

Anthropomorphic Pottery: Southern Face Vessels



**Stoneware Face Vessels, 19th & 20th Century
Makers Unknown**

What does anthropomorphic mean?

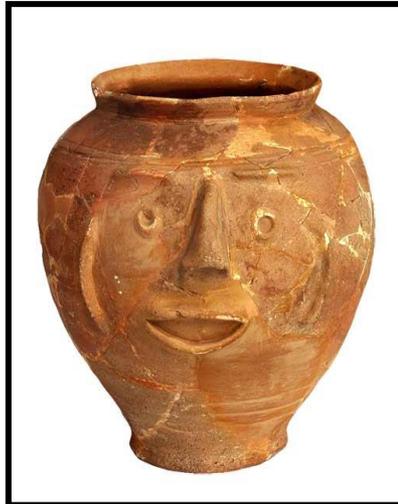
anthropo = Greek word for human
morphic = taking the form of

Anthropomorphic means resembling, or made to resemble, a human form.

Anthropomorphic pottery is pottery that has been made with human-like features sculpted on the surface of a pot.

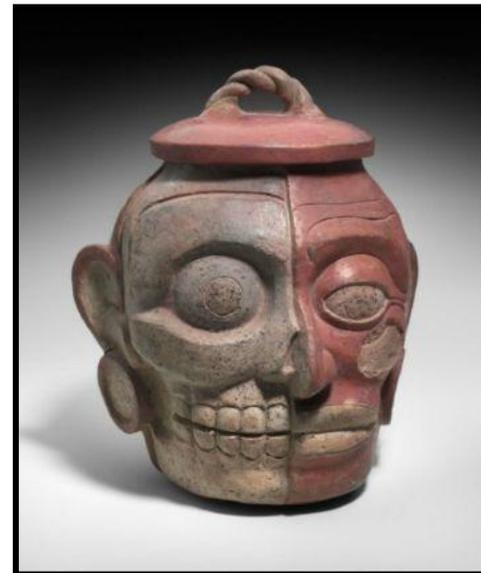


ANCIET MEDITERRANEAN





