



Moon Jar

inspires me and fills me with awe.



It is a big glazed sphere that evokes images of the full moon.

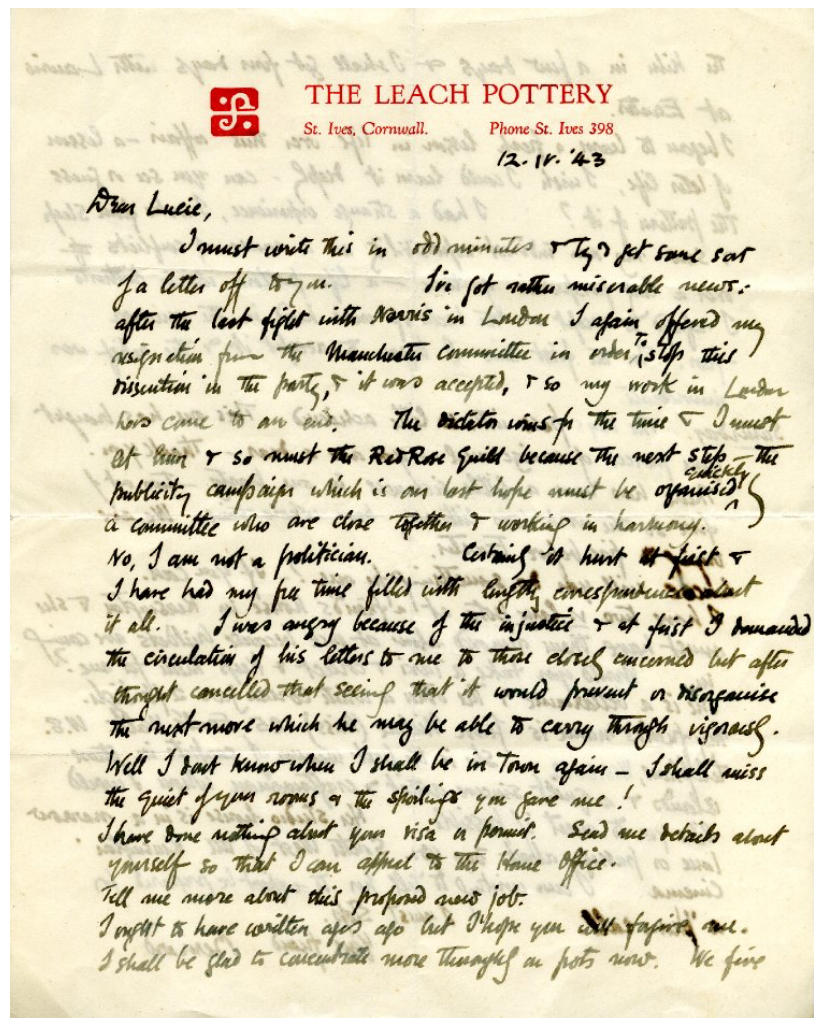
It's creation and its history are documented in its outcome.

This particular jar is 47 Cm in height¹

A relatively large moon jar.

¹ 'British Museum Moon Jar Archives', *Yale University Press London Blog*
<<https://yalebooksblog.co.uk/tag/british-museum-moon-jar/>> [accessed 7 October 2019].

-purchased in 1883, by British studio potter Bernard Leach.



-During WWII he passed it, ³ to Lucie Rie his friend and fellow potter.

She took care of it until her death.

² 'British Museum - Moon Jar'

<https://www.britishmuseum.org/research/collection_online/collection_object_details.aspx?objectId=1333756&partId=1> [accessed 7 October 2019].

³ 'Story of a Jar - Things of Beauty Growing: British Studio Pottery', Yale University Press London Blog, 2018 <<https://yalebooksblog.co.uk/2018/03/19/the-moon-jars-story/>> [accessed 7 October 2019].

-Now on display in the British museum.⁴

Thought to be one of 20 moon jars from the Joseon Dynasty (1392-1910) that survive.⁵

Its origins

The Moon Jar rose to Popularity in the 17th and 18th centuries, it shows a Joseon aesthetic sensibility that appreciated naturalism and spontaneity over rigid perfection⁶

The process of its creation is integral
it has four basic stages:

forming,

biscuit firing,

⁴ 'British Museum Moon Jar Archives'.

⁵ 'Story of a Jar - Things of Beauty Growing: British Studio Pottery', *Yale University Press London Blog*, 2018 <<https://yalebooksblog.co.uk/2018/03/19/the-moon-jars-story/>> [accessed 7 October 2019].

⁶ Haely (Haeyoon) Chang, 'Korea's Moon Jars—Transported, Transfigured, and Reinterpreted', *Bulletin of the Detroit Institute of Arts*, 92.1–4 (2018), 36–49 <<https://doi.org/10.1086/701457>>.

glaze and
glaze firing.

In the first stage, using a press and pull technique the clay becomes soft and easy to sculpt.

Mixing the perfect quantity of water with the clay to helps the artisan to sculpt two hemispheres Which are then joined. This pot clearly shows this join.

When the two parts became one, the artisan has to clean and correct the imperfections of the surfaces.

It is in this battle against this imperfection, that it loses its original "perfect" shape.

It is from its imperfections and the process; its beauty is born.

⁷



⁷ 'the moon jars, the art of the imperfection', *Dezainaa*
<<https://dezainaa.com/blog/2018/7/22/reflexions-of-the-moon>> [accessed 7 October 2019].



The base is smaller than the top.

An illusion of moon like floating is created.

During firing the pot shrinks and sags

A white glaze is applied over the surface of the jar, the clarity of the glaze allows the marks made to shine though.