

Mark Epstein

I'm the type of person that gets bored easily. I'm in constant search for the balance we need to live these lives. I have been playing in clay for over 45 years and have not gotten tired of the quest. What I love about the material most is that it's the great imitator, it allows you to express your greatest feelings and emotions, mimic, emulate or even mock the tactile surfaces that we are exposed to on a daily basis. That's why I love working with the soft textured slabs of clay. It allows me an opportunity to exploit the plasticity so inherent to the material. I enjoy the play between the textures and the rich colors in the layering of the high fire glazes.

I work in groups or series of pieces. This allows me the opportunity to work through variations in proportion, and focus on dynamics of form. Each series of work is the research for the next body of work.

There are no identical pieces; each has its own unique identity. Like a family, the groups have similarities in feature, but retain their own independence. I use function as a starting point, but aesthetics will win out over functionality every time.

As I review my work I find it a quiet reflection of inner self. It is a reminder that the work reflects my mental evolution, displaying the environment mixed with the humor and excitement we crave.