## MARLENE MILLER

## THE GENESIS OF CERAMIC SCULPTURE SERIES "BLOOD AND IRON"

"During a recent visit to the Prado Museum, I was particularly inspired by the work of Diego Velasquez and Francisco Goya. Seeing their work as though for the first time, I became more acutely aware of how both artists used color and a layered painterly technique to draw and hold the attention of the viewer, while exploring complex and paradoxically veiled and overt displays of the human psyche. My visit led me to explore a richer color palette, themes and costume associated with war, religion, and royalty; and to examine further the relationship between power and vulnerability, wonder and horror, the tragic and comic, the holy and corrupt."