

Common Ground - Artist Bios

Artist	Bio
Aelish Healy	I am an emerging ceramic artist living and working on Gubbi Gubbi (Kabi Kabi) Country on the Sunshine Coast. I (re)discovered clay almost six years ago and found in it a way to slow down, cultivate resilience, and engage more deeply with the experience of being human. With a background in art therapy, I approach making as an embodied and relational practice, where each piece carries traces of lived experience and inner knowing. Aiming to work exclusively with Australian clays and materials, my practice is grounded in sustainability, place, and the long human history of working with earth. Making isn't separate from living for me, it is how I process, connect, and make sense of the world.. and kind of feels like a virus (in a good way). I have to do it, I am compelled to do it... the ceramic bug is in me!) My work has recently been selected for exhibition at Noosa Regional Gallery, marking my first exhibiting work.
Aliena McKenzie	Im an emerging artist based in Daisy Hill. I work primarily in ceramics, creating Figurative peices through hand building. I love to work with clay and the therapydic process of sculpting has been very healing for me after years of post natal depression. This experience comes through in my work, drawing upon issues around womens inequality, motherhood and mental health are very important to me.
Amber Winter	Amber Winter is a potter and emerging ceramic artist based in Kurilpa, Brisbane. She has tertiary qualifications in science, medicine, management and education. She approaches her ceramic practice with this background, applying a scientific method and endless curiosity. Her ceramic interests lie particularly in exploring texture, glaze chemistry and atmospheric firing techniques. Amber's work has been exhibited in a number of small group exhibitions and she was a finalist in the 2025 Siliceous Award (Gwyn Hanssen Pigott Wood Fired Ceramics Award) and the 2026 Revival Emerging Artist Prize.
Ana João Teixeira da Mota Azevedo	Originally from Portugal and now based in Queensland, I am an emerging ceramic artist and architect whose practice is shaped by my travels, connection to my culture, and material exploration. After studying architecture in Porto and Montevideo, I joined an international art exchange project in Greece focused on reviving traditional ceramic practices and fostering connections between young people and rural communities through making. I have then moved to Australia, where I have continued to develop my ceramics practice in a largely self-taught way. My work combines influences from architecture, travel, and landscape with a love of painting and watercolour, resulting in sculptural pieces that explore memory, belonging, and the relationship between people and place.
Barbara Forde	I create functional and decorative pieces from my home studio in Brisbane. Each piece is slowly hand made to bring beauty to everyday life. Objects that are meant to be held and used.
Bodhi Swan	My name is Bodhi Swan, I began throwing pottery on the wheel in 2020 and maintained it as a hobby through to 2025. Since then I have decided to dedicate myself to it. I am an emerging artist having never presented my work to a gallery or exhibition before this and only sold to friends or family.
Bree Williams	Bree is an emerging multidisciplinary artist living and working in Meanjin (Brisbane). Born and raised in New Zealand, she studied a Bachelor of Spatial Design before moving to Australia, where she worked across ceramic studios, design firms and creative businesses. Her multidisciplinary background informs a ceramics practice exploring the relationship between design, craft, objects and the spaces we inhabit. Inspired by personal memories interwoven with childlike fantasy and storytelling, Bree translates these narratives through illustration, colour and recurring motifs. Through sculpting and mark-making, she re-contextualises traditional craft techniques to create contemporary and playful works that explore beauty in imperfection, inviting curiosity and delight.

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Brett Nissen	Brett is a Brisbane-based emerging ceramic artist and the maker behind BAN Ceramics, a practice traditionally focused on intentional, functional tableware for everyday use. His work celebrates the natural qualities of clay, with an emphasis on simplicity, craftsmanship and the subtle variations that come from making by hand. In 2026, Brett is expanding his practice beyond purely functional forms, exploring more decorative and conceptual work while maintaining a strong connection to process and materiality. His current work investigates the intersection of professional life, creativity and craft (and art), seeking connections between routine, productivity and the act of making.
