

Frith Bail

Artist Statement

"We hold a piece of clay quietly in our hands rubbing it softly, stroking it, smashing it, forming it , and we feel a dialogue begin. Listen: who is speaking." - Mary Caroline Richards.

Frith has created in clay all her life in a continuing dialogue that always begins with listening. "Every time I work with clay I listen to it. Clay has always told me what to do."

As a child growing up in the Laurentian Mountains of Quebec, she felt drawn by a spiritual connection to the natural world around her, which continues to this day. At her studio in the steeply rolling hills south of Georgian Bay, she harvests blue clay from the pond on her property, incorporates ash from her wood stove, exploring new glazes and deepening the connection of a piece to the landscape which inspired it.

The language of her sculpture reveals itself through these earthly elements with which she so closely resonates, a quiet but powerful dialogue, between hand and soul, that mirrors her own inner journey. The result is a viscerally compelling celebration of spiritual transcendence through form and texture and colour.

Her current show, *Sisters, Rocks, and Roots* from Dec 7 to Dec 31 aptly reflects the essence of the pre-cambrian rocks and boreal forests of the Laurentians she so loves, figuratively capturing the soul that lies within its immutability and the song that plays within its light and shadow.

Currently showing with her sister, *Ilana Manolson* at the Lucy Lacoste gallery in Concord Mass., Frith's sculptural art has been shown in Boston, Quebec, Toronto, Collingwood, and Creemore. Her work can be found in private collections in Canada and the US.

"When you live in the same land for a very long time it gets into your soul." - Frith Bail