

2026 PROGRAM

Festival of Fire & Clay

15 - 21 June 2026 | 10am - 4pm Daily

FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

A seven-day national gathering celebrating ceramic practice across multiple firing ranges. Set within Montsalvat's 92 year-old historic artists' community.

Featuring: firings, workshops, demonstrations, talks, exhibitions, and public engagement

DAILY PROGRAM STRUCTURE

Morning: Kiln firings, demonstrations, artist talks

Afternoon: Masterclasses, Discussion Panels, kiln firings

Evening: Site closed (except scheduled overnight firings)

Monday 15 June

10am: Registration & Welcome in The Barn Gallery

10am: Delegates Show set-up in The Wood Workshop

10-11am: ALCHEMY bump-in in The Residents Gallery with Anna Maas

11am: Welcome & Opening - CEO Matt Jones, Kevin White, Sergei Shatrov

1pm: Guest Artist Presentation (Upper Gallery)
Drawing in Clay: Story, Surface & the Human Hand - George McCauley
Introduced by Dr. Owen Rye

3-4pm: A Montsalvat Tour - an introduction, a story and tour around Montsalvat for attendees.

6pm: Montsalvat site officially closed

All Day: Anagama firing with Aaron Scythe, Ephemeral Kilns with Yuri Wiedenhofer

Tuesday 16 June

10am–4pm: Demonstration Workshops in The Barn Gallery - Dr Sandy Lockwood | Ted Secombe | George McCauley | Minna Graham | Greg Daly

11am: Guest Artist Presentation in The Upper Gallery
Finding your voice in a world full of shouting - Sue Acheson introduced by Kevin White

2:00pm: Panel in The Great Hall - "*Why Wood Firing Still Matters in a Digital Age*"
Dr Owen Rye, Dr Sandy Lockwood, Sue Acheson & Aaron Scythe introduced by Morag Fraser

6pm: Montsalvat site officially closed

All Day: ALCHEMY Exhibition,
The Delegates Show
Anagama firing finish
Ephemeral Kilns with Yuri

Wednesday 17 June

10am–4pm: Demonstration Workshops in The Barn Gallery - Ted Secombe | George McCauley | Dr. Sandy Lockwood | Minna Graham | Sue Acheson | Greg Daly

11am: Guest Artist Presentation in The Upper Gallery
A Life in Atmosphere: Learning Through Fire by Dr Sandy Lockwood, introduced by Sergei Shatrov

2pm: Guest Artist Presentation in The Upper Gallery
Shaped by Place: Landscape, Clay & Form with Minna Graham, introduced by Wendy Hargreaves

6pm: Montsalvat site officially closed

All Day: Salt firing,
ALCHEMY exhibition,
The Delegates Show
Ephemeral Kilns with Yuri

Thursday 18 June

10am–4pm: Demonstration Workshops - Aaron Scythe | George McCauley | Jeff Mincham | Minna Graham | John Daly

11am: The Future of Clay: Materials, Technology & Sustainability with David Walker CEO of Walker Ceramics, Dr Sandy Lockwood, Dr Owen Rye & Greg Daly chaired by Kevin White

2pm: Panel in The Great Hall
Voices in Clay: Practice, Process & Presence with Minna Graham, Sue Acheson & Deborah Halpern chaired by Gabie Mello

6pm: Montsalvat site officially closed

All Day: Salt firing (Dr Sandy Lockwood & Sue Acheson)
ALCHEMY exhibitions
The Delegates Show
Ephemeral Kilns with Yuri

Friday 19 June

10am–4pm: Demonstration Workshops in The Barn Gallery - David Pottinger (White Cottage) | Jeff Mincham | Kevin White | Deborah Halpern

11am: Guest Artist Presentation in The Upper Gallery
Lineage in Clay: From Koie and Goro to Now with Aaron Scythe introduced by Sergei Shatrov

6–8pm: ALCHEMY Exhibition Opening

8pm - Montsalvat site closed

All Day: ALCHEMY exhibitions
The Delegates Show
Finish Salt Firing
Ephemeral Kilns with Yuri

Saturday 20 June

10am–4pm: Demonstration Workshops - Susan Robey (White Cottage) | George McCauley | Kevin White | Deborah Halpern

11am-11am: Guest Artist Presentation (Upper Gallery)
Clay, Colour & Cubism - by Deborah Halpern
introduced by Gabie Mello

1pm: Panel in the Great Hall
Teaching Fire & Building Kiln Communities with Dr Owen Rye, Dr Sandy Lockwood, Jack Lätti & George McCauley
chaired by Sergei Shatrov

3–6pm: Hikedashi Raku Firing at Clay Talk with Aaron Scythe

6pm: Montsalvat site officially closed

All Day: ALCHEMY exhibition
The Delegates Show
The Roman Kiln
Ephemeral Kilns with Yuri

Sunday 21 June

11am: Kiln Openings (Anagama, Salt, Roman)

2–3pm: Closing Gathering & Thank you in The Barn Gallery
Dr Owen Rye, Dr Sandy Lockwood, Anna Maas, George McCauley, David Walker with Morag Fraser, Kevin White & Sergei Shatrov

4–6pm: ALCHEMY Exhibition bump-out | The Delegates Show bump-out

6pm: Festival close

EXHIBITIONS

Guest Artist Exhibition
Residents Gallery — All Week

Delegates Exhibition & Sales
Woodworkshop — Friday to Sunday

VENUE

Montsalvat
7 Hillcrest Avenue, Eltham
VIC 3095
montsalvat.com.au
(03) 9439 7712

FIRING SUBMISSION OPTIONS FOR ANAGAMA & SALT

Each ticket holder may submit one bisque-fired stoneware piece for the Anagama firing and/or one for the Salt firing

All submissions must be delivered by Friday 5 June 2026

Address: 7 Hillcrest Ave, Eltham VIC 3095

LABELING

Anagama — “Clay Talk – Anagama Firing”

Salt — “Clay Talk – Salt Firing”

SIZE & PACKING REQUIREMENTS

- All works must fit within a standard shoe box
- One shoe box per ticket holder
- Oversized works will not be accepted
- Sender accepts the risks associated sending bisque ware in the post. Please package carefully.

ENQUIRIES

fireandclay@montsalvat.com.au