



Dryden Wells

The Pottery Workshop
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Artist Statement

In each stage of the processes of my creating, new ideas and concepts seem to reveal themselves, bringing a new life to my work. Working devoutly in clay, I continue to be challenged and seduced by the medium. The manipulation of the material is what excites me, whether I am working big or small, loosely or precisely.

Initially intrigued by interior and exterior spaces as primary oppositions that I was using in my work both formally and conceptually, I am using figurative forms as subjects for my process and vehicles for my content, to address these spaces literally and metaphorically. In turn, I am also trying to juxtapose other distinct opposites such as life and death, positive and negative, moving and motionless. I feel that through this synthesis, I am presenting questions and concerns that are not necessarily answered in the work.

Currently using multiples made from the segments and fragmentation of both animals and humans figurines, I am interested in the use of multiples because of how it abstracts the initial subject and form I begin with. The initial objects that I am using are carefully dissected so that I can be specific with their reconstruction. These cast forms are combined together like building blocks to create forms of repetition. Similar to the photographs of Eadweard Muybridge, it is as if a movement is being represented in stop-action with each sculpture. As I make, I am intrigued by the ways multiples of the same mold fit together and the resulting forms that are created from this play. Always discovering as I build, I feel that the use of slip-casting and the use of multiples allows me to work both intuitively and analytically.