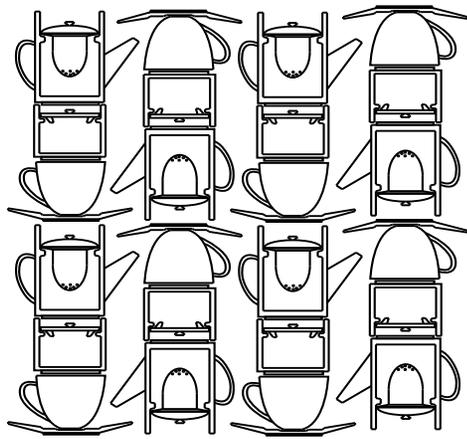




JORDAN  
CERAMICS

2020 - 2022

[www.jordanbceramics.com](http://www.jordanbceramics.com)



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# JORDAN BLANKENSHIP

JordanBCeramics is a small-scale ceramics design + production studio. The philosophy is simple: everything is 100% handmade with an attention to quality. My functional objects explore how simple utilitarian forms become an integral part of everyday life.

I develop multi-functional ceramic sets that explore topics of efficiency and design while playing with systems and outcomes that challenge expected limitations. Today, my collections can be found through partnerships with retailers across the United States. From my studio in Estero, Florida I continue to hone my craft.





“Why do we make things for another’s use at all? Is there not, at the core of our impulse to make things, something closer to the ideal gift relationship? Of course, we make things in order to meet material needs. But we can also see the design and making of things as having the purpose of transforming the external world from one which claims indifference to human fate to one which acknowledges human conscious and the conditions of how we are, as humans in the world. In other words, it is objects that give us a human world.”

# PART 1



## Wheel Thrown Ceramics

I started working with clay in college and instantly fell in love. I make my pottery from soft white stoneware clay that I form on a wheel. The philosophy is simple: everything is 100% handmade with attention to quality.

Through its extreme Malleability, multiple Transitions and physical stages, and unusual ability to retain memory, clay speaks to us in many ways.

*"Warm, simple and honest. Clay is a pure raw material and an incredible gift of nature."*

-Cermer

## COLLECTION

# 4.5



Collection 4.5 The beverage set.  
Pieces included: mug, saucer,  
teapot, juicer, and storage jar.

Each series has been named for the dimension created when I'm in my studio, throwing each piece on the potter's wheel. From the moment of creation, I create scalable and yet fully customizable pieces while keeping as much of production in my own hands as possible.



It all begins with step one: Wheel throw each piece to maintain the dimension of 4.5-inch width so that the piece can continue to connect with its counterparts.

The beauty of the series lies in its endless versatility – the 4.5 and 8.25 collections become fully customizable systems that are both stylish and functional, with options to cater to an individual's preferences.

### **As a ceramic artist,**

**I can't help but find myself commenting on how functional objects can play into our daily lives and how they can find meaning in ritual. With my ceramic pieces, I create sets that invite participation in people's coming together and the enjoyment of food. I make pieces of service, and I generate interaction through a series of interchanging sets that guide people through the process of my rituals of the everyday.**

When I make the tea or coffee, my process informs the set - it thinks of my changing needs and my desires to slow down. In one moment, I envision myself opening a jar of ground espresso beans, with the boiling water off the side and a casual coffee pour-over sitting atop a teacup. This vision can change quickly as I open another jar full of dried tea leaves. Suddenly the hot boiling water can be poured into the teapot, adapting to a new ritual and satisfying a new craving that I might have. I facilitate this change and adaptability with these ceramic forms. I am balancing my need for efficiency and my value on the benefit of taking more time to achieve outcomes that meet our needs and desires.