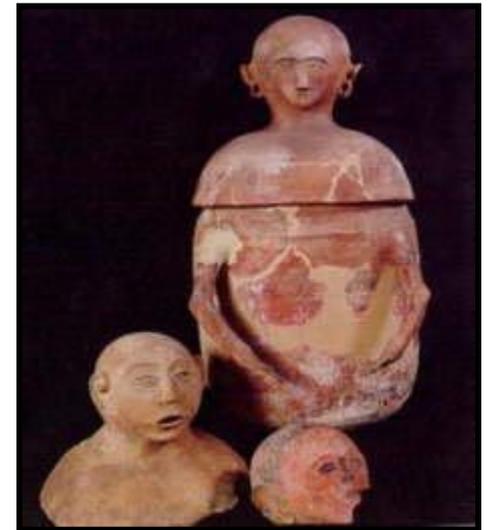
AFRICA



**SOUTH
AMERICA**

CENTRAL AMERICA





SOUTHEAST ASIA

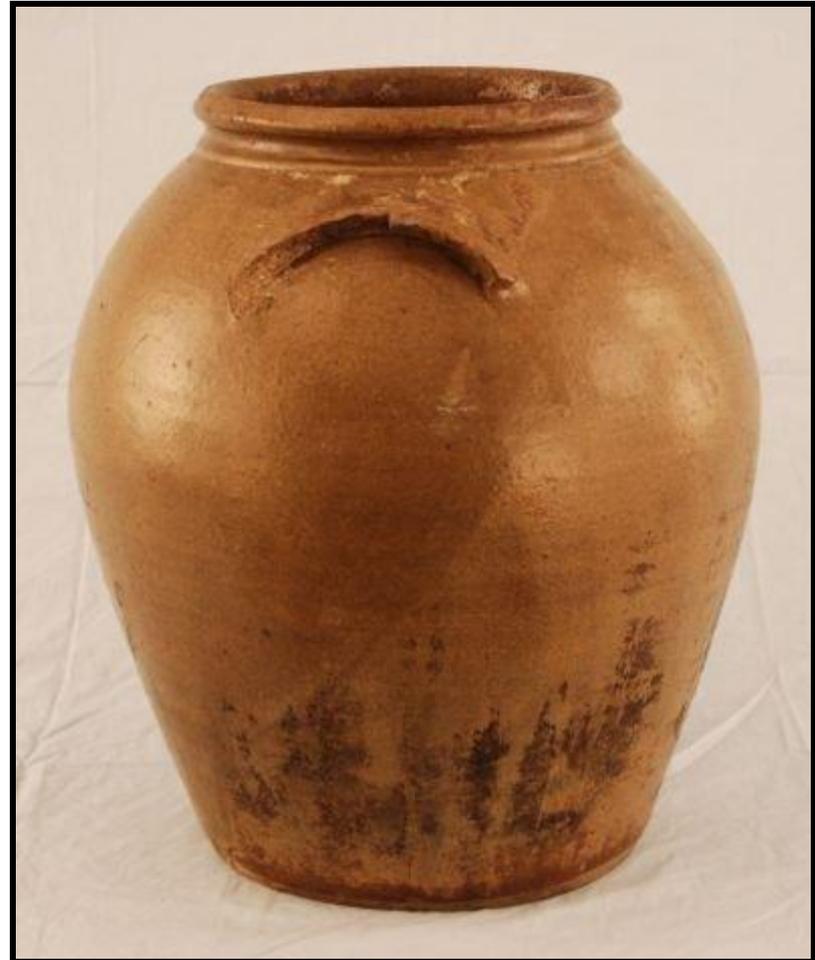
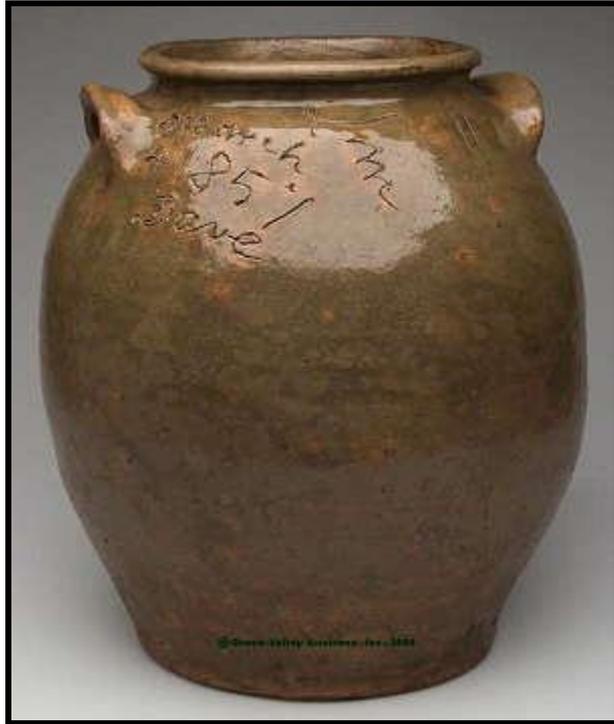


EUROPE



**Was anthropomorphic
pottery made in
America?**

Utilitarian Pottery Made in Edgefield, South Carolina Mid 1800's

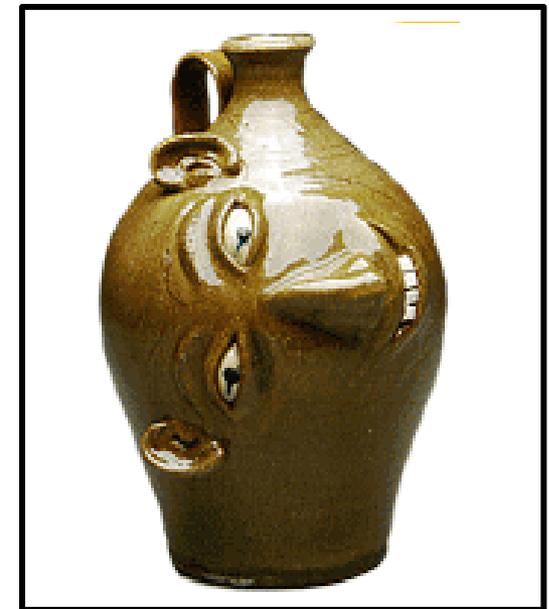




In the mid 1800's, face vessels, made by slave potters from Edgefield, South Carolina became the first anthropomorphic pottery produced in America.

