



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Announcing the Honorees of the 2016 American Craft Council Rare Craft Fellowship Awards in Association with The Balvenie



Left to right: finalist David MacDonald, juror Anthony Bourdain, juror Perry Price, finalist Erik Noren, Fellow Erik Demaine, finalist Stephen D. Bradway, finalist Teri Greeves, and ACC executive director Chris Amundsen. Not pictured: Fellow Martin Demaine and juror David Stewart; Photo: Courtesy of Magrino

Minneapolis, MN (April 5, 2016) - The American Craft Council is pleased to announce the honorees of the 2016 American Craft Council Rare Craft Fellowship Awards in association with The Balvenie.

In a presentation hosted by The Balvenie at Eleven Madison Park in New York City on April 4, the 2016 American Craft Council Rare Craft Fellowship Award was presented to Martin and Erik Demaine, who are paper folders from Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Four finalists for the award were also honored at the celebration: coppersmith Stephen D. Bradway (Rio Grande, NJ), beadworker Teri Greeves (Santa Fe, NM), ceramist David MacDonald (Syracuse, NY), and bicycle builder Erik Noren (Minneapolis, MN).

Jurors for the 2016 award were author and television producer Anthony Bourdain (lead juror), The Balvenie's distinguished malt master, David Stewart, and ACC's former director of education Perry Price.

The American Craft Council Rare Craft Fellowship Awards in association with The Balvenie are presented in recognition and support of contributions to the maintenance and revival of traditional or rare crafts in America. The Balvenie is honored to support this distinguished award, which represents a continuation of the great work achieved by the American Craft Council.

Since 1970, the American Craft Council has given awards for significant contributions to the field of craft. The biennial ACC Awards include the prestigious College of Fellows, presented to artists and individuals nominated and elected by their peers who have demonstrated extraordinary artistic ability; the Aileen Osborn Webb Award for Philanthropy in recognition of support of the field; the Award of Distinction in recognition of an organization, institution, or individual who has made significant contributions to the field over a minimum of 25 years of service, and the Gold Medal for Consummate Craftsmanship, the highest recognition given by the Council, honoring the humanistic and philosophical values exemplified in the career of a previously elected Fellow. The ACC is also proud to biennially present the American Craft Council Emerging Voices Awards in recognition and support of the next generation of makers and thinkers in the field of contemporary craft, recognizing one Emerging Artist and four shortlisted artists and one Emerging Scholar and made possible by the generous support of the John & Robyn Horn Foundation and Mohawk Fine Papers.

2016 AMERICAN CRAFT COUNCIL RARE CRAFT FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

FELLOWSHIP

Martin and Erik Demaine, paper folders (Cambridge, MA)

FINALISTS

Stephen D. Bradway, coppersmith (Rio Grande, NJ)

Teri Greeves, beadworker (Santa Fe, NM)

David MacDonald, ceramist (Syracuse, NY)

Erik Noren, bicycle builder (Minneapolis, MN)

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About the American Craft Council and The Rare Craft Fellowship Awards

No one understands the world of artful living better than the American Craft Council. The national, nonprofit educational organization has been shaping the craft movement for decades, serving as a craft chronicler, tastemaker, convener, and provocateur through its bimonthly magazine American Craft, annual juried shows presenting artists and their work, thought leadership conferences, awards for excellence, research library, workshops, and seminars. For further information visit craftcouncil.org

The American Craft Council Rare Craft Fellowship Awards in association with The Balvenie recognize one winner and four finalists who are awarded annually in recognition and support of contributions to the maintenance and revival of traditional or rare crafts in America. The American Craft Council solicits nominations for the fellowship from an anonymous body of artists, scholars, educators, critics, curators, and collectors. Since 2013, The Balvenie has awarded nearly \$100,000 to Fellowship nominees for the continuation of their crafts. Past Fellows include hat maker Graham Thompson (2013), boat builder Douglas Brooks (2014), and bladesmith Bob Kramer (2015).

About The Balvenie

The Balvenie is a unique range of single malts created by David Stewart, The Balvenie malt master, who celebrated his 50th year at the distillery in 2012. Each has a very individual taste, but each is rich, luxuriously smooth and underpinned by the distinctively honeyed character of The Balvenie. The Balvenie is dedicated to the five rare crafts that are used to create The Balvenie's distinctive taste. It is the only distillery that still grows its own barley, uses traditional floor maltings and keeps both coppersmiths and coopers on site - making The Balvenie the most handcrafted of malts. The Balvenie single malt Scotch whisky is produced by William Grant & Sons Ltd., an award-winning independent family-owned distiller founded by William Grant in 1886 and today run by his direct descendants. For more information visit thebalvenie.com.

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