

Margaret Bray

Art is a lifelong love, but basically, I just love to make things! I have expressed my creativity in many mediums; photography, print, paint, fabric, wood, sculpture and clay and most recently, glass, but, focus is primarily on clay.

Clay is a natural and earthy element – one I can readily relate to and work with in many ways. I make functional and sculptural work. I am inspired by nature, nurture, and pattern, leading to all manner of clay building, by wheel, hand or mold – followed by surface treatments of sgraffito, drawing and handmade glazes. I use a range of firing methods; electric, gas and Wood fired – completing my own wood kiln build in 2013.

I am passionate about our world and especially our country - New Zealand; it's history, the amazing plants, and animals that I share this beautiful land and seaside with, and my wonderful family. Creating ergonomic, functional and sculptural objects with clay enables a feeling of working with the earthy and natural elements to which I relate and belong. I strive for sustainability and low impact on the environment.

Diploma of Ceramic Level 7 – Graduated 2013

Key Skills

Clay work; Throwing, Hand-building, Mold-making, Slip-casting.

Glazing; mixing, application and firing.

Firing; Electric, Gas and Woodfiring.

Education

Level 7 Ceramic Art – Otago Polytechnic (through Auckland Studio Potters) Graduated 2013.

Diploma in Ceramic Art – Otago Polytechnic Level 5 and 6. Graduated 2012.

Auckland Technical Institute - Semi Advanced Photography 1989

Other Experience;

Career in Photographic printing 1989 – 1999. Freelance photography 1989 – current.

Volunteer Pottery Section Manager – Franklin Arts Festival 2010, 2011, 2012.

Volunteer art/craft teaching in primary schools.

Exhibitions

ASP 'Fire and Clay' (Pah Homestead) 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015.

Body of Clay Ceramic Exhibiton (Pukekohe); 2012.(Orewa) 2015

Big Clay Day Out Diploma Show (Auckland); 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015.

ASP Functional Exhibit 'Rethinking the Vessel' 2015

Art in Action Exhibition 2015

Claybenders – Depot Gallery Devonport 2014, 2015

Glassy Classics – Cast glass exhibition, Pollok art gallery 2014

Ponga and Pine, Solo exhibition 2013

Waiau Pa Art Festival Guest Artist 2013.

Matchbox Show, Raglan 2013

ASP; Domesticware exhibition (Mt Eden) 2012

Great Expectations Ceramic Exhibition (Orewa); 2011, 2012, 2013.

Corellis Exhibitions (Devonport); T-pots 2012, 2014, Goblets 2013.

Other achievements;

Correllis Teapot Exhibition 2014 – First Prize.

Franklin Arts Festival – First Prize Shoebox Sculpture 2012

Franklin Arts Festival – First Prize Functional Pottery 2010, and, First Prize Slip-casting 2010

Royal Easter Show 2010 – First Prize (reflections of New Zealand)

ASP= Auckland Studio Potters