



## Shop

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Cover: RAF Filingdale, 3 Miles From The Mine.





## INDUSTRIAL DESIGN NOW, FROM THEN

Discover the exquisite fusion of artistry and nature in these mining-inspired ceramic forms. My thrown pieces are shaped from wild clay sourced by hand, embracing the raw beauty of the earth. Each piece embodies the essence of craftsmanship, echoing the resilience of the mining process itself. Repurposed from the runoff of mining operations on the North Yorkshire moors, my pieces are more than just decorative. Each work embodies a direct link between artistry and landscape.

The process begins with the gathering of wild clay carefully excavated from the old mine entrance. I mold and shape the raw material, giving each form its own unique character and texture, mirroring the landscape's rugged allure. The connection to nature is palpable as I honour the earth's resources, creating functional homeware that seamlessly blends into any living space.

**Elliot Mountain**  
Founder





In my practice, I explore the connections between land, cultural history, industrial production, and chemical processes. Through my work, I visualize the narratives embedded in the moorland landscape, capturing the essence of place while examining the cultural and environmental footprints industrialisation has left over time. I experiment with materials and firing techniques, & explore chemical reactions in art creation, intertwining scientific methods with aesthetic expression.



I use found materials to infuse my artwork with the essence of their origin, forging a direct connection between the works and the spaces they come from. This exploration unveils the profound impact of industrialisation on artistic creation, creating a conversation about human intervention and sustainability, highlighting the interconnectivity of our actions within the environment.







I continuously explore textures, aiming for depth. Employing a minimalist glaze palette, I use wild clay and oxide washes, to allow clay's inherent colours to shine as the primary glaze. Employing techniques like marbling and slip painting, I seek contrasting colours, mirroring the vivid hues of the subterranean mine interior. My goal is to echo this natural beauty within the clay body itself, evoking the mine's colourful essence without traditional glazing methods.







*Both pages: Lidded Jar Inspired By A Safety Lamp, 40cm*





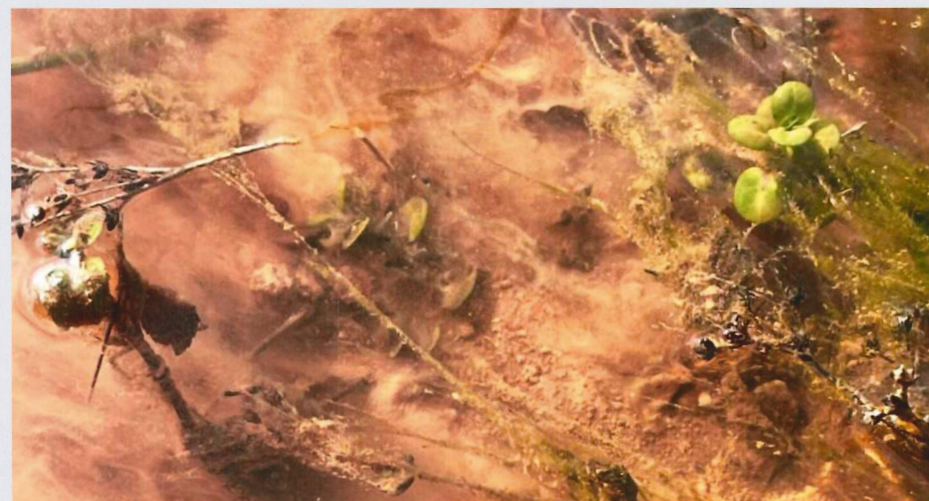
*Left:* Pouring Jug with Gas Lamp cross Accentuations, 40cm

*Right:* Various Mugs With 'Burnt Heather' Finish, 8cm





My creative inspiration draws deeply from the ornate elegance of thrown ceramics intermingled with the raw, utilitarian aesthetic of industrial forms in our natural world. The pots I meticulously craft pay homage to the industrial designs of bygone eras, capturing the essence of their robust functionality. These influences converge within my work, evident not only in the forms but also in my choice of glazes. Inspired by the vivid colors found within the mining landscape, my glaze inspiration resonates with the strong, striking reds and yellows emblematic of the mines rich interior. Moreover, the serene greens and purples, reflective of the North Yorkshire Moors, find their way into my glaze choices. Creating a harmonious fusion between the industrial past and the tranquil beauty of the moorlands. Each pot becomes a canvas, echoing the historical legacy and natural allure of these contrasting yet complementary influences.







The iron mines of Cleveland, North Yorkshire, stand as a testament to an era that shaped both the land and the lives of local communities. From the mid-19th century, these mines fueled a transformative period, becoming the cornerstone of livelihoods and prosperity. Entire communities thrived around these mines, fostering a sense of unity and identity deeply rooted in industrial labor. As the mining industry burgeoned, it altered the region's landscape dramatically, reshaping hillsides and valleys to extract ironstone deposits.

