

Bec Thomas



Image courtesy of the artist.

About the artist

Bec Thomas began her ceramics journey in 2011 at Rockingham TAFE. In 2013, using her background in community programming and facility management, Bec became one of six founding members of the Rockingham Ceramics Studio. Bec continues in the role of Studio Coordinator, including teaching hand-building, glaze making, slip casting and RAKU and curating members exhibitions.

In recent years Bec has gained the confidence to separate her own arts practice from her Studio role and begin working towards becoming a recognised artist in her own right. Her previous group exhibitions include *IOTA*, by invitation at Contemporary Art Spaces Mandurah (CASM), 2024; *Perception*, a joint exhibition at CASM, 2025; and Ceramics Arts Association of WA Members Selective at Wireless Hill Park, 2025. She has also undertaken two residencies: three months at CASM in 2025 and five months at Rockingham Arts Centre in 2026.

Bec is a self-confessed glaze-making nerd. She has completed several glaze-making courses with the internationally recognised Matt Katz, from Ceramic Materials Workshop, and continues her glaze-making education through experimentation and research.

In 2026 Bec is working on new pieces to enter local and national exhibitions.



Rockingham Arts Centre
11 Kent Street,
Rockingham

Gallery opening times:

Wednesday – Sunday
10am – 12.30pm
1pm – 4pm

Contact:

(08) 9527 0734
artscentre@rockingham.wa.gov.au
rockingham.wa.gov.au/exhibitions



rockingham.wa.gov.au



The City of Rockingham values your feedback.

Please scan the QR code to complete a short survey. Thank you.

Acknowledgement of Country

The City of Rockingham acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Binjareb and Whadjuk Nyoongar peoples and their continuing connection to the land, waters and community. We pay our respects to all members of Aboriginal communities and their cultures, and to Elders past and present.



Spectrum

Bec Thomas, *Spectrum*, 2025 - 2026,
glazed ceramics, dimensions variable.
Image courtesy of the artist.

Bec Thomas

Wednesday 20 May to
Sunday 7 June 2026



Bec Thomas, *Glaze Test Tiles*, 2025 - 2026, dimensions variable. Image courtesy of the artist.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE

2011 was the year that my life changed when I was diagnosed with borderline personality disorder. After years of wrong diagnoses, I was finally able to breathe and felt confident to step out of the house and explore something new.

From my first ceramics class I knew I had found my passion and dove headfirst into absorbing everything I could and still wanted more. Ceramics satisfied my desire to discover how things are made, experiment with design and colour, and let the process of creation lead the outcome. But most importantly, it calmed my mind. When I was in the studio with my hands covered in clay, all the external noise in my head began to fade away.

Initially I naively thought of it as creating, without any purpose or deeper reason. But as my mind cleared and my inspiration grew, I noticed a pattern to the work I was designing - I was creating vessels in multiples that were connected by balance and contrast.

Recognising this pattern led me on an interesting path of retrospection and awareness. Realising that I was not alone in feelings of not being normal and not fitting in helped me stop comparing myself to others with a negative slant and instead start

appreciating our similarities and differences. The word 'normal' is the source of so much angst and negativity, when in fact there is no normal. We are all a part of an amazing spectrum that makes up the human race. When looking at a spectrum as a whole, each link and variation that contributes to that whole is equally as valuable and necessary.

Each of the vessels on display were created in the same way, with the same basic components, utilising the same techniques, but made unique with the application of glaze. The final glaze selection is a result of my obsessive passion for glaze-making and months of experimentation to amass a collection of colours, shades, opacities and surfaces (each glaze has a plethora of test tiles and notes documenting the research journey). The glaze variation complements and enhances the overall majesty of the installation.

This exhibition is the culmination of my journey of creative exploration and growing confidence as an artist. I hope this stunning array of colour, scale and form will challenge the perception of what it means to be different; to celebrate our connectivity as an integral part of what makes us human.



Bec Thomas, *Unglazed Bisque Ware*, 2025 - 2026, dimensions variable. Image courtesy of the artist.