

#### Stefanie Ferguson – Q&A

# Q1. Can you give us an insight into your artistic process? Is your work preplanned or created intuitively? How long does each work take to complete?

My process involves studying microscopic images that I source through books and online journals. I then begin a process of sketching and combining these works with ideas I have through other influences. I begin by making in the studio smaller versions and doing test tiles before moving onto the bigger piece. Some works are pre planned whilst others arise through experimenting with the process and medium. It takes about 4 weeks to create a piece once its been made, dried, fired and glazed. I do have some half made pieces that have been on the shelf for over a year.

### Q2. Can you explain your technique; how you manipulate the medium?

I am a hand builder so I manipulate the clay medium mainly through my hands.

# Q3. Do you keep some kind of ongoing drawing book or diary? Or a collection of images or photographs for inspiration?

Yes I have an online log of reference images, I also cut up photos of my work to create collage pieces and I have numerous sketchbooks full of ideas and pieces as well as imagery and textures that I like. Occasionally I find a piece of nature that I bring home and keep in my studio.

### Q4. Who are your favourite artists? Who do you draw inspiration from?

My favourite artists include contemporary ceramicists including Juz Kitson, Merran Esson and Jenny Orchard. Ernst Haeckel is also an inspiration to my work.



