"Voices: Contemporary Ceramic Art from Sweden," an exhibition showcasing the work of 10 of Sweden's leading ceramic artists, will open Nov. 19 at the Slidell Cultural Center gallery at City Hall.

An opening reception with artists Mårten Medbo and Per Sundberg will be held Nov. 19 from 7 to 9 p.m. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. The exhibit will remain on display through Dec. 17. Admission is free.

The 10 artists featured in Voices are the leading exponents of the contemporary ceramic art in Sweden, creating work that redefines ceramics as an art form.

The artists, chosen by curator Inger Molin who has owned and operated Galleri IungerMolin in Stockholm since 1998, represent several different generations. Subsequently, each possesses a vastly different style and point of view, creating an exhibition that reflects not only change, but the diversity of Swedish ceramics created today.

From the white color and smooth, clean lines used by artists AnnaSofia Mååg and Kennet Williamsson, which echo characteristics of the traditional Swedish Grace style, to Frida Fjellman and Marten Medbo, whose work departs from tradition with color-saturated volcanoes and indefinable creatures, the artists use a wide array of media to create dynamic works.

The Slidell exhibit marks the final show of the exhibit's U.S. tour, which has included Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, Mont.; Dubuque Museum, Iowa; the Trout Gallery of Art at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Penn.; the Handwerker Gallery at Ithaca College, New York; Cedarhurst Center for the Arts, Mt. Vernon, Ill.; and Hillstrom Museum of Art at Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, Minn.

Voices: Contemporary Ceramic Art from Sweden was developed by the Swedish Institute and organized for tour by International Arts & Artists, Washington, D.C.

This Louisiana Cultural District and Main Street event is made possible by the city of Slidell's Department of Cultural and Public Affairs, its Commission on the Arts, and the city's 2010--11 cultural season sponsors.

The event is supported by a grant from the Louisiana Division of the Arts, Office of Cultural Development, Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism in cooperation with the Louisiana State Arts Council as administered by the St. Tammany Commission on Cultural Affairs.
The Swedish Institute is a public agency that promotes interest in Sweden abroad. The International Arts & Artists in Washington, D.C., is a nonprofit arts service organization dedicated to increasing cross-cultural understanding and exposure to the arts internationally, through exhibitions, programs and services to artists, arts institutions and the public.

For information, call the city of Slidell's Department of Cultural & Public Affairs at 985.646.4375 or visit the city's website at www.slidell.la.us.

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