# Caddy

Richard Batterham

**Not on display**

**Title/Description:** Caddy

**Artist/Maker:** Richard Batterham (Artist)

**Born:** 1980 c.

**Object Type:** Pot, Vessel

**Materials:** Ceramic, Stoneware

**Technique:** Throwing

**Measurements:** h. 130mm

**Accession Number:** 50721

**Production Place:** Britain, England

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For over fifty years Richard Batterham has steadfastly made exceptional ash and salt glazed wheel-thrown domestic forms (see also 50720 and 50722). He is renowned for his strong and simple shapes which evoke warmth and tactility. Here a wash of pale celadon glaze brings lightness to the robust form and diagonal markings subtlety enliven the surface. The caddy is a form that Batterham has continually returned to and made in a range of scales.

Batterham apprenticed at the Leach pottery in St Ives from 1957 to 1958. His work reflects the influence of Bernard Leach's ideas, demonstrating a strong affinity with Korean ceramics and English medieval pottery. Tableware and functional ware are terms that might be used to describe Batterham's ceramics, however, he refers to the objects he makes simply as pots – rejecting commercial categorisation and trends. [1] He embodies the artist-potter, producing his work without assistance, preparing his own clay and making meaningful objects for daily use that 'enrich life rather than adorn it'. [2]

Sim Panaser, July 2020

[1] Andy Christian, 'Just Pots', *Ceramic Review*, 239 (September/October 2009), p. 41.

[2] Tony Birks, 'Richard Batterham', *Ceramics: Art and Perception*, 93 (2013), p. 25.

# Further Reading

Birks, Tony, 'Richard Batterham', Ceramics: Art and Perception, 93, (2013), 24-27

Christian, Anderson, 'Just Pots', Ceramic Review, 239 (September/October 2009), 40-44

Richard Batterham: Master Potter, dir. Alex J. Wright (Joanna Bird Foundation, 2019), documentary film, https://vimeo.com/ondemand/richardbatterhamfilm [accessed 28 July 2020]