

Finding the Authentic Self



Glynnis Lessing
Minnesota, USA

I find myself seduced by containers of all sorts. Perhaps because we ourselves are containers – not only physically of our organs and the food we eat, but also of our thoughts and emotions, impressions of the world, the beauty we see. I use all that to make things out of clay.

In its essence, my Authentic Self is a vessel. It is a container for who I am: the characteristics I was born with, my beliefs about myself, the experiences I've had and literally, a holder of my children.

All the things that I am and all the things I have learned are expressed in the making of these pieces. It was in this thinking about the nature of functional pottery's characteristics—containing, encompassing, serving and receiving—that I chose to represent the different stages of my life. I decided to express my life in a circle: from single woman through marriage and children, to an imagined single woman again. It has been a kind of expansion and contraction in the world.

The narrative imagery on the bowls refers to this, as do the forms and combination of forms.

The arc of my life is represented by these pots as metaphor but also expressed by the medium, by the fact that I am a functional potter with the personality that enables me and /or causes me to be a potter.

I am lucky: I have been expressing my Authentic Self most of my life.

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