

Gary Hatcher

I am interested in the perpetual journey that working with clay provides. Historically the question of why an object is declared beautiful is contingent on the cultural definition of beauty. Why in some cultural-historic periods are simple pots recognized as ART and in others the same simple pot considered in the diminutive? Making clay vessels for me is more than selection of clay, glaze and firing. For me working with clay is a philosophical journey comprising many considerations beyond materials.

Current work addresses symmetry of form and the random trailing of many glaze colors on those symmetrical pieces. I am interested in creating a tension between that symmetry and randomness. Most works are glazed and fired in a bourry box wood fired kiln. Wood firing provides a subtle interaction with light wood ash from the burning wood which accumulates on glazed ceramic surfaces accentuating form.