

## **Marianne Luther**

By current American standards, Marianne Luther was a deprived child. She grew up in postwar Germany with very few toys but in inspiring surroundings. The lack of material objects and the easy access to natural substances, such as clay, helped shape her value system and furthered her artistic inclination. From creating her own clay marbles as a child, Ms. Luther graduated to hand-building and eventually to throwing pots on the wheel as an adult in the United States. At times, she combines the two techniques to create both functional and ornamental ceramic pieces.

Since the early days of affiliation with the fine arts program of the College of the Mainland in Texas City, Texas, she has developed a distinctive style, influenced by Japanese and Bauhaus design elements. Her thin-walled, usually geometric and matte-finished work has been displayed and judged in art exhibits at the College of the Mainland, the University of Houston - Clear Lake, and The Arts Alliance Center at Clear Lake.

Ms. Luther has been pleased by the positive reception of her work and intends to continue looking to nature as her role model and source of inspiration. Nothing pleases her more than creating striking forms through the merging of earth and fire.