

POTERIE CASTALAN



• CRAFT/PROFESSION

Baptiste CASTALAN makes handcrafted glazed and unglazed stoneware pots. He creates his glazes (colours) using raw natural materials: rock dust, metal oxides and wood ashes or tree fern ashes...



"It all begins with a clod of earth; I work in tandem with the earth, respecting my raw material. My material must be happy with everything I do, from the first firing to glazing and the second high temperature firing at 1300°" explains Baptiste. "Earth is a living thing".

• BACKGROUND

Baptiste has always loved creating things and being in close contact with his materials. He studied for and gained a degree in design but he found the work too conceptual and began to specialise in model-making so he could "touch the materials and give life to the objects I created".

He discovered pottery in New Caledonia, learning the craft with Dumbea-based potter Gaël Citeau, who creates his own natural



glazes and who taught him how to master a potter's wheel. He soon fell in love with earthenware design and creation.

• INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS

Baptiste is particularly fascinated by Japanese pottery, one of the oldest earthenware traditions in the world. Tableware is Baptiste's area of creative choice, he loves pottery that is both beautiful and useful. His expert hands give life to bowls, cups, jugs and dishes and his method of firing endows each with a distinctive colour and texture.

Baptiste draws his inspiration from nature and the earth he works with.