

Space as a theme offers an immense range of opportunities for the artist to explore. For Connie Wawruck-Hemmett it immediately brings to mind visions of the sky, our solar system and the universe with all of its mysteries. For her two pieces, she has chosen to use various shades of blue, which is the color that immediately came to mind. “My Blue Heaven” is an unusually shaped vase, simply glazed and enhanced to represent the sky and clouds, while “Moons Aplenty” offers an image of another galaxy, where many moons might exist in a relatively small space. The blues used for these pieces are meant to bring peace and tranquility to the viewer during this year of turmoil and uncertainty.

**Connie Wawruck-Hemmett** is a mostly self-taught visual artist who is grateful to artistic legend Ted Korol for encouraging her artistic abilities during high school. Her plans at involved a future in costume design, but instead she ended up working with computers.

Since that time-- while becoming a mother, travelling the world with her offshore oilfield-working husband, acquiring a BA(Honours) and an MA in History from the University of Winnipeg, and working towards a PhD at Dalhousie University—she has always found comfort in one type of art or another. Unfortunately, the discovery of two brain tumors in 1994, a very invasive surgery, and a lengthy period of recuperation brought her studies to an end, but she continued “making art.”

During the past decade Connie has devoted more and more of her time and energy to her artistic pursuits, from fine needlework and clothing design, to jewelry, ceramics and painting with various mediums on a variety of substrates. She also teaches ceramics and classes in different art styles and techniques. Her work has appeared in a number of multi-artist shows, as well as in four solo exhibitions, and can often be seen at Cre8ery Gallery, Wayne Arthur Gallery, and the Edge Gallery; it is held in both private and public collections in Canada and the United States.