

HAGAS Artist in the Spotlight: Rose Walker

Where were you born? I was born and grew up on a farm in Penneshaw, Kangaroo Island before heading to Adelaide to complete my final schooling. Being one of six children, raised on the land, I grew up with the majority of all our meals being home grown, home baked, and handmade which is what I know and love and why I choose these memories to be the focus and inspiration of my work – playing in mud and using my hands.



What's your medium and why do you do what you do? The majority of my work is wheel thrown in stoneware clay and finished with glazes that have been developed and handmade in my Murray Bridge studio. All my pieces are high fired in a gas kiln in a reduction atmosphere making each piece strong, very durable and unique with slight variations in colour. I create a variety of functional, high-quality tableware that is made to be used and enjoyed daily. I'm constantly continuing to create and work with chefs to focus on form, functionality and always exploring different clays and glazes, paying close attention to detail to each piece that leaves my studio.

Favourite or most inspirational place? My inspiration has always been from studying ceramics and workshops. I started my clay journey in 2001 when I enrolled in a certificate 4 in Art and Design at the Mt Barker TAFE. After completing the TAFE course in 2003 I then studied a distant ceramics undergraduate course at the Australian National University's School of Art & Design which included a visit to Jingdezhen in China as part of a four week's residency and training in a major ceramics workshop. Asian ceramics, history and traditional glazes have been my main source of inspiration...

What is your dream project? My dreams as a potter were to have a solo exhibition and to have my ceramics used in cafes, wineries and restaurants to be used and enjoyed daily. I'm happy to say my dreams have exceeded my expectations. I was honoured to be invited by the Murray Bridge Regional Gallery to have a solo exhibition in 2024 and my ceramics are now being used all around Adelaide & SA in various cafes and wineries. This includes Yellow Matter Brewery- Adelaide, Beerenberg- Hahndorf, Lake Breeze Winery- Langhorne Creek, Cobbs Hill



Winery- Oakbank, Torbreck Winery- Tanunda, Lady Luck Café- Mt Barker, Essence Café- Stirling, Sam I Am Café- McLaren Vale.

Artistically, what's your goal? My aim is to create simple, handmade, nature inspired tableware and homeware in natural and subtle tones that are designed to be used as part of a family celebrating life's daily pleasures of coming together at mealtimes. My goal as a potter is to communicate my vision through the strength of the form and glaze, to create beautiful functional pieces – I want my creations to be used and enjoyed daily.



What's the best piece of advice you've been given? Keep a journal and document everything you do!