

Artist Statement

Jill Foote-Hutton

My work reflects a desire to place myself in a larger context and create a dialogue with my audience. Using a combination of ceramic objects organized in specific situations I create a sense of time and place through installation and performative aspects. The clay is used to create beings that parallel human existence or quandaries and inhabit a world where my audience and I will be at peace, amused and challenged or unnerved.

Earthenware is my medium of choice, because it is the clay originally used by women when women were the keepers of hearth and home. This red, muddy earth is a constant reminder to me of the lineage I connect to as I work. There is small chance any observer of my work will make this connection, but it is an important and conscious choice for me.

Previously, my installations had a very serious tone and I find it too heavy handed now. My new challenge is to try and raise the serious questions with a gleam in my eye. Can I create a place that focuses on meditative questions of spirituality with a laugh? Can I pose the mournful question, "Is that all there is?" and still smile at the answer?

"You will be teachers for each other. You will come together in circles and speak your truth to each other. The time has come for women to accept their spiritual responsibility for our planet."

-The Feminine Face of God

Patricia Hopkins and Sherry Rochester