

Martina Lantin



Artist's Statement

Historically the potter was keenly aware of the required uses of the pots he produced. They were created out of a necessity; whether ritualistic or domestic. Decoration and surface texture allowed craftsmen to distinguish themselves and their culture from one another.

I produce limited edition runs inspired by the development of ideas. My dynamic concepts of shape, decoration and finish all contribute to my personal aesthetic: a unique conjunction of tradition and innovation.

The elements of surface and form reflect the many influences throughout my development as a potter. English Medieval practicality and bold Scandinavian design serve as my inspiration and further my commitment to functionalism.

I have expanded my technical throwing abilities creating strong innovative work; altering thrown shapes while maintaining their function. Working on the wheel offers each piece a distinct difference from the next, no matter how similarly thrown. It is this difference that I feel gives a group of work its personality.

This personality is further accentuated by the interaction of flame and fly-ash in the wood-firing process. While I remain entranced by the unpredictable nature of wood firing, the functional nature of my work leads me to seek out a more controlled surface finish. I returned to working in earthenware with a view to developing a range of functional work characterized by simple forms embellished with naïve decoration

During my time at Baltimore Clayworks I plan to develop a distinctive tableware range combining the bright surfaces of earthenware with the textured finish of wood and soda firing.