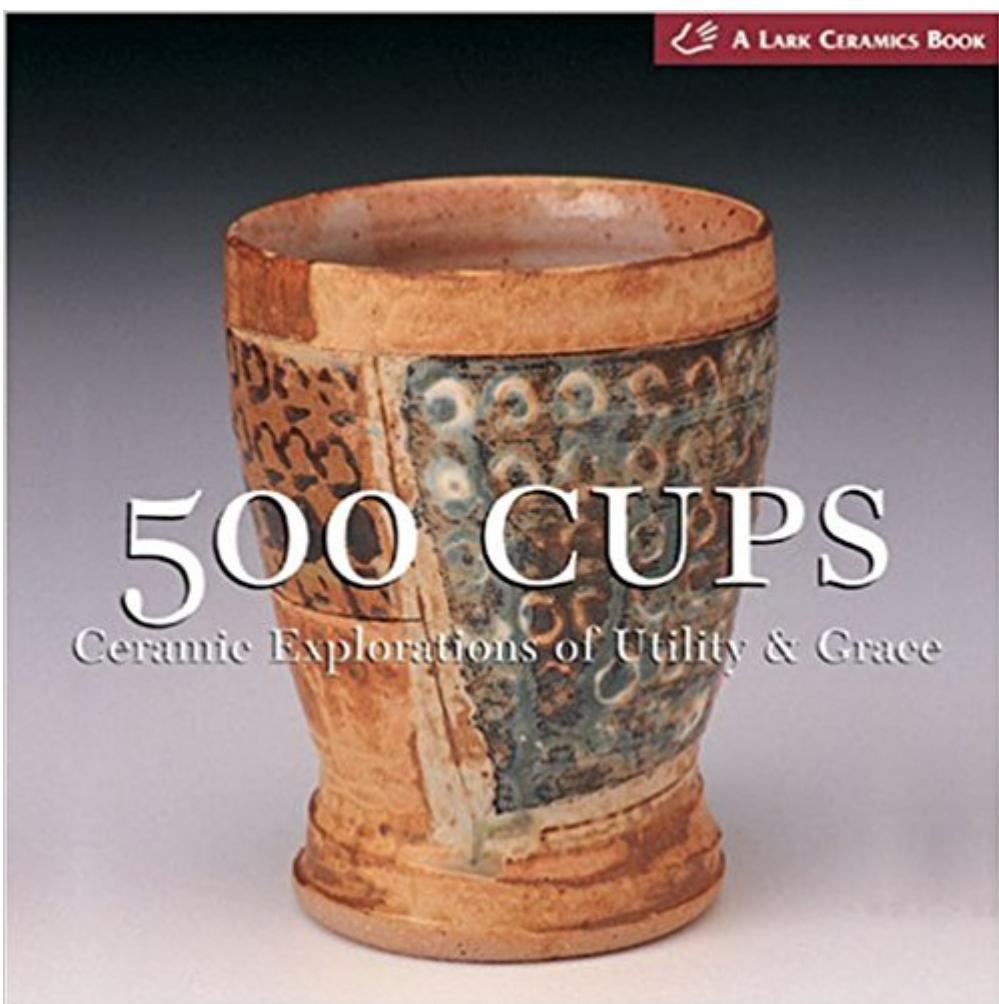


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# 500 Cups: Ceramic Explorations Of Utility & Grace (A Lake Ceramics Book)



## Synopsis

In the hands of an expert ceramist, the once-simple cup can become an extraordinary work of art--as these 500 magnificent examples so beautifully prove. The exciting pieces come from an international array of artists, each with a unique perspective. The stylishly varied collection has a little bit of everything: the cups range from handbuilt to wheel-thrown, practical to sculptural, round to square. Benjamin Schulman's "Stacked Teacup Set" takes a strictly functional approach, while Heather O'Brien's "Dessert Cups on Stand" focuses on aesthetic form rather than usefulness. Annette Gates' "Espresso Shot Cups with Rubies" has a surface design of simple abstract lines and dots of glaze and jewels. Some are whimsical, others starkly conceptual. Every one is a treat for the eye.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Meh. I got this looking for inspiration. Seems like the selection crew was limited by aspects of trying to look more diverse than they were. I was a bit bored by the cups. The sculptural selection seems like they were called "cups" instead of cups in reality. And the "straight" cups felt a bit dated &/or redundant. I wish I bought a used cheapo copy. If you aren't as tough a customer as I am, it's fine. If you know someone featured in the book, great- support that aspect. But if you are a professional ceramic artist- make sure you buy it used. I like the "500 animals" sculpture series book better. (OK, it's not related, I know!)

I have several of the 500 books, 500 Handmade Books, 500 teapots, for an artisit I live in the midwest and don't get to travel to see gallery shows where some of these pieces are shown. I am

also how each of us like potters evolve into our designs. It is a great source of how to figure out how they did that. And a chance to evaluate their form, decoration, and presentation. Highly recommend as a great book to read and explore with a cup of tea or coffee in you hand (preferably in one of your own mugs, or a favorite you purchases from and artist). Hand made artisan work that you can handle and use, or meet the actual artist to learn more about them is a connection you can never make with a mass produced impersonal machine made department store piece and a piece made by human hands one lump of clay at a time. That is how I do it at Flagg Pottery in a small studio in Chillicothe, IL

Like so many of the Lark books, this one is filled with, you guessed it, 500 photos. Nicely done I might add (I am a commercial photographer who dabbles in ceramics to keep myself sane...ish). Now I must admit that I didn't actually count the photo's to see if there are exactly 500, but I'll bet the editor did. This book isn't a technique book, but a beautiful reference of about any imaginable ceramic cup, functional and not (some are full of holes and would hold nothing but cotton), traditional, contemporary, Japanese style, hand built, thrown, altered and, well, just about everything I have personally ever been exposed to or even heard about. I love this book. I find great inspiration as I turn each page. If you are looking for references, inspiration, or just some great ceramic works, I highly recommend this book. While you are at it, check out the one on bowls. It's great as well.

Wow! This is an amazing, thick, gorgeous, well produced book. If you need a gift for a potter, you cannot possibly go wrong with this! And it's part of a series, so I've got my gifts lined out for the next five years -- the photography is beautiful, impressive, large, and the selection of cups is amazing. Whether it's for yourself, or a potter friend, this is a really good choice.

the book is worth the money, even if your library is well stocked. somebody else's work always gives your own creativity a boost. However, there are too many look-alikes, repeats of too similar. therefore I gave the book only 3 stars.

Anyone who thinks there is very little difference between one cup and another would have that notion blown away by simply flipping open any page of this book. When the teacher of a local community college pottery course saw this book, she asked everyone in her classes to refer to it before beginning to design their next cup projects. It opened their minds to some of the infinite possibilities available to practitioners of the potter's craft.

Ok.

Wonderful and inspiring. I enjoy this book over and over when I think I may want to make a cup. The pictures are lovely and the cups are interesting.

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