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**Wood, Beatrice (1893-1998) Word Count: 228**

An American potter known for luster-glaze chalices and whimsical ceramic figures, Beatrice Wood was once named the “Mama of Dada.” Born into a wealthy family in San Francisco, California on 3 March 1893, raised in New York City, and a student at the Académie Julian in Paris, Wood rebelled at her traditional upbringing by 1912. Seeking a more bohemian life, she joined avant-garde art circles, became friends with Marcel Duchamp and Henri-Pierre Roché, and was influential in the New York Dada movement. During the 1930s, her early successes in ceramics provided independent income and by 1948 she settled in Ojai, California, moving there to continue her interest in Theosophy. She established a studio developing embedded luster glazes with radiant colors and continued in this work for over thirty years. Wood was recognised as a “California Living Treasure” by her native state, named an “Esteemed American Artist” by the Smithsonian Institution, and was inspiration in part for the character “Rose” in the 1997 film *Titanic*. She died on March 12, 1998 at the age of 105.

**References and further reading**

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