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Hettie Judah
Jesse Wine

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MENU

ART & DESIGN

Jesse Wine

The ceramicist gets sporty.

by **Hettie Judah**
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Jesse Wine, 32, fell for clay while he was a visiting student in New York from London's Royal College of Art—and has remained hooked on that medium ever since. His vitreous glazed ceramics, which Wine describes as “really technically sharp at not being technically sharp,” offer a contrast to the screen-flat works of the Instagram era. His installations have seen pieces arranged among raked pebbles like a fantastical Zen garden, or suspended from the ceiling; some of his more idiosyncratic sculptures, like one of a pair of Reebok sneakers dubbed *Well Nice. Proper Nice.*, or of a Sports Direct mug, wittily allude to his roots in Northwest England. Traditional ceramicists keep encyclopedic records of their glazing and firing methods so they can repeat them, but Wine, who lives in London, leaves himself open to chance. “I find the process alchemical and mysterious, and I want to keep it that way,” he says. The finality of fired clay suits his probing instinct: The fierce heat of the kiln burns away the possibility of revision.



Young Man Red: Colin Davison/Baltic Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead, UK.