

## Peter Cosentino

I have been fascinated by the technique and creative potential of throwing from my initial discovery of a pottery kick wheel in the art room of my secondary school over 40 years ago. My love of throwing has never diminished and consequently all my work begins its life on the wheel.



I enjoy exploring the tensions and dynamics of shape in respect of proportion and balance through a personal enjoyment of pushing clay to extremes of what it will naturally allow. Shapes are often subtly - or dramatically altered after initial throwing is complete through a combination of sections or re-throwing parts of a piece such as a base or stem.

Work is produced in small batches of up to a dozen or so pieces at a time with a natural evolution taking place with each one. Natural and organic forms have been a constant source of inspiration for my work, through shape and surface qualities and pattern.

In terms of technical detail – I prefer to use a limited range of matt glazes such as simple dolomite and ash based glazes in combination with colouring oxides and basic resist techniques. I use mostly white stoneware clay and occasionally porcelain, fired to between 1250 - 1265C in top loading electric kilns.

I have been experimenting with crystalline glazes during the past twelve months. A relatively complex firing schedule is required to produce crystals and there is never any guarantee that crystals will appear which both fascinates and frustrates in equal measures, but makes opening the kiln after a firing an even more exciting event!

