



THE BLACK WARE (SAGGER FIRING)

Stoneware and porcelain pieces are coated with *terra sigillata*, or “Sealed Earth”.

This technique was used in Roman pottery circa the 1st century AD. The bone dry clay is coated with a very fine liquid slip, and when burnished, makes for an organic gloss making the piece receptive to atmospheric firing.

I place the work in a bed of sawdust, cover with a bucket and create a bonfire around it. The heat ignites the interior materials and creates a reduction environment driving the carbon into the clay body. This process is a low tech version of sagger firing. The art is then cleaned, buffed and

