

Taureau

Joe Fafard – Clip 6

The bull you have in your collection is one of the first ceramic bulls I made. Probably the first. Before that, I had made a few small cows. When I took up ceramics seriously, I had done a whole series of bulls and cows in my studio. I had that bull. It was a discovery, that I could make ceramic pieces as big as that, and fire them and colour them in a certain way. It was quite a discovery for me at the time. It was also when I shared a studio with David Gilhooly at school. We liked to go work at the studio together on Sunday mornings. He'd be on one side . . . we had a divider . . . he worked on the other side and made all sorts of sounds, like a huge crocodile (laughter). And I worked silently on my side, because I didn't like to have the radio. I never turned on the radio. I made this piece then from my memories of animals that I had known on the farm. I wanted to make something that would be big and fat. Working in a size and format like that was another revelation for me.