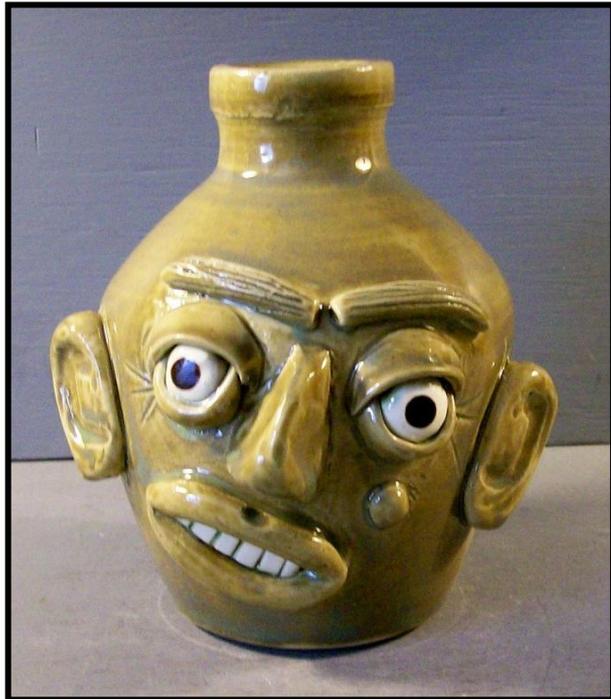


3 Generations of Potters
Edgefield, South Carolina





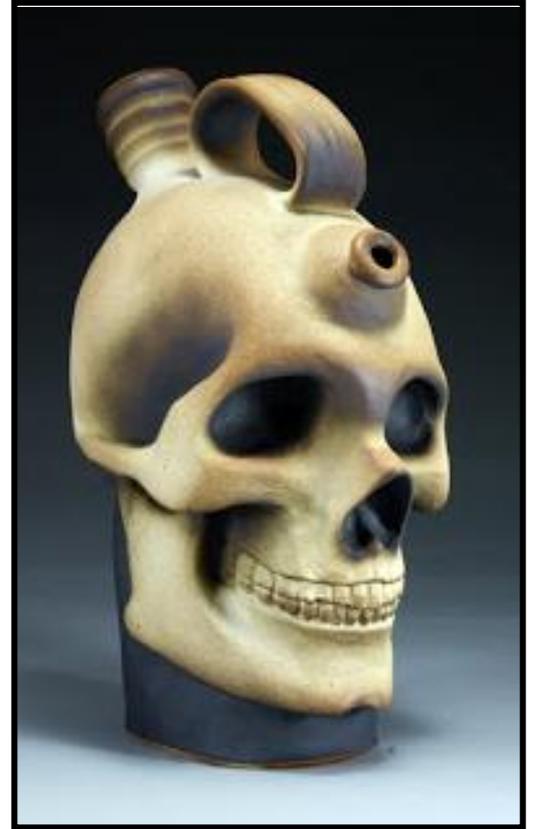
Contemporary Face Vessel,
South Carolina



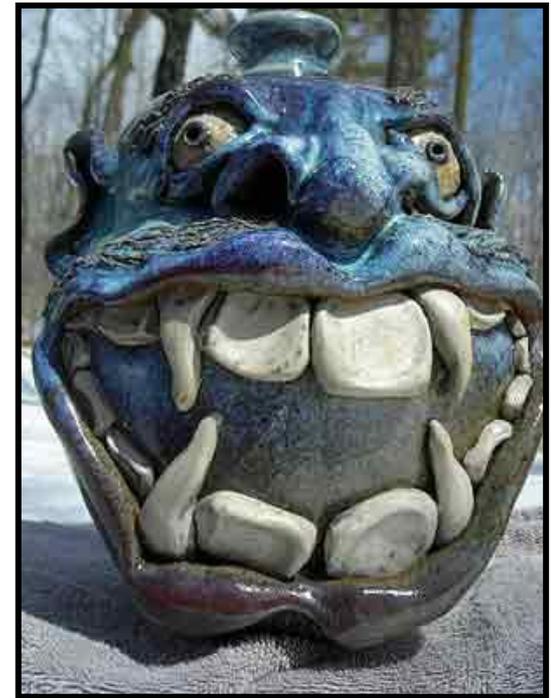
Humorous Face Vessels



Serene Face Vessels



Expressive Face Vessels



Ghoulish Face Vessels

Make your own face vessel!



Begin making a vessel with 2 pinch pots.