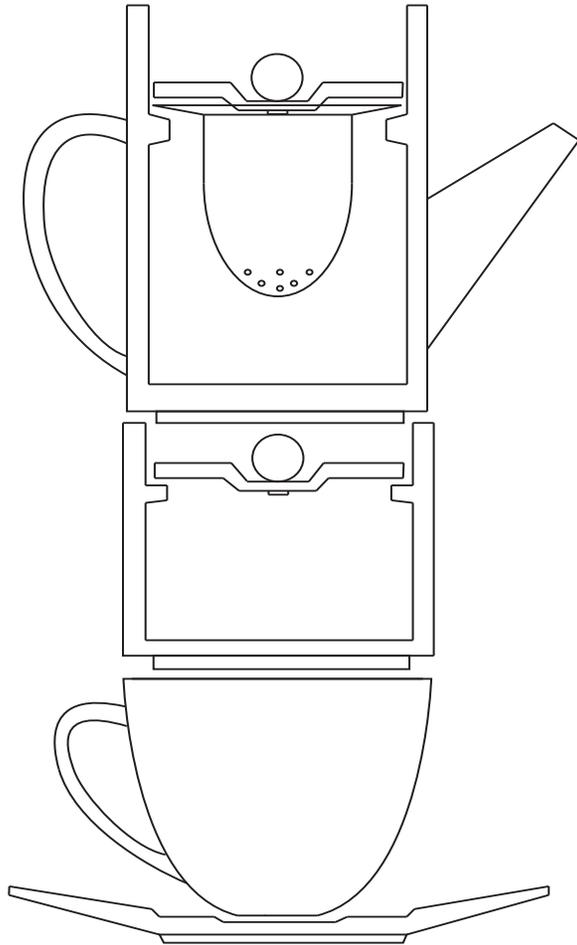


**Materials:** Ceramic and cork

**Components:** Teapot with a covered jar and mug with saucer.

On one wall in my studio is are sketches of ideas that come to me, cross-sections, and digitally rendered ideas.

At the beginning of each series, I begin with a series of sketches in illustrator. The illustrations help me quickly break down cross-sections in the diagrams and get new ideas to be tested physically on the wheel. In the end, they become pieces of art that become 2D instructions that inform us on how the 3D objects connect.





## PART 2

THE ADDITION OF CORK

### Pitcher and Tumbler Set

Sustainable handmade

Cork began to be incorporated into my sets after the summer of 2021. I found myself looking to new materials to create a series that embraces clay's limitations and accepted a new material to be the solution.

Cork is water-resistant, lightweight, rot-resistant, compressible, recoverable, expendable, anti-static, impermeable, buoyant, and recyclable. It's an incredible natural material with amazing properties.





Cork is one of the most sustainable-produced materials available. Its harvest, done only once every nine years from the cork oak tree grown in the western Mediterranean region and Northwest Africa. Mediterranean cork forests sequester millions of tons of carbon dioxide each year and are a vast provider of oxygen to our planet. Cork is considered a climate positive material in that the trees pull more carbon dioxide from the air than is produced during the processing and transport.

In this series each block of cork was custom made to fit the ceramic components. Using the lathe, blocks of cork have been refined and reshaped to create key functional forms in each set. As seen above the cake serving dish has been designed to be made entirely out of cork. The goal is to find a harmonious balance between each material's properties.

## CERAMICS + CORK



COLLECTION

8.25



Collection 8.25 The confection set.  
Pieces included: nesting bowls, cake stand,  
bundt pan, cake topper, chaurceturie board  
and horderves dish.

**Outcome: quality craftsmanship, customization and beautiful, simple design.**



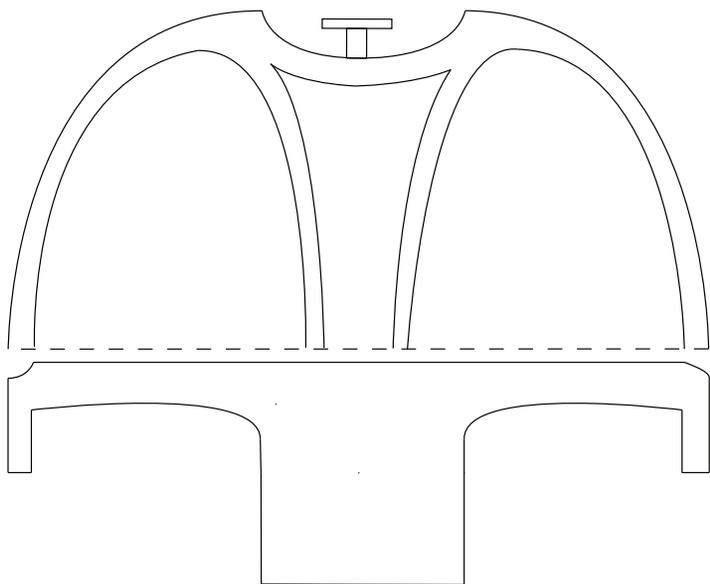
Each component is interchangeable to allow the pieces to be arranged in any order. I have carefully thrown every piece in the 8.25" collection to maintain strict dimensions to stack together.

