



stillness

BY THE POTTERY STUDIO

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“Feel the Aliveness within your Body.
That anchors You in the Now.”

ECKHART TOLLE



The therapeutic art of pottery offers an opportunity to explore your creativity, tap into your inner stillness and allow you to better connect with yourself.

All of your fleeting thoughts and worries melt away as your hands and mind fixate on the crafting of your clay, allowing you to be truly present.





Studio Work

A collection of talented
hand built work by students of
The Pottery Studio.













Glazing

Bringing your piece to life

Glazing is the final step of the pottery process, giving you a second opportunity to be creative with your piece. This step can often be undervalued, but it is at this point your pottery is truly brought to life. Here you have the rewarding experience of seeing a humble piece of clay transform into a cherished work of art.









Peter Wallace

The man Behind the Wheel: How Boarding School Became the Starting Point of a 50 Year Career.

Growing up, Peter was always creating, destroying or reinventing things. From cubby houses to puppets, he was always fascinated by the crafting process and so, when first introduced to clay, he was captivated. Living in the remote mining community of Broken Hill, New South Wales, Peter attended a boarding school that heavily prioritized sports. Having little interest in that type of activity, Peter was thrilled when the government enforced The Arts to be included in the curriculum, bringing renewed opportunities to craft and create. The Art teacher, Michael Conlon, was a potter himself and so a pottery studio was set up at the boarding school. This studio became a place of retreat, where Peter could escape the realities of boarding school, and spend time doing what he loved most: creating. With wandering prefects chasing up homework, Peter would hide out in the studio with the lights out. Here, he spent his nights, sitting behind the pottery wheel, constantly working on his craft. Peter has continued creating with hopes to continually evolve his craft. He wishes to spend more time mastering Arabian Lustre, which is considered one of the most technical artforms to achieve.

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“Clay is a living thing. It reflects how you feel about things.”

With the encouragement and tutelage of his art teacher, Peter continued crafting well after leaving boarding school. It was during this time that Peter fell under the wing of Pro Hart, one of Australia's 'greats' in pottery. Pro Hart had a studio in Broken Hill that became a creative hub, in which crafting was made possible. Generous with his equipment, materials and time, he was an influential figure in Peter's career. It was here, in Pro Hart's studio, that Peter was exposed to many artists from Melbourne, further igniting his passion to create. After leaving Broken Hill and venturing up to Queensland, Peter decided he needed to work with a Master in order to really progress with his skills. Considered as one of Australia's 'fathers of pottery', Carl McConnel became another influential figure in Peter's career, and together they worked side by side for many years. Graduating from the Chicago School of Arts and having worked alongside the other 'fathers' of ceramics, McConnel offered Peter a wealth

of knowledge and experience. During their partnership, Peter's work gained real quality and finesse. "Clay is a living thing. It reflects how you feel about things." As his career progressed and Peter continually developed his craftsmanship, he began working in production pottery, for a company called Beechmont Pottery. When Peter first began, he was able to produce one hundred coffee mugs a day. Through hours of practice and refining his technique, Peter's one hundred mugs a day turned into one hundred mugs in just two hours. After leaving the production pottery, Peter opened his own successful studio in Beechmont.

Peter now exhibits in 30 galleries spread across Australia, most residing on the Eastern Seaboard. He specialises in crystalline glazes, decorative vases and domestic ware.

Now, having recently relocated to the Hinterlands of the Sunshine Coast, Peter has reopened his studio. With over 40 years of experience & about 600 tonnes of clay behind him, Peter remains as captivated today as the boy who first discovered clay, in a Broken Hill boarding school. He hopes to share his passion and skill with the future generation of artists.

Peter now offers weekend workshops.
Head to his website www.peterwallacepottery.com.au for more information.







In the Studio

Our intention is for you to leave
feeling refreshed.

The Pottery Studio provides a peaceful, free-flowing space to cultivate creativity and relaxation. It is a place to discover the process of crafting a lump of clay into an art piece and the incredible feeling of stillness that is present through this practice.

Taking home a piece of work is just a bonus; the real value is in the process of creating. Our intention is for people who come and spend time in our studio to leave feeling refreshed. The process of slowing down and using our hands is one we can all benefit from - whether you're a complete beginner, or a professional potter.