Brittney Kleyn	Brittney Kleyn is an emerging mixed media artist and the creative force behind Kleyn Ceramics. A former television journalist, she discovered a love for clay at the wheel and has since embraced hand-building as a way to explore playful, sculptural forms. She has completed multiple commissions for respected Australian designers and was a finalist in the Lethbridge Small Scale Art Prize 2025. Born and raised in Sydney, she now resides in Brisbane with her husband and 1-year-old daughter, Florence.
Bronwyn Shaw	Emerging artist from NZ, based on the Gold Coast for 15 years. Learning Ceramics since 2016 but mostly focused on teaching and managing Crockd Studios striving to make pottery accessible to all.
Carol Goodwin	Kenmore. Emerging Artist
Carole Hall	I'm a Gold Coast ceramic artist. I study our local flora and bird life as a biographical reflection of where I live. As I draw and paint, I explore the shapes, characters and the way the plants and birds move in their environments. Through paper resist, slips and painted glazes, I interpret this knowledge onto my mostly thrown ceramics. I have been working with ceramics for 12 years.
Carolyn Peisker	I am a retired teacher and paint because I love it and now I have the time to do it!
Christina A Bakker	I am an emerging artist living and practising from my home studio in Deception Bay. A sculptor at heart, I am drawn to streamlined forms and design elements embedded in construction, while striving for technical precision. I create functional ceramics that are robust enough for everyday use while bringing art into daily life. I am currently exploring how layered unglazed surfaces can remain alive, tell stories, and highlight the materiality of clay. This research first drew me to nerikomi and, more recently, to inlay. Much of my inspiration comes from nature, architecture, place, and inner landscapes. My practice is underpinned by bachelor's degrees in visual arts (Queensland University of Technology) and science (University of Queensland). I teach hand-building techniques at the Redcliffe Pottery Group and have received several awards at recent annual group exhibitions. I am now beginning to share my work with a wider audience.
Eileen Rigby	I live in Samford Valley, am an established artist, generally working, in our studio, in acrylic or watercolour but currently working in oils with Ray Coffey. When I majored in art, faculty of Manchester University, I focused on painting and creative machine embroidery (large murals and dress design).
Emily Bosma	Emily Bosma is a New Zealand-born emerging ceramic artist and teacher at Our Space, currently based in Brisbane. Her collection pulls from a love for architectural influences and a career in formulation chemistry, informing an organic material with an analyst's eye, learning through the process to embrace imperfection in pursuit of precision. Over the last three years, Emily's work has evolved from wheel-thrown functional forms to sculptural, hand-built pieces. From community studios in Christchurch to moving countries; change invited an exploration into style and shape, experimenting with the structural limits of clay, displaying its versatility in unexpected ways.

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Eric Clews	I am a hobby potter based in a tiny town called Nobby (halfway between Toowoomba and Warwick). It is only recently that I have begun to see myself as an artist, even though I've been learning about and working with clay for just over 4 years. My current practice swings between homewares that prioritise form and function, and decorative pieces where I recreate objects from my mostly-forgotten childhood and explore themes that come up regularly in therapy.
Estefania Minniti	I'm an emerging multidisciplinary artist originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina, now based in the Northern Rivers, NSW. My practice spans ceramics, painting, embroidery and installation, exploring how memory, rituals and lived experiences shape our sense of identity and belonging, informed by my experience of living between cultures.
Evyarnna Hlentzos	Born and raised in Brisbane/Meanjin, Evyarnna Hlentzos is an emerging ceramic artist. She has explored hand-building, wheel throwing and Raku firing across multiple community based studios and workshops. Driven by a passion for ongoing learning and creating, Evyarnna showcased her work last year at Converge group exhibition Girl on Girl. In her current practice of hand building, she applies a combination technique including slab building, pinching and coiling to create sculptural and abstract forms of functional ware. Inspired by plants and fungi, Evyarnna creates her pieces with fluidity and natural textures, exploring the endless possibilities of clay. Using both glaze and underglaze, she constantly experiments with new concepts and finishes letting her creativity flow in her practice. Evyarnna channels a mix of creative disciplines, including ceramics, sewing, and oil pastels, as an outlet for self-expression beyond her corporate life.
