

## Virtual Studio Visit – Ceramics II

- You should begin by reflecting on each individual artist in writing your reflection. What stands out to you about each one? (Q1-3)
- Then consider: What are your takeaways as an artist working with ceramics after watching these clips? (Q4)
- Now take a step back and reflect: What are your takeaways as an artist in general after watching these clips? (Q5)

1. The first video I watched was of Annette Welch. As I was watching the video I noticed she had a very sensitive and intuitive way of working with the clay. She would create her own types of clay and use them for different types of processes. What stood out to me about Welch was her “slip mono-printing” which was essentially coating slip on a piece of cloth, putting the cloth slip side down on the clay body and rolling a textured roller on top of it to create designs on the surface of the clay body.
2. Watched the video of Katharina Klug. She struck me as a very caring artist, taking a lot of time on each piece to make sure that it could stand on its own. She works mainly with porcelain, which she says can be quite difficult to do on the wheel. She also tries to use as little water as possible to help the clay body be as sturdy as possible. What stood out to me about Klug was her molds that she made that were essentially black crayons that can be used on clay. She would draw lines on the vessels with these “crayons” and the lines would usually fully cover the surface of the clay body.
3. The last video I watched was of Susan Nemeth. Nemeth was very interesting because she was the first hand builder of the three artists I looked at. She was also working with porcelain but she was not using porcelain in its perfect and traditional way, but rather hand building it to look purposely precarious and awkward. One thing that stood out to me about Nemeth was that she was trying to make her pieces look very human. She did that by making the surface of her vessels look almost like they have the texture of skin. Nemeth said she wanted to have a sort of vulnerability to her pieces so that people would see that they are not perfect and humans are not perfect.
4. As an artist working with ceramics, my takeaway is that no matter how you decide to manipulate your clay bodies, you need to handle them with care and sensitivity. Each of these three women were extremely careful and considerate of what would work for different types of clay and how each type of clay should be regarded. These artists have shown me that a gentle hand goes a long way.
5. As an artist in general, my takeaway from these videos is that you need to have an intimate relationship and knowledge of the materials you are working with. This will allow you to make decisions that will work in harmony with the medium you are using. Prints will need to be handled differently than paints, and paints will need to be handled differently than digital, and that is ok.