

Joseph Pintz

Artist Statement

We live in a culture that is always on the go. Our obsession with time and speed is one of the defining qualities of our era. Paradigms shift over the course of a year, cultural fashions change overnight, email is instant. The truism "time flies" seems truer every day. Handmade pottery forces the user to slow down and pay closer attention to the meal, the moment, and the company around the table. This dialogue reinforces the value of aesthetic experience over efficiency.

I grew up in a family where food played a key role. Nearly every meal was eaten together at home around the dinner table, featuring fresh vegetables we had grown in our garden or those we had canned. The physicality of the time-consuming process of making homemade food taught me the values of working with your hands and being self-sufficient.

Sharing food with others and making the time to eat well are ideals I try to live up to in my daily life. The stubborn physicality of my pots forces one to slow down and pay close attention to the moment. In an age of ever-increasing speed, the dinner table is the perfect place to savor – to spend time, to share food and vessels made with integrity and purpose. I sincerely hope that such sustenance allows us to develop a deeper relationship to making and to each other.