

PENLAND GALLERY

LISA PEDOLSKY

Durango, CO

CLAY | Handbuilt functional and decorative

Penland Affiliation | Penland Instructor 2018, 2023

Artist Information | Studio artist; education: California College of the Arts, Oakland (CA), University of California, Berkeley (CA); teaching: Penland School of Craft (NC), San Juan College (NM), Shakerag Workshops (TN), Durango Arts Center (CO); exhibitions: Carbondale Clay Center (CO), Durango Arts Center (CO), Akar Design (IA), Wayne Center for the Arts (OH), LUX Center for the Arts (NE), Plinth Gallery (CO)

Artist Statement | *The slab-constructed ceramics I create are a reflection of my interests in compelling design and fine craftsmanship, from African and Japanese textiles and traditional crafts to mid-century modern furniture and household objects. My work gives voice to these deep-seated influences while exploring relationships between interior and exterior, form and surface, and interplay among pieces.*

While the works I create are recognizable - a box, a bottle, a bowl - they are intended to evoke a deeper response, whether by revealing my sources of inspiration, offering an opportunity for aesthetic contemplation, or providing the deep satisfaction that comes from interacting with thoughtfully crafted objects.

Technical Information | All of my ceramic forms are made of terra cotta, a red earthenware clay. Initially, a piece is conceived as a two-dimensional drawing followed by the creation of pattern pieces - deconstructed versions of the ultimate three-dimensional form - which are attached to the clay slab. Package design and dressmaking techniques come into play as the piece is brought to life by cutting, folding, darting, and connecting. Visual and tactile depth is developed through the application of multiple layers of clay, slips, stains, and glazes, and by scraping, incising, and carving into the surface. The work is twice fired in an electric kiln to cone 06 (approximately 1850 degrees Fahrenheit) and cone 03 (just over 2000 degrees Fahrenheit).

Limit prolonged exposure to high acid and highly pigmented foods that can affect glazed surfaces by using my ceramics for food service but not storage. They can accommodate hot and cold foods but should not be used in the microwave, oven, or on a stovetop. To preserve their life and beauty, hand washing is recommended.

Penland School of Craft | Penland Gallery & Visitors Center
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