

# S N Y D E R M A N - W O R K S G A L L E R I E S

## **Carolyn Chester Artist Statement**

I work with porcelain for its fine texture which allows me to turn my thrown pieces with precision to create work with a well-defined and strong line. My sculpture often consists of constructions made with several porcelain pieces, sometimes combined with found metal colored by Geoffrey. The pieces are assembled for the construction, then cemented together with epoxy. I make constructions with abstract elements which can play off one another. In boxes with white interior walls, abstract pieces cast shadows on the walls making intriguing images to catch one's eye.

My porcelain is fired to 1280 C in an electric kiln. Colors are made with manganese or copper oxides or cobalt aluminate and a frit to produce a slip which is painted on the raw ware. The raw ware is fired in the bisque or first firing. Next a glaze high in feldspar and barium is painted over the piece from the bisque for the glaze firing. The exteriors of many of my pots are not glazed at all but polished after the second fire which produces a beautiful sheen. Cobalt aluminate produces a range of clean blues without heavy purple; combined with copper, blue green; manganese, blacks, bronze, soft pink or pink blush, subtle grays.