Get to Know Us

The Heart & Soul of the Studio



I first started pottery 2 years ago when a friend taught me to hand build and I instantly fell in love with the process. A year later I ended up in the French countryside volunteering at a ceramics retreat where I learnt to throw on the wheel and drink wine at the same time, and the rest was history. I have never really considered myself a “creative person” and I still don’t really. I love pottery because I enjoy making things with my hands and because I find it very meditative. As for the coming up with ideas part, well I’m not very good at that. I started working at The Pottery Studio in February, when it was just Rod and I, and over the past 6 months I have had the pleasure of watching the studio and the team grow. And the exciting part is, I know it’s not finished growing. Customers always say to me ‘this must be the best job’, and they’re completely right. The studio is such a fun place to be regardless of whether you’re an employee or a customer. I love seeing how excited people are when they come to the studio for the first time, but my favourite thing is when customers come in with an idea of something I haven’t seen made before, that or when they come in with cake.

Gabrielle Sheridan



I have been a Freelance Graphic Designer for the last four years. As a designer, I love the challenge of creative problem-solving and the opportunity to work with others in building their business dreams. The one thing that occasionally gets me down is the masses of time I spend staring at a screen. That's why I booked in a wheel throwing class three years ago and fell in love with creating with my hands. In a fast-moving culture where every minute is money, I found these slow moments of creating vases, cups and bowls rebellious and captivating. I love seeing others fall in love with clay and have the chance to be creative, playful and childlike in this somewhat serious world we live in.

Cherie Allan



I first started coming to the studio over a year ago when my partner was interested in giving pottery a go so we booked our first class at The Pottery Studio and we both quickly became addicted. Safe to say we spent way too many weekends at the studio creating pieces each with a special place in our home. We watched the studio transform and grow bigger with each week till I finally became part of The Pottery Studio Team. If you come into the studio you will see my smiling face but you won't find me on the Instagram feed because I am extremely skilled at avoiding Kieran's camera. I mostly bring organisation and positive vibes to the studio largely in the form of coffee and snacks and I spend my days pleasantly surprised and inspired by all the creative minds who walk through our door.

Nikki Haworth



I've been photographing a variety of subjects around the world for the past six years and have ended up as the resident photographer here at The Pottery Studio! Though normally busy shooting the content for Instagram and now this publication, I've photographed that many classes now I think I could probably run one! My favorite part about shooting at the studio is the variety of creativity I get to see and document, including all the changes that keep taking place. Now, with wheel throwing, the work is totally different again. When I do get a chance to make some work I tend to always make pots for my non-existent cactus collection.

Kieran Tunbridge



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I have observed the therapeutic benefits of working with clay. This is where the notion of stillness has originated from.

The Pottery Studio has been around since February 2018, it started as a hobby and side business as my partner at the time and I both worked full time. I took over the studio on my own 6 months ago when Gaby came along to run the classes and since then our team has slowly grown as the studio has expanded to now offering over five different types of classes. I don't get the chance to make much pottery, but when I do, I love zoning out on the wheel or pinching out another plant pot. It is super relaxing and counters the chaos of construction I find myself in during the working week. As much as I enjoy making pots, it is not where my passion for the studio stems from. I've had a growing interest in meditation which started when I began practicing a technique called Vipassana. Throughout the last year I have observed the therapeutic benefits of working with clay. This is where the notion of stillness has originated from and the direction The Pottery Studio will continue to move in.

Rod Constantinides





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Wheel throwing is seen as a slower, more intentional labor of love. Making hand thrown ‘ pottery is something to be treasured.

Wheel Throwing

We invited our friends from local businesses around the Sunshine Coast to come experience the amazing feeling of throwing.

The wheel was a revolutionary turning point in the world of pottery. Not only did it act as a means to keep up with the increasing consumer demand for ceramics but it initiated the freedom to experiment with new forms and aesthetics to what traditional hand molding clay was able to offer. Nowadays as faster methods exist for creating commercial pottery, wheel throwing is seen as a slower, more intentional labor of love. Making hand thrown pottery is something to be treasured. To us the beauty of throwing clay is in the way it captivates your attention and at the same time, relaxes you. While throwing, all you think about is the relationship between your hands and the clay. This is a very grounding experience, one that helps you forget about the busyness of daily life and leaves you feeling refreshed.

We invited our friends from local businesses around the Sunshine Coast to come experience this feeling. They were mesmerised by the feel of the clay and the slow and therapeutic nature of this art form.





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A few weekends ago I had the absolute pleasure of not only catering for a very intimate evening at The Pottery Studio in Nambour but being a part of their very first Wheel Throwing class. It was an absolute cracker of a time. These guys have created such a simple but effective way to tune out and zone into your creative side. It is easily one of the coast's best activities going at the moment. Gab is such a calm and ardent teacher who gives you confidence in what you are doing, even if it is far from a masterpiece. We got dirty, we stuffed up, there was clay and water flying everywhere and we laughed, a lot. I can speak on behalf of everyone who attended that we will all be going back and doing it again. Thank you, guys, so much for the opportunity to create, graze, drink wine and be merry.

Grazing Acres



