



ASHLEY PFANNENSTIEL



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(PRONOUNCED. FAN-IN-STEEL)

LEFT: ASHLEY THROWING A VASE
ON THE WHEEL IN THE WILSON
CREEK POTTERY STUDIO

Just the Facts! Ashley Pfannenstiel - [Wilson Creek Pottery](#) - Spring Green

Artist Medium: Ceramics. To be specific, high-fire, functional stoneware

Primary method of working: Centered, focused and with headphones.

Favorite surface/technique treatment: I like ceramics that

demand to be touched, held and used.

Equipment used: A wheel, water and a loop tool. And a big old kiln.

Favorite tools: A tiny crew of superfriends willing to help make this dream come true.

Studio playlist: Most days include bootlegged Grateful Dead concerts, and everything from early Dylan to the new Fiona Apple album. Have you heard My Morning Jacket's latest release, The Waterfall II? It receives my highest praises. Stop by, I'd love to chat music.



ASHLEY & HER DOG, MILDRED,
OUTSIDE WILSON CREEK POTTERY



THE KILN ALL LOADED UP
BEFORE FIRING



FRESHLY FIRED & FINISHED KILN
ALL READY TO UNLOAD

Artist Conversation!

Let's Learn a Little More...

Tell us a little bit about yourself and how you came to be living life the way you are today?

Once upon a time, I lived in Chicago and worked a normal job. I daydreamed of returning to my roots as an artist, but it was hard to find the time and space. When the space presented itself, in the form of an old cheese factory turned pottery studio in the Driftless, I promptly quit my day job. I used my background in arts and sculpture to hone my designs and skills as a functional potter. I love that my artwork is held, used and of service. My hope is that it enhances your enjoyment of a meal, a cup of coffee or a corner of your home.

RIGHT: ASHLEY DEMONSTRATES HOW SHE ATTACHES HANDLES TO MUGS

How do you create balance and keep things fresh while keeping your mind engaged?

2020 has given us all plenty of opportunities to look for balance. I have found a float down the river, a great album played loudly or a meal with loved ones to be a great reset button. It also helps that my job is literally staying centered and watching the wheel go 'round.



STUDIO VISITORS WATCHING A BOWL THROWING DEMONSTRATION DURING THE 2019 FALL ART TOUR



SEVERAL SETS OF MATCHING PLATES & BOWLS



YELLOW COFFEE MUG



BLUE VASE



STACKABLE SET OF BOWLS

RIGHT: MILDRED THE DOG IS ASHLEY'S CAPTIVATED AUDIENCE, WATCHING HER TRIM A BOWL



SHALLOW SALAD BOWL



MATCHING MUG & SAUCER



GROUP OF FOUR CUPS



COLLECTION OF BOWLS



Please tell us a little bit about your Studio!

My pottery studio is nestled in the hills of Spring Green, adjacent to its namesake, Wilson Creek. Come shop anytime, as we are open daily. You might find me throwing pots in the back room, firing the kiln outdoors, or my friendly pup, Mildred, taking a snooze in a sun puddle. There's always something in the works here and we welcome your company.

Where do you find your inspiration?

I am inspired by the simple, the durable and the classic—stuff that works. A great pair of jeans, a Tom Petty song, or the perfect grilled cheese. Anything can be inspiration, and I find simple does it best.

Where can we find your work and learn more?

Please take a moment and head over to our website: wilsoncreekpottery.com

We've revamped our website, and have lots of great designs to choose from (psst, free shipping!)

We also have an [Instagram](#) and [Facebook page](#) with behind-the-scenes from the studio, fresh new pots from the fire, and of course, updates on Mildred's latest resting spot.