

## **Taylor Sijan**

### *Artist Statement*

Beauty provides pleasurable emotions which can overwhelm, give us pause, and cause us to focus our attention. It gives one's life deeper meaning and compels us to love and cherish that which we find beautiful. I believe it is necessary, not frivolous, to seek beautiful experiences and surround ourselves with objects which evoke such sentiments.

I craft functional pottery that is richly decorated with layers of botanical imagery. While working within the parameters of functional vessels, I explore the possibilities for expressing and evoking beauty through altered porcelain forms and lush surfaces.

To encourage interaction with these precious objects, I have developed strategies to inspire curiosity about how it was crafted to beckon the viewer in closer to investigate. The techniques I use to construct vessels include throwing, altering, and handbuilding to build forms that are adorned with dynamic, asymmetrical surfaces. The compositions on each pot feature abstracted plants in service to creating movement around the piece by weaving painted, slip trailed, or stamped motifs around the surface. These complex layers create visual and tactile depth to encourage a person's eyes and hands to move around the form, into the interior, and underneath.