The inspiration behind my work comes from the experience of using objects in my daily routines. I believe handmade ceramics can become an interactive tool capable of providing joy and value in our daily lives. These collections will continue to evolve, adapting to the ever-changing needs of daily life. The series is designed to last; the ceramic sets can infinitely reconfigure the system as pieces are removed and added to the group. The 8.25" collection finds a balance to my desire for savory and sweet meals to survive the day!

**Materials:** Ceramic and cork

**Components:** 3 in 1 design ceramic bun baking dish, cork cake stand and reversible Ceramic cake cover.

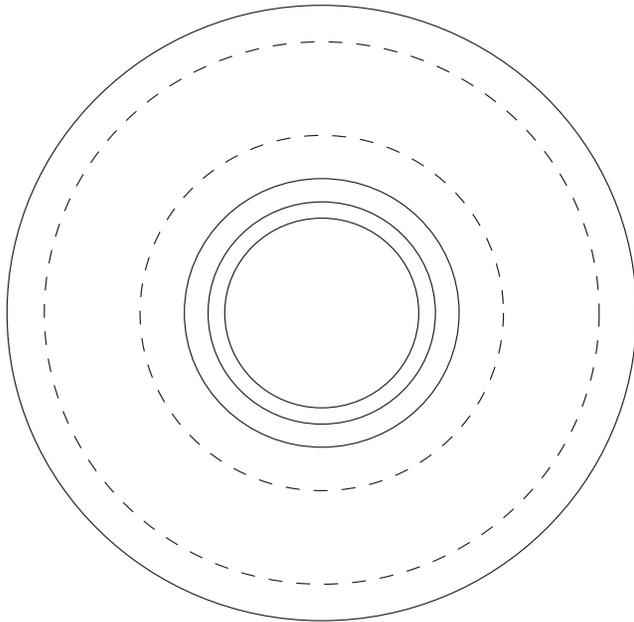
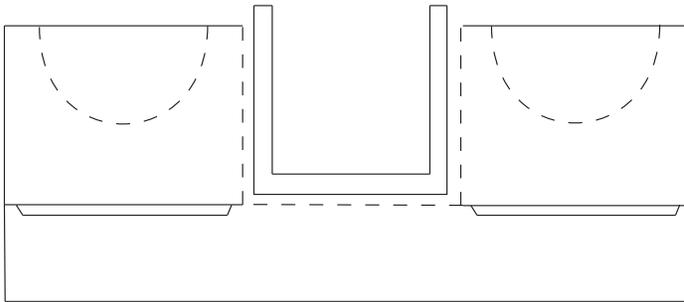
In my practice I've always tried to understand how pieces that provide for the moments of everyday life play out - whether they promote eating a table or slowing down to prepare nourishment. However, in my interactive design system, I try to understand how we adapt to preconceptions and limitations in physical space. I try to envision how sets can embrace space constraints or become flexible to customize users preferences overtime.



**Materials:** Ceramic and cork

**Components:** 2 in 1 design ceramic tray and bowl with a reversible cork charcuterie board

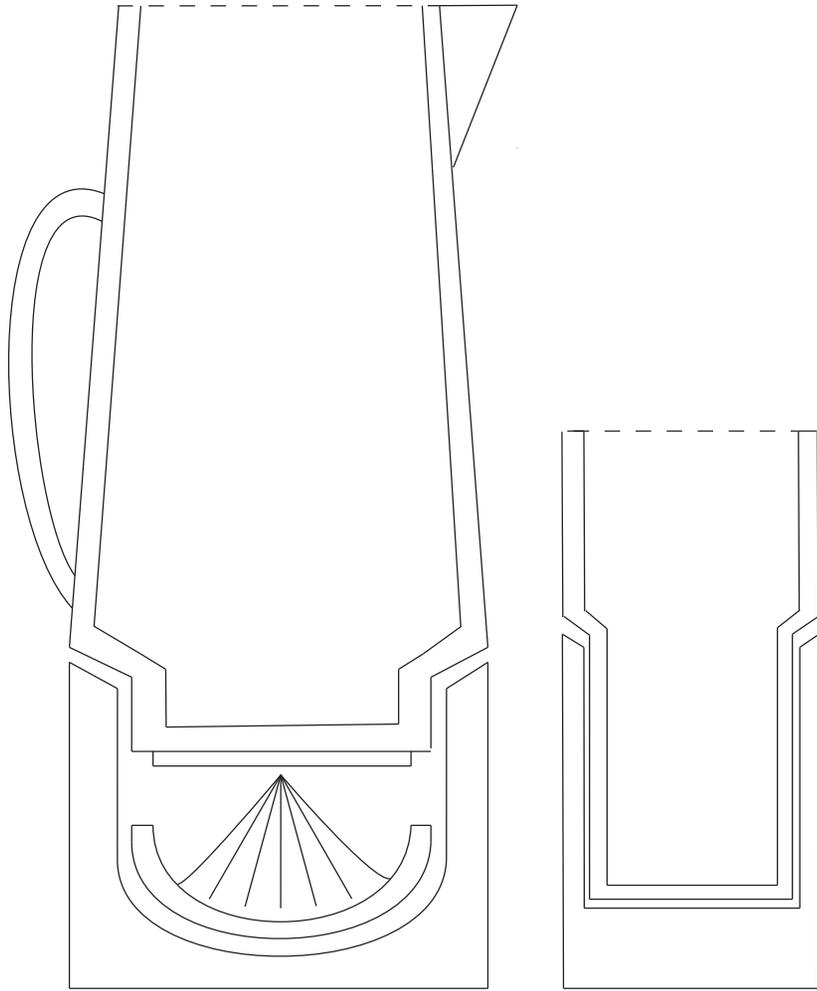
For this series, I wanted to explore how pieces can continue to adapt. This piece is functional in either orientation. When upright, the piece can dual as a cracker and dip tray. Meanwhile the cork inlay on the bottom can be used as a cutting board for charcuterie when reversed. The base is made from high-density, recycled cork, and performs better than hardwood boards. The cork will never warp, and your knives will stay sharper, longer.



