

## **Mandla Twala-biography**

Born 8th of April 1977 in Vosloorus, Ekurhuleni. He lives with 5 sisters and 6 brothers, the 11<sup>th</sup> child of 12.

Mandla was inspired to be a graphic designer and started along this path at Parktown College. However, during this period he was exposed to other contemporary ceramic artists and he was inspired and motivated to change his career direction. He loved the austerity and beauty of décor on the ceramics at the time.

After completing tertiary education Mandla enrolled at the Technikon of Witwatersrand in the ceramics department. He studied fine art in his first year as he thought this would give him the discipline of conceptualizing his work in the future. He then was strongly drawn to ceramics and moved to doing ceramics in his second year of study.

Mandla has freelanced at various private pottery studios over the years and is currently working on building an even better understanding of hand techniques; specially slab building, coiling and coiting.

Future plans include working in paper clay, exploring architectural forms and dealing with geometric forms.