

Ashley Worst  
Artist Statement  
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My work combines the utilitarian forms of dinnerware with loose, simplistic, and often gestural illustrations based upon nature and equine models. I find that my work gravitates toward what I am surrounded with, and the environment where I live is made up of trees, rolling hills, and misty sunrises with horses there to greet you with a nicker.

The materials that I use are mostly based in clay, but I do expand my work into the 2D spectrum with paintings and pen and ink illustrations. The challenge of using new materials and firing methods are always welcome experiences that I do not shy away from, but for the time being my work is cone 6 stoneware with underglazes to decorate fired in an electric kiln. The utilitarian qualities of this clay allow me to make a range of work that can be shared with those who want a product that can be used every day for the rest of their lives. Creating work for the every-day person is what I aim to do.

Being surrounded by nature and horses, I find that I am drawn to the task of representing that in my work. The quiet grandeur of the evergreens, the silent communication expressed in body language by the horses, and the reds, browns, and greens that make the earth warm and comforting are all subjects that can be displayed in images on my art. I aim to recreate all of this in my own way to share my love for what I am surrounded by with those who cannot experience it on their own.

At this point in time, I am attracted to many different types of art styles and movements, but have found that expressionism and romanticism stand out the most to me. They are powerful styles that rely on emotion and freedom from form (which are attractive qualities to an emerging artist) to portray their message. These qualities contribute to my own blended style to which I have no label for. That blended style is the result of the education I have submersed myself in: a little bit of everything.