ABSTRACT

Creative Project: Faith in Process

Student: Brandon Whitacre

Degree: Master of Arts

College: Fine Art

Date: December 2009

Pages: 30

This study has been an exploration of self though the creative process in ceramic form and the use of symbolism of the Christian faith. Form is used as a means to express volume, resonance, elegance, and utility. Form, as well as medium and processes explored in this study, is embedded with deeply metaphorical, spiritual significance. Symbolism is used, in a more literal sense, in the surface treatment of ceramic forms. Patterns of symbols and pictorial narratives work with the form creating design cohesion. Art history is referenced through the use of these symbols as well as stylistically. The Early Christian period, Modernism, as well as prehistoric art, are all referenced. Formal elements, symbolism, and art historical references, coalesce to relate personal thoughts of beauty, spirituality, and utility. Finding a place for the ancient in a contemporary setting, while remaining deeply personal and mysterious, has been a vital goal in the development of this creative project.