me in volunteering their time, money and effort in creat-

ing many lovely craft items (e.g. blankets, quilts, pottery, photography, handmade cards etc.) to help raise funds.

Money raised will go towards helping our local shelter called [Special Delivery](#) continue to function & help pregnant single moms. Also, the funds raised will go towards helping victims of the sex slave industry.

More to come on this as we get closer to Sept. & I hope we get many supporters coming to purchase for a good cause! Keep an eye out for it on ~ artenchantedstudios.etsy.com

Save the Date !!!

**ArtEnchanted Studios
Arts & Crafts Fundraiser
September 1st 2011**



A Dash tea bowl
—soda fired; stoneware clay

For your viewing pleasure: Click
on the featured Etsy Treasury!
[Turquoise Dream](#)

Tea or not to Tea?

Tea—ahhhhhhh—the world's oldest beverage. I also happen to believe that tea is an infusion of a specific country, village, tribe and their culture.

After all the very nature of tea is in the form of cured/dried leaves or flowers picked from a specific geographic region. Taking in the flavors of the surrounding plants and flowers and soil.

(For more inspiration of tea, look up World of Tea on Face-

book.) Now, all teas are not created equal. Some are perfect iced, some are perfect steaming hot. Some have an aroma and taste only describable as heaven. So the BIG question is, other than what is your favorite tea, what do you drink your tea out of?

My favorite drinking vessel that I am quite obsessed with is a **chawan** tea bowl. A **chawan** is a handless bowl used for preparing and drinking matcha (powdered green tea) in the

Japanese tea ceremony. The first chawan, as can be debated, was made in China.

Most *chawan* are bowl-shaped, but shapes vary widely. There are names for each general shape, within which there may be many variations. Common shapes include cylindrical, flat and round. Not only that, the variations in decorations and designs on these chawans used for tea ceremonies are so numerous, it's no wonder people have started collecting them!

Will you hold my tea bag?

With experiencing tea, what do you use to hold your tea bags? Do you wring out the wet tea bag and tie it around the tea spoon? Or do you place your tea bag on the saucer of your favorite tea cup? Or do you just leave the tea bag on the table top Leaving a lovely rusty stain as a reminder of your beverage choice? :o)

Ever thought about using tea holders? It acts as a great partner to your tea cups or mugs. You can place your used tea bags on it. No mess and no fuss. The plus point? It also serves double duty too as ring or earring holders. If you love sushi, it holds wasabi or the pink gorgeous creation known as pickled ginger!

For the chef in you, use it to

hold other condiments like chili sauce, ketchup, salt or pepper ... the list is endless.



Daisy-shaped tea holder in
grass green glaze



Blue Sea Platter ~ stoneware
clay

Platter me up Sergeant!

What's in a platter? According to Wikipedia, a platter (dinner) is "*a meal of several components served together on a platter or in a basket*"

What's your idea of a platter? What's the image in your mind? Is it a steaming grilled fish served on a long oval platter

brought to the dinner table by yaya? Or is it a round segmented platter brought to the table by mama with an array of sweets during Chinese New Year?

Perhaps it's the mouth watering golden brown enormously huge turkey on a white platter with

stuffing surrounding it for Thanksgiving presented by Dad? Ever thought of using platters for serving sushi? Or even serving a flight of a variety of cakes & pastries during a gathering? Or just adjust the ambience of your home and light up tea candles on it!

Charmed Threads ~ charmed I'm sure!



Gaelic Secrets Clutch

I'd like to introduce you to Charmed Threads—a subsidiary passion of mine allowing me to

dive into creations with beads, knit ware, and leather and fabrics!!!

With Charmed Threads, I am able to explore organic crocheting methods and create unique one of a kind (or OOAK) pieces to wear. (Have you tried circular ruffle shrugs?)

So allow me to charm you one thread at a time and please explore my new store on Etsy ~ charmedthreads.etsy.com

Don't shrug me off!

Do you have a favorite shrug? Perhaps an heirloom passed down from your mom or grandmother or aunt?

Shrugs to me provide such wonderful memories and create such a warm and loving environment that it ranks right up there with shawls and heirloom quilts!!! Not to mention it's becoming such a fashion statement for spring!



Fair Isle Shrug

Featured Artists

One of my passions is to explore the creations of other artists delving in various mediums.

Art is such a universal language, whether or not one happens to be from China, or from South Africa or from Russia. The only thing that matters is creation, and expression of one's thoughts and ideas out to the world.

As an ongoing effort, I will feature new/upcoming or even established artists that I have

stumbled upon in this newsletter.

Hopefully it will serve as a doorway to another world to you my dear reader, as it did for me.

My Eyes Have Seen

This month's featured artist is a long time friend of mine ~ *Kevin V .Fitzpatrick.*

He's long dabbled in photography, quirky illustrations and writings that push one's boundaries beyond what you

and I would consider comfortable. And yet, there's something about that keeps drawing you back and allows you to escape convention.

From his blog [My Eyes Have Seen](http://MyEyesHaveSeen.blogspot.com) on Blogspot.com; his writings are as haunting as his photographs.



Ray-Gun



Angels

Last Thoughts ~ by Charmian Toh (from Artenchantedstudios.com)

Hope

I have one word for you
A word that changes things
A word that means so much more
It blinds people to every shadow
It opens up our deepest fears
It questions the substance of faith

It is the backbone of trust

I have a word for you
Written down, carved into
Printed and stamped
Covered by so many languages
Means so many things
It is the ray of sunshine
For those that know no other

light

I have one word for you
Some of us are frightened by it
Yet others strive to give up
The world to experience it
And then there are others
Who know little of it

*"The wind off the sea
blew cold sandy air at
my legs, the street
lights shone down on
me as I lifted my head
in prayer. Looking
around I realized that
there had always been
3 angels standing
there with me...." ~
My Eyes Have Seen*

Or understand the value of it
I have one word for you ...

HOPE