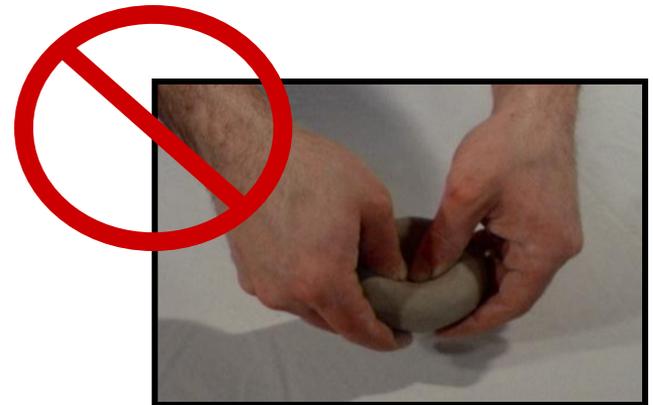


Roll clay into a ball and insert thumb half way through the center. Keep your thumb inside and your four fingers along the outside.



Press with equal pressure from the inside and the outside of the pot, while slowly rotating the pot. Keep the shape symmetrical!

DO NOT use both hands to open the pot.
The sides of your pot will **NOT** be symmetrical!



The opening of the pot will begin to get wider and the walls will get thinner. Rotate the pot as you work. Smooth cracks with your fingertips.



Don't make the top edge too thin!



One completed pinch pot.



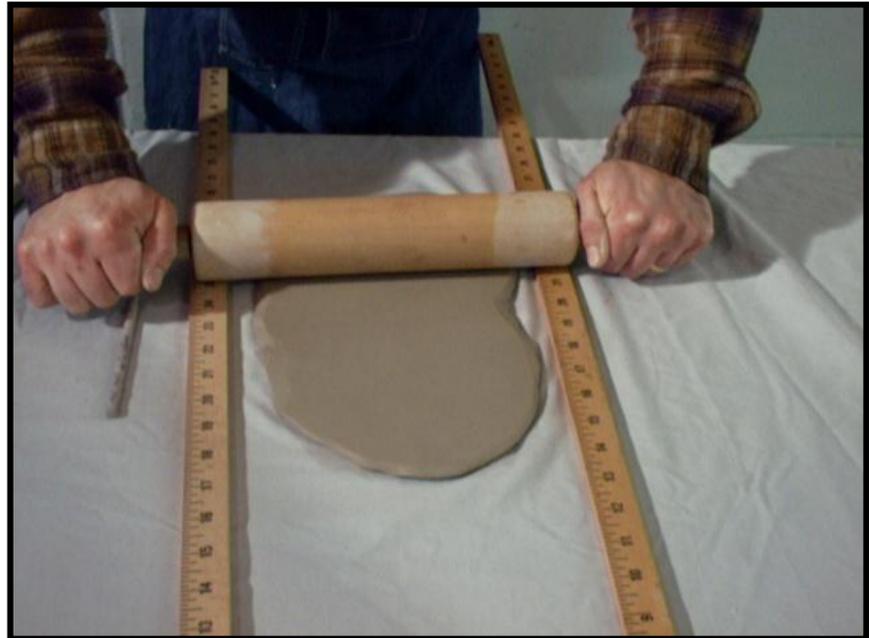
Make a second pinch pot
the exact same size.

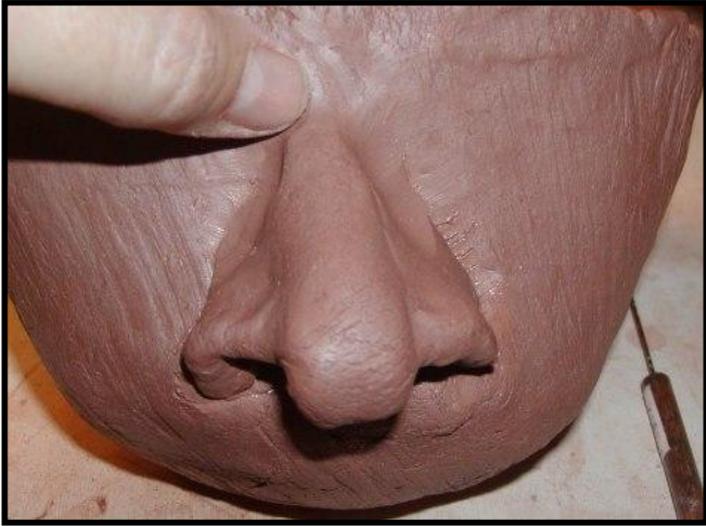
SCORE, SLIP and **BLEND**
the two pots together.





Cut a circle opening in the vessel. Use a **COIL** or **SLAB** to create a “neck”.





Sculpt the face using **MODELING** techniques. Begin with the nose!



Create an expression as you sculpt your face vessel.



Student
Work