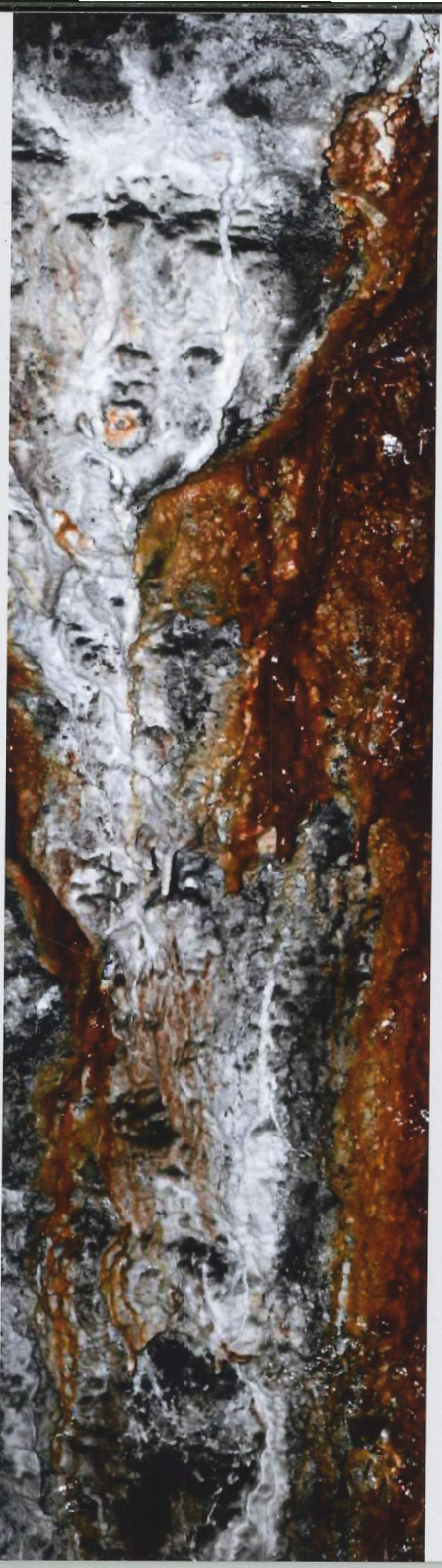
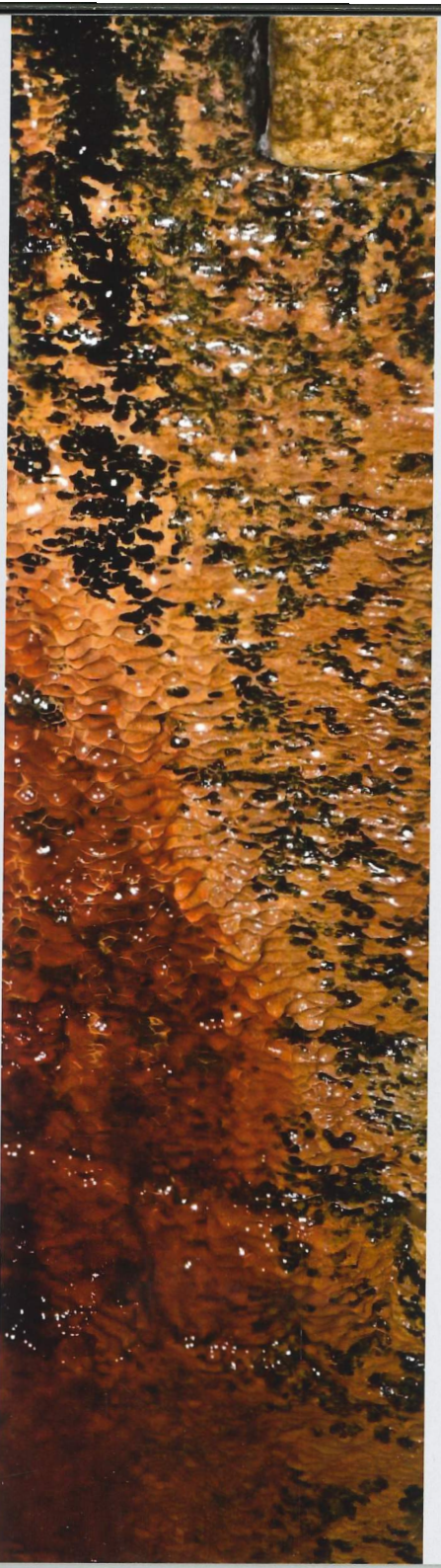
However, this industrial boom came with a cost, leaving scars on the land from extensive mining activities. The eventual decline of the mines in the mid-20th century was a significant blow to these communities, leading to economic hardships and the loss of many's way of life. Yet, the legacy of the Cleveland iron mines endures, weaving a narrative that intertwines the resilience of the land and the enduring spirit of its communities.



