

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

San Francisco, CA, November 7, 2008: Liz Worthy announces her upcoming oil-themed ceramics show: *Light Sweet Crude*

Liz Worthy  
*Light Sweet Crude*

November 21-December 1, 2008  
Opening reception November 22, 6-9pm

Contact:  
Ruby's Clay Studio (415) 558-9819

Media Contact:  
Liz Worthy (415) 602-9409

This summer the price of oil soared to record highs, peaking at \$147 a barrel on July 11<sup>th</sup>. In turn, food prices increased and the consumption of oil dropped. People's conversations returned to the real possibilities of alternative sources of energy. Liz Worthy's upcoming ceramics show, *Light Sweet Crude*, reflects on these responses to the rising price of oil and celebrates Obama's energy plan, which includes eliminating current imports from the Middle East and Venezuela within 10 years.

Worthy, who has never owned a car and treks to the studio on foot, thinks it's fitting to talk about oil on the surface of clay. Clay, after all is another product mined from the earth. Relative to many other art forms, ceramics requires a great deal of energy. Ingredients in the porcelain clay that Worthy works with arrive from three different countries (England, Canada, and Mexico) and three different states (Illinois, South Dakota, and Georgia) before being mixed together in Richmond, California at East Bay Clay—not far from Chevron's oil refinery. Her work is fired as many as three different times in a gas kiln, reaching temperatures of up to 2,300 degrees Fahrenheit.

On display in their ceramics semblances:

- a life-sized porcelain oil barrel
- a fleet of matchbox Priuses
- other oil paraphernalia such as oil cans, funnels, and a gas can

Worthy glazes her delicate, whimsical pieces in a light blue celadon glaze before decorating them with rich dark brown designs and bright splashes of primary colors.

Liz Worthy encourages you to come test drive a matchbox sized Prius. Extra credit provided to those who arrive via public transit, bicycle, or their own two feet.

Liz Worthy has shown her work locally as well as in China. She has been studying ceramics for over 8 years.

*Light Sweet Crude* runs November 21-December 1, 2008. An opening reception with the artist will take place on Saturday, November 22, 6-9pm. The generous O Olive Oil and Casa de Case will be doing an olive oil tasting with bread from the equally generous Urban Bread. Ruby's Clay Studio is located at 552A Noe Street in the Castro between

18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Streets. Ruby's is a non-profit studio space for clay artists and has a small gallery space where local artists display their works in clay. Hours are 10am-7pm, 7 days a week.

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