

Imagery from nature on Ceramics

Design Research Seminar Project

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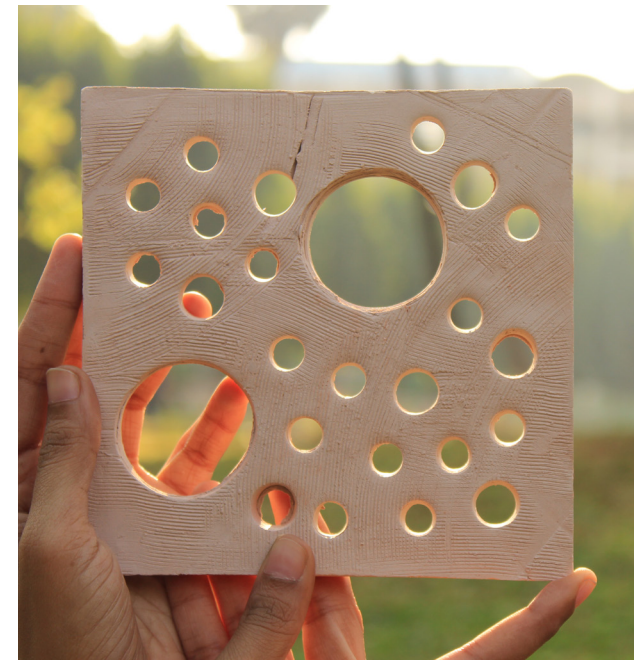
Industrial Design Centre | IIT Bombay

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The project involved a study of nature and creating designs that are drawn from natural forms. A close observation of flowers, leaves, insects and animals and natural elements and periods like night, water, sun-light, air, fire led to explorations with clay.

Ceramics is a form of nature itself and a beautiful medium that allows us to express our thoughts in various ways. The more we get closer and deeper to nature in our day to day life and activities the more we will understand the value of it. And a reminder of our need to protect it.

The project allowed me to work with two types of clay: stoneware and terracotta. Stoneware clay was used to make flat tiles and terracotta clay for the lamp. The basic understanding of clay such as kneading, process of making and drying tiles, handling, using tools to carve, making your own tool to create a pattern, applying glaze, loading the kiln, glaze firing and then analysing the results, all these were an important part that contributed to this project.



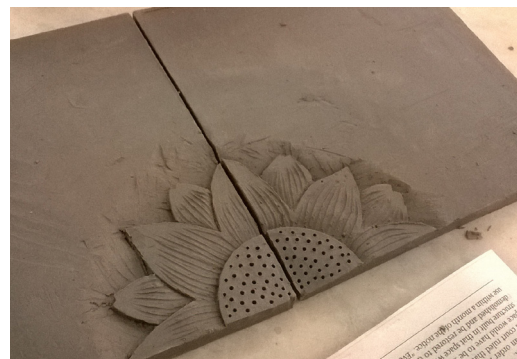
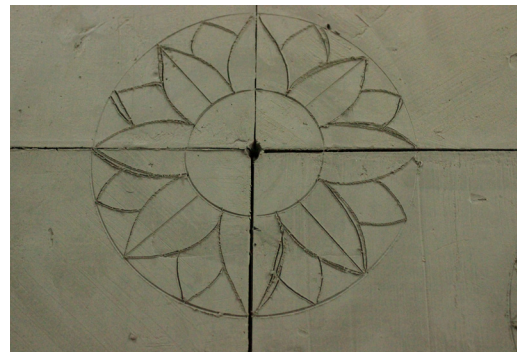
Making individual Ceramic tiles by using different techniques to create new forms inspired by nature

Techniques such as carving, embossing, cutting, relief were explored. Also the application of glazes before and after the techniques helped to get variant results.



Exploring the nature forms and carving technique to create a mural on a set of six tiles

A composition was sketched with the forms in mind and then executed on the tiles. The tiles were carved to get the relief.



Changing the surface from flat to a third dimension: Firefly lamp

Inspired by fireflies in the campus I find these little creatures, mysterious. In the day they roam around normally, unnoticed. But as the night rises their twinkling abdomen excite people of all ages. This work was an exploration of combining nature forms plus periods like day and night.

