

Dan Falby

The experience of gravity unites everything and every person. It orchestrates the infinitely complex dance of matter in motion that is our world. It is the force that sculpts landscapes and anchors us to the earth. We feel gravity's pull all around us, often without ever realizing it.

My ceramic work originates in a dynamic collaboration with gravity. I launch thin slabs of clay into the air where they contort in flight, fall back to earth, and upon impact are imprinted with ripples, folds, and wrinkles. The resulting gestures leave me tip-toeing the line between control and its abandonment.

By synthesizing the energetic contours in these slabs, by re-orienting, arranging, and combining them for the viewer, I seek to create somatic experiences of levity, momentum, and weightedness.

My practice centers a primordial exaltation of our basic physical existence, of landscapes to behold and a body to explore them with. Clay's potent associations with both flesh and earth further amplify these themes

Additionally, through the material juxtaposition of ceramics that often read as fabric, I explore dualities of plasticity and rigidity, what is momentary and what is permanent.

The perception of gravity is visceral and corporeal. It is felt in the drop in one's stomach when peering over a cliff, the exhilaration of flight or falling, and the struggle to lift a heavy load. Ultimately, these are the terms in which I want my work to be perceived.