

JoAnn Kandel



ARTIST STATEMENT

I have been an artist all my life; however, it was not until 1996 that I began working in clay. When I first touched clay, I immediately fell in love with the material. The way clay responds on a potter's wheel is magical, and I quickly became determined to master the technique of throwing pots. What keeps me interested are the endless possibilities of experimentation. There are so many types of clay materials and glazes with which to experiment. Through trial and error, I have developed my own unique technique of etching and glazing, which allows me to create functional pottery with surface dimension and intricate imagery.

Through the study of horticulture, I learned to appreciate beauty in nature. Horticulture trained my eyes to see the fine details in simple things. Studying chemistry enabled me to understand the mystery of the gas kiln and its impact on glazes. My children continually inspire and delight me. Like their drawings and paintings, some of my images are both whimsical and childlike.

All of the beauty and magic in nature (including birds, bugs, frogs, dragonflies, fish, rabbits, and other living things) are a source of inspiration to me. My work includes these images, which are constantly evolving, just like the life forms depicted. All of my pieces are unique works of art, which I hope will touch the human spirit.