

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Bill Kremer

My current work in ceramic art can be described as sculptural painted vessels. Plastic clay is the motivating stimulus, allowing shapes to be freely formed and altered. Fluid colored slips, thick paste, and ridged slabs offer a wide spectrum of surface and form.

This direction of work is supported by more than thirty years of experience pursuing directions of non-objective mixed media sculpture and traditional pottery. My current work combines both directions into a large ceramic sculptural vessel format.

The sculptural vessel functions as a vehicle that is conducive for painting and applied surface, rather than for functional containment. The vessel forms are derived from drawings that are transposed into castings. The process creates a format composed of form defining line and dimensional planar surfaces. Painted linear gestural brush strokes and a color ground of slip are painted onto the vessel forms using a wet-on-wet / push-pull painting method. The finished vessels are fired in a large anagama wood firing kiln, which gives a dimensional directional texture and color created by the wood fire flame.

The finished work evokes a feeling of movement and implied compositional change. A harmonic contrast is realized through the juxtaposition between the structural form and the linear painted brush marks. For me, the best work evokes an emotional vitality and reveals new possibilities for greater experience.