

What is important in life? What in this earthly world is sacred anymore? What should we celebrate through music, dance, painting and form?

Growth. The impulse toward creation. Our five senses as a beginning. Honoring the hand made object and the simple daily rituals of using them in our lives. A celebration of primal materials (clay). I hope that all of these touchstones are evident in my work.

I am lucky enough to have discovered early in my life that I am a potter. I feel certain that for as long as I am alive I will take the Earth's body into my hands and form it into containers for sustenance. To have an intimate connection to the hand formed object is vital to a full life. To experience the potters attention to volume, texture, weight, color, and space while savoring a cup of coffee or a bowl of soup is one of life's sublime pleasures.

I am not here to give all of the answers but to raise points that I feel our world is in need of pondering. The making of art is mysterious and when I am doing my best work I do not fully understand it myself. Creative endeavors touch on the universal and offer comprehension on varying levels to everyone. I can not tell you in words what to think as you feel my work with your eyes or fingers, as you discover hidden compartments. My hope is that your gut will stir or listen, that you will slow down enough to wonder, and be curious, and ask questions. But I believe, as author Thomas Moore states, that Art does not offer a blazing lamp of enlightenment, but rather the tempered glow of imagination,

We live in a violent world, one that suffers from a lack of imagination. Recently I have been making sanctuaries to creation in addition to pots. I consider it my mission to help create a world where hand made objects matter deeply, where they enrich our lives. To create a world where destruction, consumption and violence are overcome by creation, respect and non-violence. To create a world worthy of our perfect natural one.

One piece of clay at a time.

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Neil makes pots that are designed to be used and enjoyed. Through their carefully considered volume, weight, surface and textures he hopes to provide a slow, savory experience for the user. There is always an evidence of the soft material, clay, often bolstered by a formal or architectural structure. They are made of stoneware clay thrown on a potters wheel and assembled.