

## **Ren Elias - Artist Statement**

Through a critical feminist lens, I create ceramic vessels, ritual objects, and narrative tableaux that both honor and radically re-interpret spiritual and domestic tradition. I draw inspiration from the earth's natural cycles, personal mythologies, and socio-political narratives.

Rooted in the lineage of queer feminist artists who have reclaimed craft and storytelling from the margins, I approach ceramics as a medium of care, resilience, and exchange. I envision my work as a bridge—holding the tension between change and permanence, structure and freedom, the everyday and the eternal.

The oldest recorded human footprint is preserved in clay. Pottery shards remain some of the most revealing artifacts of our past. When I coil, throw, or pinch, I engage with humanity's most ancient conduit of knowledge. Through surface design, I embed layered narratives into each piece. As symbolism and legibility rise to the surface, something universal distills underneath: the truth of our collective belonging.

Through clay, I marry the individual with the infinite, questioning what it means to belong—to a community, movement, or moment in time. My work is a reverent reminder of our interconnectedness and the persistent belief that art can usher in more compassionate, equitable worlds.