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## Pineapple, 022, Conversation

Jesse W. Standlea  
*St. Margaret's Episcopal School*

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## **Abstract**

Many sources date the pit-firing process as a 30,000 plus years-old ceramic firing technique. Every year I take my AP 3D Design class to the beach to fire ceramic pieces using this method. Being a contemporary sculptor who shows in Los Angeles I have always appreciated pit-fired pieces but never used one in my own art practice until now. A connection between the first method of firing ceramics and my art practice seemed unrelated. The title for my piece might add to the disconnect; and yet these seemingly unrelated elements force the work into a place where the artistic process and art object coexist.

## **Author/Artist Bio**

Jesse Standlea is an as artist, educator and advocate of the arts. His artwork straddles the line between functional and conceptual art practices. He regularly shows in Los Angeles and is a member of Durden and Ray Fine Art located in downtown Los Angeles, CA. He teaches three-dimensional art at St. Margaret's in San Juan Capistrano where he is the current Visual Arts Department Chair. He holds a BFA in Ceramics from Cal State Fullerton and an MFA in Sculpture from Claremont Graduate University. At Claremont he was awarded the Helen B. Dooley Art Fellowship and worked for Roland Reiss as an artist assistant. He has worked in independent schools for 10 years and taught at the college level. As an advocate for the arts, he has spoken at numerous events, put on workshops and hosted benefits such as "Empty Bowls" raising funds for a local food bank and gander outreach program.

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**Pineapple, 022, Conversation**

*Jesse W. Standlee*