

Marie's Story

Marie Blazek is a clay artist working with an eclectic mix of traditional pottery and bright images of deities, natural images such as ravens and owls, and nostalgic images such as Airstreams, jukeboxes, and kitty cats. Her work is both decorative and practical.

Marie has worked and studied with several great potters. After her initial training at the University of Texas, she studied with Gary Huntoon at the Blanton School in Houston. After a stint in Oakland, California, where she worked under the guidance of Marguerite Wildenheim, she helped set up the ceramic studio at the Peaceable Kingdom School, in Navasota, Texas, working with Potter/Sculpture Richard Cabral of Saint Thomas University in Houston. During that time, she worked under a National Endowment of the Arts grant at the Star of the Republic Museum in Washington-on-the-Brazos, Texas. After an apprenticeship with Ishmael Soto in Blue, Texas, she set up her first studio in Austin. Subsequently she settled in nearby Bastrop, Texas, where she operated a studio gallery on Main Street for seventeen years, selling other artists' work and participating in various community art events. More recently she established a studio in Marfa, Texas, but now spends most of her creative hours back in Bastrop at her studio there.

Artist Statement

My current work is mid-fired stoneware produced in my Bastrop studio. Although I still make good pots, I now include various images and shapes. These graphic constraints have changed my techniques significantly, including carving and high-relief figures, as well as graphic representations such as screen-printing, decals, stencils, and resists. These processes are really challenging, making my work even more interesting.

I am also drawn to images with personal symbolism, e.g. wings which donnote flight and also, Airstreams which bring nostalgia. In some ways, the actual content of the pieces is less important than the fact that one can own a work of art that represents the past and the present and that will live into the future. And you can use it frequently and variously!!

To know that my work has a positive influence and brings joy to others is important.