



AUCKLAND potter Sam Ireland, exhibiting at Pakuranga's Fisher Gallery, has experimented in the mixing of glass in clay.

During the past four months, he has made these *Urban Heart* exhibition pieces by mixing crushed coloured glass into clay. This shows up after the final firing as glistening fragments on the surface of the pots. He has thrown parts of each sculpture, then joined them together by hand to create a personal, non-machined look.

The works are then painted with coloured slips and glaze, and fired at 1100 degrees in electric and gas kilns. "I don't think they would even hold water. They're just for looking at," says Sam.

He has a degree in glass and ceramics and would like to earn a full-time living from his art. He only makes sculptural pottery and refuses to make domestic ware for a living, preferring to work as a builder's labourer or glass and ceramics technician.

An extra sparkle in Sam's pots