Jacque Tapsall	Jacque Tapsall is a Brisbane-based ceramic artist and owner of Our Space Brisbane, a ceramic studio that fosters creativity and community. Currently a student of master potter, Bill Powell, she focuses on mastering technical forms and crystalline glazes, embracing the medium's unpredictability while striving for controlled outcomes.
Jaimee Pickles	I am a potter living in the beautiful Samford Valley, working with both sculptural and wheel thrown forms. I have been a hobby artist for almost 10 years now and have just started exhibiting my work.
Jane Thompson	Jane Thompson is a professional artist based in Brisbane/Meanjin who paints to express and connect with the dualistic nature of the every-day-visible and the felt-but-not-seen. Thompson approaches the canvas with a curious reverence for the unannounced, resulting in a spirited surrender to the way in which she uses her materials. Watered-down acrylics are invited to splash and wander rebelliously across the canvas; while oil sticks, graphite and thin lines of paint are applied in intuitive motions, resulting in abstracted bursts of energy. Her work transpires a felt desire to reconnect and nurture a relationship with the wild and natural, carrying the subtle impressions of a dreamer. Thompson also implements a daily writing practice to inspire and elevate the themes of her paintings. Her poetry (written under the alias Veda Laferene and Jane) is as essential as the artworks themselves with a resonate relationship established between the two expressions.
Jasmine Cawthorne	Jasmine Cawthorne is an entrepreneur, creating crochet bags and patterns for her label By Moja. She's handmade custom bags for customers all over the world and collaborated with well-known Australian brands and personalities. She is based in Redcliffe, north of Brisbane and Mum to her sons Tommy and Monty.
Jazz Healing	I am a young artist based in Windsor, Brisbane. I make colourful, whimsical and detailed ceramics such as miniature animals and trinket jars. I am an emerging artist who is still trying to establish my own niche within the ceramic and market community.

Artist	Bio
Jennifer Collins	Raised in Oklahoma USA, Jennifer Collins was drawn to the tactile beauty and cultural significance of Native American ceramics from a young age, encouraged by regular family trips through the deserts, mountains and plains of the Southwest. A nurse by trade and a life-long maker/crafter, she took her first pottery class in 2023. After discovering the meditative nature and endless possibilities of clay as an artform, she was hooked by the process-driven essence of ceramics. Since moving to Australia in 2009, she has been influenced by travels through regional Victoria and NSW, and takes inspiration from the hinterlands, rainforests and coasts of Queensland. Jennifer has developed her practice through ongoing classes and memberships at community studios, continuing to improve technically. A variety of workshops from mentors and diverse ceramics artists has encouraged her own artistic voice and aesthetic to emerge. She also creates, fires, and glazes at home in her north Brisbane cottage, with a small home studio a (seemingly endless!) work in progress. Jennifer is currently exploring expression of ideas and function through subtractive processes; carving, sgraffito and altering wheel-thrown or handbuilt forms.
Joshy Bloom	An emerging artist from inner city Brisbane. My main form of practice is ceramics and sculpture. A lot of my work touches on culture, identity, human vulnerability and embodiment.
Julie Martin	Julie Martin is an emerging contemporary artist living and working on Gubbi Gubbi Country (Scarborough, Queensland). Living close to the beaches of Moreton Bay, she takes inspiration from the changing sights and sounds of the waters, sands and skies of the region.
Justine Dique	My clay journey started about 3 years ago when I attended an Introduction to the Wheel class with Jacquie at Our Space. I became a member of Our Space soon after. I enjoy throwing on the wheel and experimenting with surface decoration techniques including carving, stencils and air brushing with underglaze, as well as incorporating technology (Procreate, Cricut, 3D printing) into my practice.
Kate Spencer	Brisbane based pottery teacher, emerging artist
Kim Wheeler	I am an emerging visual artist living in the Redlands. My current practice is concerned with the restorative power of small domestic rituals.
Laura Hamzic	I'm a Brisbane-based emerging artist painting nostalgic Australian stories in gouache. I love finding beauty in the ordinary, the homes, places and familiar objects that remind us where we come from.
Laura Rixon	I live in Mitchelton, Brisbane. I work with acrylics on canvas or ply. I'm an emerging artist that creates warm, nostalgic figurative works.
