

JoAnn F. Axford

My pots contain my response to the natural world. Seduced by the beauty, forms, structures and textures of plants, I am inspired to carve this imagery onto my porcelain pots. Studies in botanical illustration have encouraged my close study of their fine details as I document the plants to preserve these fragile specimens. I polish the unglazed clay surface to encourage touch. Through this botanical lens my porcelain pots carved with flowers can bring themes in the plant world, Invasiveness, Endangerment, Rootedness, and Beauty, into our domestic settings. The beautiful Agapanthus flower has proven to be Invasive in New Zealand, threatening native plants. My "Rooted" series draws attention to the root systems that nourish and support plants, just as our support systems encourage us to thrive. As objects of contemplation, my intimate gardens will celebrate the beauty and strength of nature and encourage its preservation.