

I have always been attracted to handmade objects intended for daily use. They are reflections and often celebrations of how we live, what we need and enjoy using to make ourselves comfortable. Whether it is a wooden spoon, a particular bowl, or a textile, these objects define and enliven our routines. In my studio, the challenge, objective and adventure are to make spirited and beautiful pieces for daily use.

I make pots to be poured or served from, mixed in, baked in, used for holding flowers, containing, and drinking, whether it's a cup of coffee or a glass of wine. They are designed to be visually compelling and tactilely engaging. The weight, balance, and volume of each pot, the foot and rim that frame it and how the surface coordinates with each form are the elements that create a dialogue with user. I like to imagine how each piece will be held, what it will contain, and where in someone's home it might live.

Typically, I make multiples of a form creating rows of pots, with variation afforded by altering and surface treatment later in their development. I throw forms that are cut apart and reconstructed or reshaped so that the seams and separate sections allow me to juxtapose surface patterns in the greenware state and during glazing. The distant contour of a mountain ridge might inform the rim of a pot, while the striping of agricultural fields, or the block and circular patterns seen from the sky while flying might feed the composition of the surface. The patterning is often inspired by the gesture of growing plants, the garden, or landscape. Leaves and their shadows reflected on walkways, negative space between stems of plants, the posture of individual trees, and the spaces within them, the transition of branches to leaves and fruit or flowers all find their way into my work through form and surface development.

Each group of pots that contribute to a kiln load create their own studio landscape and every kiln load is like a journal entry recording a block of time through objects. It is not unlike gardening where we track seasons with physical evidence.