Leila Davis	I'm an emerging ceramic artist working from a home studio on the slopes of beautiful Mt Coot-Tha. My work is inspired by vessels from the ancient world. I make wheel thrown and altered pieces using a variety of surface decoration techniques including sgraffito and colored slips. Some of this is inspired by a residency in Korea in 2025 with a Buncheong master. I love making pots because it connects and anchors me to a tradition which maps civilisation across the globe. My practice opens an exciting world of history and mythology as well as challenging me technically.
Lily Beck	coming from the suburbs of Brisbane I am an emerging artist who likes to play with multiple mediums including fine metal smithing, ceramics, acrylics photography and collage.
Lily Friis	I am an emerging visual artist living and working in Magandjin/Brisbane in Queensland Australia. Currently studying a Bachelor of Creative Arts and Community Wellbeing at the University of Southern Queensland, I am interested in the therapeutic use of visual art and it's impact on community. My practice has developed into one that explores themes of personal interior and wellbeing as a way of understanding life, experiences and memories. With a passion for process-based mediums, I am currently expanding my skills in printmaking and ceramics.

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Luca Bovino	I am a creative at heart, and always have been. Upon leaving high school many moons ago, I set out to be a famous actor. I studied at NIDA (The National Institute of Dramatic Art) straight after graduation and moved to Vancouver, Canada, shortly after NIDA. I eventually appeared in a number of movies, TV shows, and commercials. Most notably, I was in Channel Nine's Underbelly series, ABC's The Hiding, and the multi-award-winning feature Happy Bag. For the latter, I played a huge role in its creation; not only did I star as one of the leads, but I was also credited as Camera Operator, Cinematographer, Editor, and Assistant Director. Once COVID hit and lockdowns were enforced, the film industry took a break. I moved up to Coolangatta to escape being stuck in Sydney, and that is where I found my love for pottery. Particularly hand building. Upon holding the clay and shaping it at will, I instantly fell in love. I picked it up very quickly, almost as if it were second nature, and I have not stopped creating since. Pottery centres, grounds, and calms me. It also grants me the freedom to let my imagination run wild and create whatever comes to mind. I now live in Wilston, Brisbane.
Matilda Frances Cooke	I am an emerging artist working for the past few years with metals in the form of jewellery and more recently objects. I am currently practicing on Wurundjeri Country, Melbourne and originally from Boorloo, Perth.
Michella Xavier	Brisbane born with a multicultural heritage, I started ceramics at the BIA in 2024. As an 'emerging' artist, I have set up a home studio where I create wheel thrown and hand built ceramic pieces which can be sculptural and inspired by Japanese culture. I love experimenting with creating glazes.
Monique Ross	I am an emerging artist based in Magandjin/Brisbane with a focus on contemporary weaving and basketry. I am interested in how ancient techniques can be used to create modern sculptural forms.
Mykaela-Maree Wiltshire	MYK TAYLOR is an emerging Brisbane-based artist specialising in mixed media abstract painting on canvas. Working intuitively rather than through rigid structure, her practice is guided by emotion, movement, and personal experience.
Narelle Vella	I am an emerging artist living in Kedron practicing drawing in charcoals, graphite and pen, along with painting in oils and watercolours.
Neil Everest	I am a very amateur emerging artist who lives and works in Brisbane
Paul Ledington	Paul Ledington. BA MA MVA Phd Redland Coast. Born UK 1950. MVA QCAD 2022. B Finalist (National Prize) Milburn Landscape Art Prize, 2025, Fusion print. Equus Art Prize, 2023, Scan print. 47th Rio Tinto Martin Hanson Art Prize, 2022, digital moving image. Neoteric Abstract XIV, Limner Gallery NY., 2026. 'Cut N Paste', The Churn Room, Dayboro, Qld., 9-31 May, 2026) Royal Queensland Art Society, 136th annual members exhibition 2026. 'Junction, life on the Grid, Interchange' all 3 published ' Superpresent' art magazine, july 2026 Mathew Flinders Art Prize, 2026 Joint Exhibition - 'Emerging' Eco-Abstract Art , Paul Ledington and Bev Shields, Dunn Exhibition Gallery, Redland Museum, 26/2/2023 - 10/4/2023, digital moving image and digital prints. Forthcoming Redland Art Gallery, Marketplace, Solo Exhibition, 2027 (date TBA2026
Peta Dennis	Peta is an emerging artist, creating simple hand-built or wheel-thrown forms utilizing locally sourced materials wherever possible. Her interest in design is drawn from her background as a conservation architect and her recent studies in ceramics at the Brisbane Institute of Art. An interest in wild clays grew after digging the rich burgundy clay from her home garden at Enoggera. Peta makes her glazes from raw materials, experimenting with stone, ash and local clays and is passionate about sense of place and using regional materials that link the ceramic object to the land where it was created.
