

## Artist Statement

Never forget that the artist is a story teller

### Shards I

there is a piece of pottery  
we call it a shard  
and we understand  
that depending on the shard  
some contain quite a story  
which, with some knowledge,  
one will be able to read it, like a book.

by careful observation we will also be able  
to observe the clues it contains,  
no matter how ancient the piece.

the story of which type of clay was used

The story of how it was made  
the story of to which temperature it was fired  
the story of what sort of vessel  
it came from

it has taken almost 45 years to find and collect  
the shards in this exhibition.

hidden in this exhibition also, for those who  
have noted my work,  
is a history, of sorts, of my ceramic making.

and on the inside of one shard  
I found written this note in pencil:  
“if you live with the creative spirit  
you are always at the beginning”

## *Shards II*

this collection of shards  
was found during an adventure  
which took place in my memory

A shard, the signature of a maker from the past,  
with whom this exhibition of stillness was  
created

During my ongoing journey along the ceramic  
path, where each piece represents a step along  
the way, I found myself again in an

archeological dig and there, amongst the broken pieces of pottery, or shards, a message.

This became the inspiration for this exhibition. After the shard was taken from the earth where it had been in existence from the time it was discarded, I became aware of the grave like silence of the piece.

Using the stories of the found shards, I have created aspects of that which speaks to us from the family of the ceramic brotherhood, from ancient times, to the beginning of time, to the source. Here I found myself involved in the stories.

the nothing becoming the everything,  
a message from the primal silence,

from where I found, and took back from the dark into the light many wonderful shards, memories of creations of an other time. and an inspiration

of things not known but remembered

- Petrus Spronk, 2023