

Kat Habib is a ceramics artist whose technique focuses on hand building and sculpture. Working from her Blue Ridge Mountain home at the foot of the Shenandoah National Park, Kat draws her inspiration from nature, a background in art conservation, and the unique “personalities” of various clay bodies. All of her work is made with stoneware clay using hand building methods of coils or slabs-- nothing is thrown on the pottery wheel. Kat is currently utilizing two different firing methods in her work, wood and gas reduction, continually seeking a perfect marriage of surface and form for her vessels. Wood firing is her preferred method as the duration of each firing (~60 hours) allows for natural glazing through deep crystalline development on the clay surface with ash build up; the fire and ash seeming to be collaborators in creating the final pieces. She finds beauty in the asymmetry and variations of the wood fired surfaces and hand built forms.

Kat received a BFA from the Corcoran College of Art + Design in Washington, D.C. Additionally, she studied art conservation during semesters in Florence, Italy, and at the National Gallery of Art in D.C. After managing the ceramics studio at the Corcoran for several years, Kat has made Sperryville her home since 2013.

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