Charcuterie Set  
COLLECTION 8.25

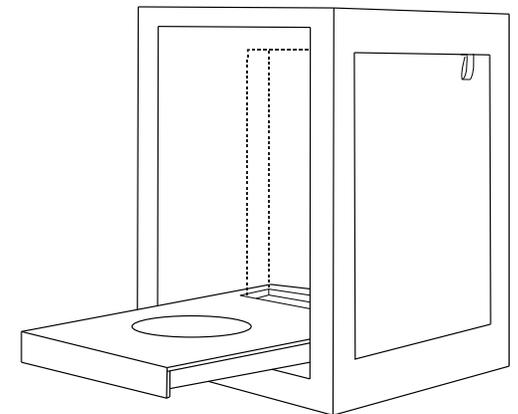
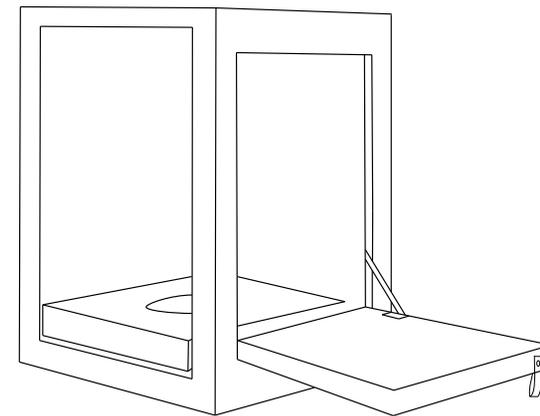
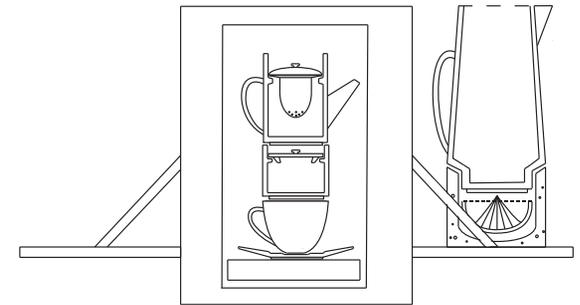






**JUICING SET**  
COLLECTION 8.25





My ceramic sets facilitate modern life's daily rituals that bring us joy by rethinking the very way we live with them. Each component can adapt to individual preferences, entertaining the duality between the domestic household's simple and complex habits. I use design to understand everyday spatial challenges; my biggest development has been creating versatile custom cabinets for my work.

With this recent evolution to my series, I've been looking at how the addition of custom cabinets can be multi functional in the home. Using furniture I can now develop solutions that help enrich our everyday moments while offering smart, compact, and efficient design while in use and while being stored waiting to be used.

My goal is to continue growing my ceramic design studio, focused on small-scale design and production, encouraging sustainability and a dedication to the craft. With these goals, I will continue to push limitations, using efficient and compact, handmade ceramics as an interactive tool, capable of providing joy and value in our daily lives.





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