GAYLE FICHTINGER
Studio Artist, Ceramic Sculpture and Drawing, New London, New Hampshire, USA

ARTIST STATEMENT

Gayle Fichtinger's ceramic sculpture and ink drawing are the outcomes of intensive nature study and travel to China researching scholars stones and Yixing ceramics. Through her work she responds to her forested environment. Disruptions in the growth patterns of trees like fungi, burls, and gnarls draw her attention. Her hope is to elevate the overlooked bits and pieces of nature for a deeper understanding of the ecosystem.

Working on an intimate scale using a smooth red stoneware clay much like the zisha clay used by the Yixing potters, she sculpts natural objects from observation. Carving and mark-making define surface pattern and textures. The clay is fired without glaze to preserve the color and integrity of the material and be closer to its natural state. Her work is meant for contemplation.