Phillip Nielsen	Phillip Nielsen is an emerging ceramic artist based on the Gold Coast, Queensland. His practice explores queer identity, belonging and joy through sculptural ceramics, drawing on ideas of coded recognition, chosen community and the relationships we form with place. His ongoing Bouvier series uses repeated, hand-built curls to create expressive vessels and sculptural forms. Through experimentation with colour, scale, repetition and assemblage, Nielsen is developing Bouvier as an evolving visual language—one that moves between individual objects, collected groupings and larger sculptural works.

Artist	Bio
Rachel Dioso-Villa	Rachel Dioso-Villa is a Brisbane-based emerging visual artist whose creative practice explores themes of social justice and resilience. Tayla Barber is a ceramic artist specialising in hand-built vessels that combine craftsmanship with storytelling. Together, they collaborate to create works that celebrate women's voices and collective histories through clay, text, and image.
Ray Coffey	Working primarily in oil and charcoal from home studio, I create meticulously detailed portraiture, full-scale figurative works, and imaginative compositions that explore the boundaries between realism and invention. My work has been exhibited across Australia and the United Kingdom, and he has been a finalist in several national art prizes. I have also received multiple People's Choice Awards, including those at the Sunshine Coast Art Prize, the Lismore Portrait Prize, the Adelaide Perry Prize for Drawing, and the Jacaranda Acquisitive Drawing Award.
Sarah Cheung	Sarah Cheung is an emerging ceramic artist born in Hong Kong and currently based in Moreton Bay. While she has been sculpting with various materials for the past twelve years, her practice is now deeply focused on ceramics, a medium she began exploring through wheel-throwing three years ago. Her ceramic sculptures and vessels explore the intricate, shifting relationship between nature and humanity, the tension and tenderness, the conflict and harmony that exist within this dynamic. Each work captures fleeting moments that weave together narratives. By incorporating intricate details and textures, her art invites viewers to approach it closely, transforming mere observation into an intimate dialogue.
Sarah Wong	Sarah Wong is a potter and glassworker with over 30 years' experience, having taught adults and children across Victoria and Queensland. Her work has been exhibited throughout galleries in Australia. After a lengthy hiatus, Sarah has established a studio in Bellbowrie, Queensland, returning to her passion for clay. She creates wheel-thrown functional and decorative stoneware and porcelain.
Sean Gordon	Sean Gordon is a Brisbane-based artist practicing as 'Green Bird Ceramics', creating hand-built ceramic pieces inspired by Australian native birds. Blending sculptural form with functional design, the work ranges from small objects to everyday functional pieces, all grounded in a connection to birds and their distinctive presence. Known for bold colour, humour, and character, each piece is designed to bring personality into a space and act as a conversation piece. Sean creates ceramics that are approachable, memorable, and full of character.
Sian Rodgie	After 25 years working in the University system in Brisbane I retired in January and decided to explore pottery, a medium I have always wanted try. My entire life I have had the urge to develop new ideas and try new things, and my pottery style reflects this. Currently, my favorite technique is exploring marbling and coloured clay effects.
Siena Cowley	Siena Cowley is a visual artist and illustrator currently working in Brisbane. She focuses on themes of interpersonal relationships, identity and girlhood through both oil painting and illustrative work drawing from her own experiences and identity. Cowley's work explores both commonly shared stories as well as topics often untold or unknown.
