



are pleased to announce ...

"Master Class/Retreat with Regional Artists"

We have teamed up with Margaret River Region Open Studios to offer a series of, all inclusive, Artist retreats, running throughout the year & featuring local, Margaret River Region Artists, using different medium & techniques

Award Winning

Sally May Mills

15-17 April 2019

Ceramics/Pottery

<https://www.instagram.com/claylines/>

All materials will be provided





What's Included ...

Monday Arrive

From 1800 Meet the Artist, & other participants, while you enjoy a delicious 3 Course, a la Carte Dinner, in Willow Grill Restaurant

Tuesday

0730 - 1000 Breakfast, a la Carte, served in the restaurant

1100 - 1600 Master Class @ Studio with Featured Artist (Alternative Gourmet Wine Tour with Lunch for partner*)
Light lunch and afternoon tea included
Free evening

Wednesday

0730 - 1000 Breakfast, a la Carte, served in the restaurant

1000 Depart

COST

From \$335 pp

"Sip n Semillon"

***PARTNER NOT A PAINTER? - Don't leave them at home - we have organised a fabulous, full day, gourmet wine tour, including lunch, on day two while the master class is being held. <https://mcleodtours.com.au/> for further tour details**

To secure your place or to register for a future ART Master class/Retreats,
Ph: 9757 2633 E: admin@staymargaretriver.com.au



A DATE WITH CLAY



Working with clay is a dialogue between the material, the hands and the mind. Beginning with a simple pinch pot, you will become acquainted with the character of the clay and the directness with which touch shapes and changes it. A mindful focus on the process is more important than the outcome, and with the opportunity to slow down and create, your awareness will become more grounded in the present.

You will then move onto the dynamic practice of cutting, stretching and texturing slabs. Sally will guide you through the fundamentals of hand-building and how to incorporate moulds to shape the clay. These versatile techniques can be used to make functional and decorative items, such as tumblers, plates, bowls and vases. Select your two favourite pots, and a glaze from the studio collection, and Sally will fire them for you to pick up at a later date.

The workshop will be held in a unique open-air studio space.

All materials will be provided. Bring an apron, or wear clothes that can get muddy.

Suitable for all levels; from beginners to those with some pottery experience.

"Show us what you've got, don't settle for mediocrity. Let's create dangerously, taking inspired leaps and risks to honour those who came before us"

(Mark Hewitt)



Artist's statement : Sally May Mills

Life was very different before I discovered clay. After graduating from the University of Western Australia, I eschewed society's suggested path and travelled the world exercising my curiosity and exploring the unfamiliar. For over a decade, I was devoted to a slow and simple life on a beach in a remote Indonesian village, where the rhythm of the tides punctuated the day. A camera was my artistic weapon of choice, and I dipped in and out of a career as a food and lifestyle photographer, shooting for campaigns throughout Australia and Bali. The digital nature of photography had me longing for a more physical manifestation of creativity, and my first pottery lesson in Bali was a revelation. The journey to full-time artist had many interludes, as the island life continued, but eventually the desire to learn more about ceramics led me to a residency in Japan, after which I was awarded an internship at Gaya Ceramics Art Centre in Bali. Loaded with a vast and varied knowledge from many teachers, clay became my focus, and I returned to Australia at the end of 2017 to set up a studio in my hometown of Busselton.

In my work as an artist I hope to forge deeper connections for others, and myself, and to encourage a simpler, more mindful life. I bring who I am to the clay, and my pots are a reflection of my emotions, experiences, values, beliefs and environment. I strive for a considered sense of form and proportion in each piece, with qualities of calmness, joy, and simplicity. Being close to nature in its purest forms is a priority in my life, and the ocean and Australian bushland greatly influence the forms and surfaces of my work. I am drawn to the approachable and non-threatening nature of functional pots, and it is my hope that handmade ceramics can influence a person's everyday experience and enhance their daily rituals. A cup of coffee in a handmade mug can remind people, in the hustle of their everyday, to slow down and appreciate the essential qualities that bring true happiness : a deeper connection to self, to others and to the environment. There is a unique level of intimacy with which ceramics can be experienced, and knowing that a piece of pottery I have created will be held closely on a daily basis, adds to the validity of the piece and the attention to detail it deserves. My drive to make functional pots also arises from a love of cooking, celebrating with food and drink, and the power that beautiful objects have to add aesthetic enrichment to a home.

I enjoy the physical and meditative qualities of wheel throwing and I am intrigued by the many challenges that the materials present. It is a grounding practice as I centre myself, my mind and the clay, focusing on the hypnotic rhythm of the wheel and the sensual feel of the clay between my hands. There is a cyclical pattern of studio work from making, through to glazing and firing, and the possibility of victory or failure at every step demands a relinquishing of control, with persistent reminders of impermanence.

Pots have a deep and ancient connection to human life, which still resonates with many of us today, despite the dominant culture of mass consumption and speed. As a potter, I am a part of that tradition, and I feel honored to share it with others.





Sally May Mills

Sally creates contemporary, functional ceramics with a considered sense of form and proportion. Her work expresses calmness, joy and simplicity, and seeks to communicate beauty and authenticity.



Studio Garden







MRROS 2019 DATES

Margaret River Region Open Studios

Saturday 27th April - Sunday 12th May

<https://www.mrropenstudios.com.au/>

Suggested ART Galleries to visit include ...

<http://www.artgeo.com.au/>
<http://www.payetgallery.com.au/>
<http://www.meltingpotglass.com/>
<https://www.theclayhouse.net.au/>
<https://www.margaretrivergallery.com.au/>
<https://www.jahroc.com.au/>
<https://www.mukau.com.au/>
<http://www.christianfletcher.com.au/>
<http://www.boranupgallery.com/>
<http://www.streaterfinefurniture.com/>
<http://johnmillerdesign.com/>

