



CAROLINE REEHL

Caroline Reehl Ceramics | Raleigh, North Carolina

In a masterful move, potter Caroline Reehl combined the fragility of flowers with the strength of ceramics to create stunning pieces for her senior-thesis show at the University of Mississippi. Crafted using applied roses and lilies and washed with subtle color, the vases and bowls are a blend of rustic beauty and delicate femininity.

After graduating from Ole Miss, where she earned a BFA with an emphasis in ceramics, the Alabama native held a show in her hometown to gauge public reaction and ended up selling all the pieces. The event convinced Caroline that her dream of being a full-time artist could become a reality.

“Growing up in the Deep South, I was surrounded with the culture of the ‘Southern lady.’ The traditions I was brought up with included self-worth and confidence. I wanted to capture that luxuriant and untamed spirit,” says Caroline. “These vessels display the internal strength and the external beauty of Southern women through the representation of the Lord’s creation. What better way to depict a lady than a rose in full bloom?”

After forming a vessel at her potter’s wheel, the talented artist constructs each petal of every flower individually, a process that gives charming character to the finished work. Caroline uses roses and lilies as metaphors for the strong, sensitive, fragile, and sensual facets of a woman’s character. Each object is unique—intricate and inviting, beautiful yet functional.

“I feel I learn something new every day, and with each show or order, I find a more efficient way of doing business,” she says. “My advice is to have confidence in your voice! You are uniquely and wonderfully made—believe that, and take a chance. There is so much power in being a woman. Use it!”

“I use roses and lilies as a metaphor for women. The flowers on each piece are at the peak of their bloom and represent internal strength and external beauty.”