Sophie Araud-Sheldon	I am a French potter who lived in London for over 25 years and moved to Brisbane just over 3 years ago. I currently practice at Clayschool in Milton where I also teach a hand building class one day a week. I mainly work with porcelain and porcelain paper clay.
Stacey Morrison	Stacey Morrison, Meanjin/Brisbane-based emerging artist, explores femininity, nature, identity, and Aboriginal culture. Showcasing nationally with residencies in Yarrabah and Mowanjum Aboriginal Communities. Achievements: Sculpture by the Sea and Olive Cotton Portraiture Prize. After a two-decade break for motherhood, she's revived her practice, earning awards and Museum of Brisbane acquisition. Finalist at Leithbridge Gallery and Ceramic Australia's Continuum exhibition at Noosa Regional Gallery
Sue Collecutt	I'm an emerging contemporary artist living in Keperra, inspired by Australian landscapes and florals and appreciating the moments where time slows and connections are strengthened.
Suzy Brumm	I am a student of the Ray Coffey art school and earlier in the year exhibited some of my art work at his end of year exhibition. I love to paint in oils and draw in charcoal

Artist	Bio
Tayla Barber	Tayla Barber is a ceramic artist specialising in hand-built vessels that combine craftsmanship with storytelling. Together with Rachel Dioso-Villa, she collaborates to create works that celebrate women's voices and collective histories through clay, text, and image.
Tayler Farquhar	Born and raised in Brisbane/Meanjin, emerging ceramic artist Tayler Farquhar began her pottery journey in 2020 and has since been guided by many Queensland-based ceramic artists. Since 2023, she has been teaching and creating at Our Space. As part of the Museum of Brisbane's Commune exhibition in 2023, her work was exhibited and later acquired by the museum. Beginning with wheel throwing, Tayler developed a deep understanding of form and scale, further strengthened by learning from master potter Bill Powell. While wheel throwing remains an important part of her practice, she has discovered the freedom and sculptural possibilities of coiling, which has allowed her to explore forms beyond the constraints of symmetry. Her practice now explores curvy, sculptural pots, driven by her obsession with form. Making these coiled pots from her dining room table while her cats brush up against the works in progress, Tayler has found her sanctuary, a welcome contrast to her full-time corporate role.
Thomas Everest	I live and go to school in Brisbane
Tiffany Howe	Tiff Howe is a Meanjin/Brisbane-based emerging ceramist and collage artist. Her practice explores nostalgia from a distinctly Australian point of view, working across ceramic handbuilding and collage. She takes the visual language of mid-century domestic architecture, breezeblocks and suburban life and textures, and remakes it by hand, letting the imperfection of that process carry a sense of memory rather than exact reproduction. Running alongside this is an interest in Australian vernacular language: the words and phrases so embedded in daily life that we barely notice them, yet which say something specific about who we are and where we're from.
Tyler Iwinski	Based in Brisbane, Tyler James Ceramics creates a striking dialogue between restrained functionalism and vivid, sculptural expression. By juxtaposing minimalist mid-century modern design with hyper-realistic sculptural elements, the work explores themes of identity, bodily celebration, and the nuanced narratives of the queer community.
Vanessa Fitzgerald Scott	I am a proud Bundjalung woman who enjoys creating art, connecting with community and living life on Meanjin country. A few of my favourite things include: all things paper related-especially playing with recycled/botanical paper pulp, nature-driven printing/mark making and ALL organisms that fall into the insect/arachnid families. I would consider myself an established artist, with experience covering digital and print/design formats, going on 30 years.
Venessa Stella Skye	Venessa Skye is a wood firer based in Middle Pocket in the Northern Rivers of NSW, where she makes and teaches woodfiring and ceramic making. Her practice includes large vessels and functional ware, drawing inspiration from her Maltese heritage and the rich ceramic traditions of the Mediterranean. Through woodfiring, she explores the interplay between form, flame and surface, with a strong connection to traditional making processes.
Wanthana peungjiem	I'm Pai, an emerging ceramic artist based in Brisbane. Originally from Thailand, I create hand-built ceramic sculptures inspired by everyday life and the quiet connections that bring people together.