

## **Humpback Whale**

*Laguna Clay Co.  
Endangered Species  
Awareness Series  
2010*

Laguna Clay Company started the Endangered Species Awareness Tile Series in 1992. This 19<sup>th</sup> year we present the mid fire porcelain 2010 tile "Hump back Whale". It was designed by Allison Moore and machine pressed and decorated at Laguna Clay Company. The porcelain body is our Laguna ^ 5 Frost porcelain-WC437. It is glazed with several of our Crackle Series Glazes (Twilight Blue-WC138, Desert Skye-WC141 and Fractal Cream-WC130 with added Mason stain) and Yemen Yellow Engobe -MS205.

Now a little about Allison...

### **About the Artist**

Allison Moore graduated from the SUNY college at New Paltz with her BFA in Ceramics in 1993 and has worked full time in clay ever since. She lives in Seattle, WA where she spends her days making pottery, tile and sculptural items and is a plaster mold designer (Ram press, slip-cast, and tile/stamp molds). Much of her work is decorated from a vast array of images pressed from plaster stamps. Often the originals from which the stamps are made take several days of sculpting to perfect before they are cast, and are typically upgraded after a few years as her sculpting abilities evolve.

### **Allison shares her creative inspiration**

"Thank you for allowing me to participate in this annual creation of an Endangered Species Tile for Laguna Clay Company. As an artist, what brings me the most inspiration is to reflect through the sculptural process the tremendous variety of ways which Nature dreams up, in order to manifest all of its fascinating creatures.

A few experiences with scuba-diving helped me to understand that our planet really hosts two worlds, land and water. I began to truly see how precious and fragile life is, and in particular the more beautiful forms of life are, on this Earth. Coral reefs are being destroyed- an extremely serious problem because they are the spawning grounds and nurseries for the vast majority of ocean creatures. Humans tend to desire these areas to develop because of the available sea food and spectacular views, but end up causing die-offs from boats, trash and pollutants. It is my hope that in bringing these beautiful creatures to others through clay art that I will inspire more support for green technology and conservation. I direct my abilities towards the creation of work which encourages the art observer to become more dedicated to supporting preservation and biodiversity. A completed work of art perhaps exists as a spiritual offering. All sentient creatures have the ability to act with reverence toward their surroundings, and I see this quality profoundly inherent in the Humpback Whale. Listening to recordings of them singing can be transcendental- they are the most mysterious, gentle, and beautiful of all the whales, and if we can keep the ocean clean enough for them to live in and thrive in, we will have learned how to be truly respectful of creation."

