

Ceramics Project – Hungry Bowls – Selia Karsten
Fall semester, Year Two

My Bowls: All of my pieces have a slightly primitive and casual look. I've been told (by my kind ceramics teacher) that the Japanese have a name for somewhat casual-looking imperfection in pottery and find it acceptable. I'm satisfied that this is a style that best suits my way of working. I wouldn't mind if my pieces were similar to the high-fired unglazed natural ware like Shigaraki pottery or its close cousin, the Bizen ceramic style.

1. Bowl #1 – simple coil bowl with small pedestal

The bowl was painted with a variety of colours of slip then glazed with a clear limestone glaze. The colours are barely perceptible. I have now learned that you need to apply several coats of slip and I'll know this for next time.



View 1 of coil bowl



View 2 of coil bowl

2. Bowl #2 – Vertical Coil Bowl – I used the coil method for this bowl, creating a circular base then I cut coils into short lengths and stood them side by side with slip between each standing coil piece. I painted the pieces with coloured slip however as above with the simple coil bowl, I only used one coat of slip and after the clear limestone glaze was done, again, very little colour could be seen. The bowl however I find it to have a bit of charm all the same.



Vertical Coil Bowl

3. Bowl #3 – This bowl was shaped inside a small plastic bowl purchased at the Dollar Store. I lined the bowl with cheesecloth and used coils to shape the bowl. I added a star to the bowl. Because I used a dark blue (coco) oxide it was more successful under a clear limestone glaze than the coloured slip used previously. It has a slightly mottled effect which I don't mind though I would rather the dark oxide hadn't run onto the star. I'm going to have to learn how to control my application of oxide better in future. I'm satisfied with this piece.



4. Bowl #4 – This bowl was shaped over the outside of a plastic bowl (using cheesecloth as the barrier). I used slabs cut into shapes and attached these with slip. After the bowl was bisque fired, I used a turquoise oatmeal glaze and bits of broken green glass on the inside of the bowl. I am pleased with the outcome of this bowl.

