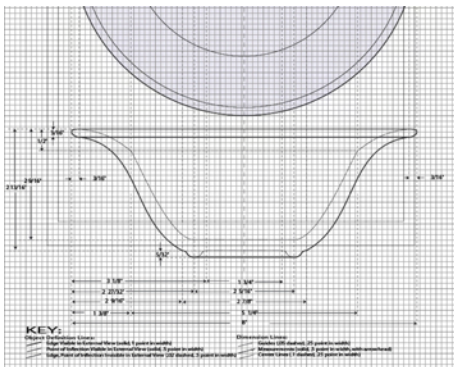


A Primer on Ceramic Slip Casting

(Visuals Illustrate a Range of Forms Designed by Jean Elton)

Design

The original design is created on a computer.



Model Making

The shape from the drawings is transferred to a metal template, which is then used with a plaster wheel (a potter's wheel dedicated to plaster modeling) to create the model of the design.



Slip Pouring

From the model (a positive), a working mold (a negative) is made and filled with a special type of slip (a liquid clay).



Cleaning

After about an hour or two the plaster absorbs enough water out of the slip to form a solid wall which constitutes the design itself. After pouring out the excess slip, Lois is shown here using a potter's wheel to smooth out the interior surface of the piece.



First Firing



After the piece dries, it is fired for the first of two times, after which it is ready for decoration.

Decoration

Lois is seen here creating the design on the surface of the work. She then uses little bottles of glazes to create the colorful patterns that typify much of the Jean Elton body of work. The piece is then fired again (to about 2200 degrees F) to produce the finished work of ceramic art.