Both: 8x10 Analogue Print Of The Exterior Of The Mine, From A 19th Century Victorian Viewcamera.

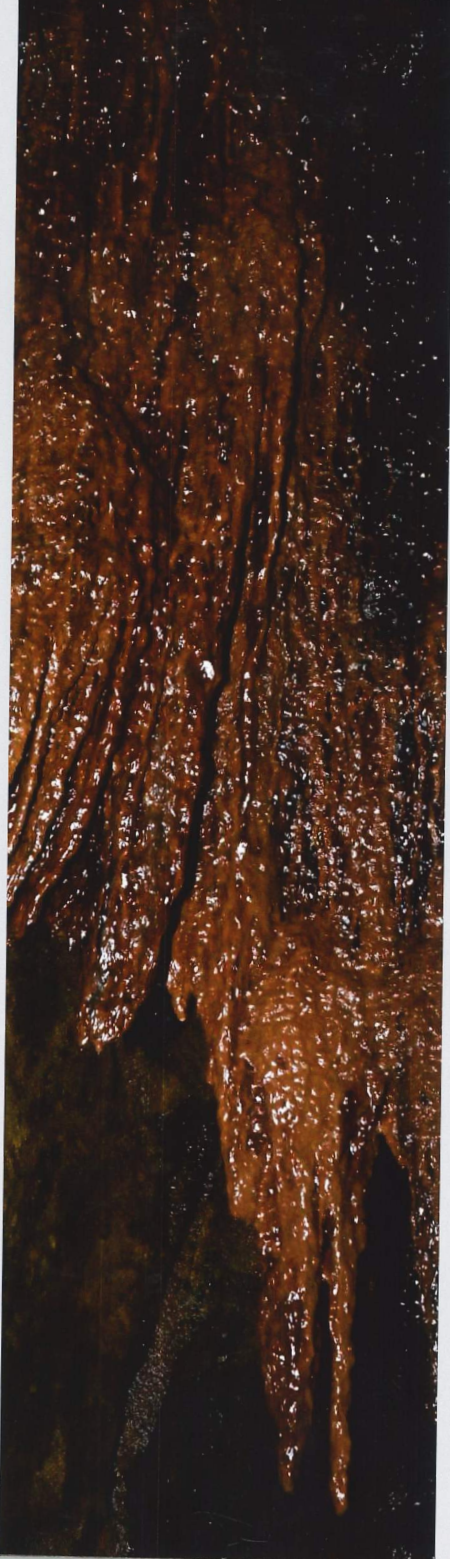






Both: Textural Images From The Inside Of The Mine

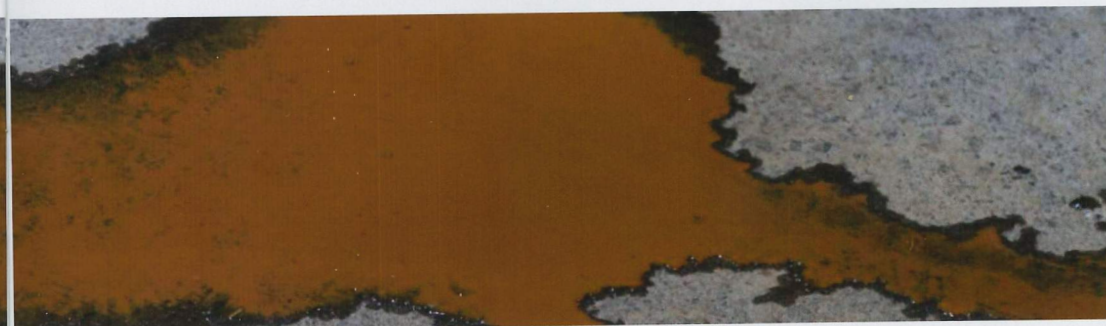




Both: Textural Images From The Inside Of The Mine



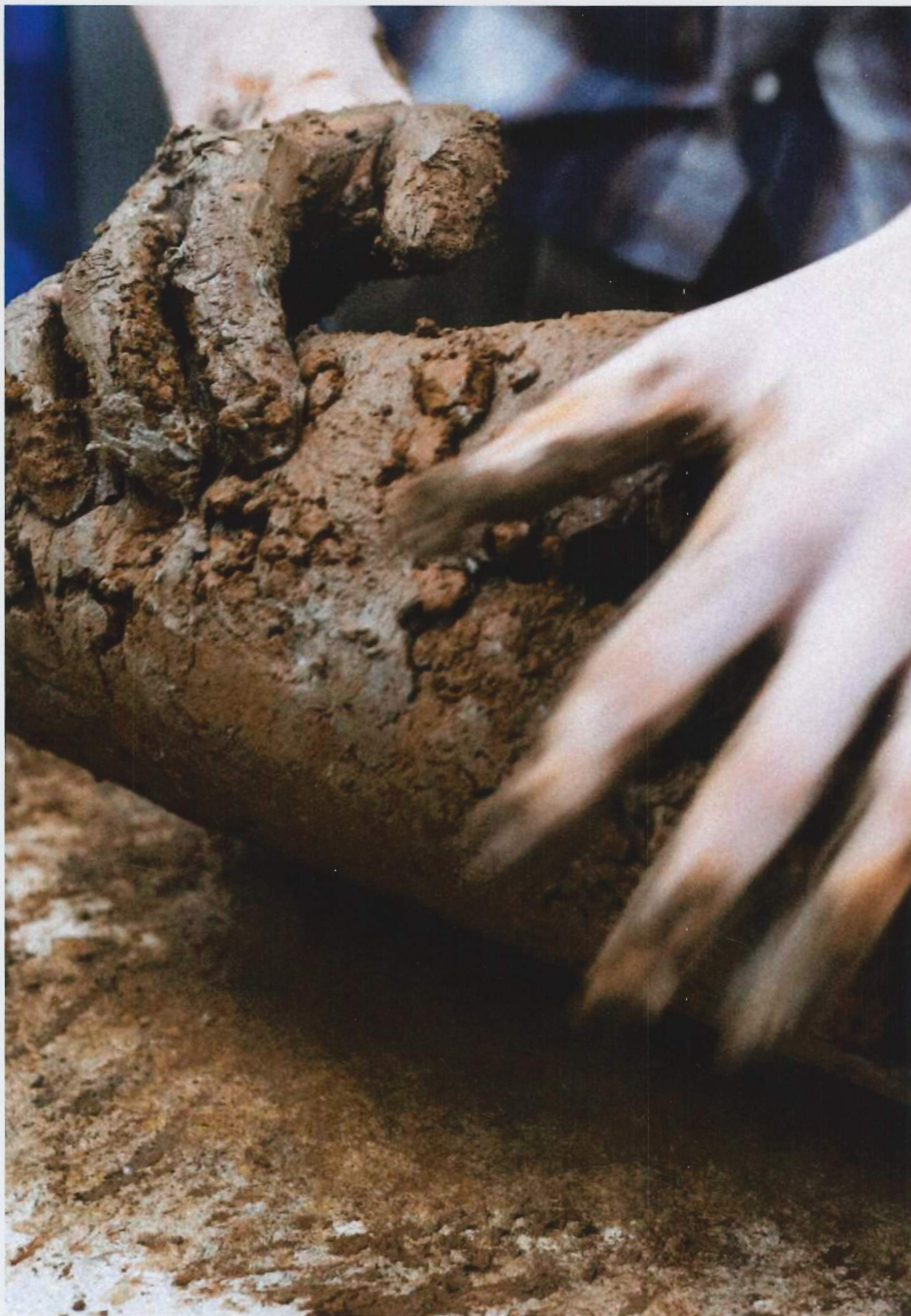
Collecting and refining wild clay from the abandoned mine in the North Yorkshire Moors isn't just a process; it's a narrative woven into the very fabric of each pot. The hands-on approach ensures an intimate understanding of the material, its characteristics, and its intrinsic nuances. Through this meticulous process, artisans immerse themselves in the landscape's history, gaining a deeper appreciation for the earth's offerings. This personal involvement infuses the pottery with authenticity, as each piece becomes a vessel not just for the table but for stories, preserving the essence of the land within its very structure. The act of processing wild clay embodies a reverence for tradition, sustainability, and an artistry that transcends mere utility, making each pot a testament to the beauty and significance of the natural world.











Left: Kneading Wild Clay With Stoneware to Create Marbling Pattern.  
Right: Throwing a Marbled Vase on The Pottery Wheel









Left: Various Mugs With 'Burnt Heather' Finish, 8cm  
Right: Small Vase Inspired By Conical Miners Flask, 15cm







*Both: Small Vases & Lidded Jars, 15cm*





*Both: Greenware Pieces Drying Out Before Bisque Firing*





*Both: Lidded Jars & Vase, Using Iron Oxide Wash & 'Burnt Heather' Finish.*





Left: Matching Pouring Jugs Inspired By Conical Flasks, 15cm (Left)  
30cm (Right).

Right: Vase Inspired By Chimney Stack With 'Burnt Heather' Finish,  
25cm

