

## THE EMOTIONAL ART OF THE FEMALE POTTERS

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### Abstract

The article analysing emotions presents the indigenous Amazon myths and customs associated with ceramic art. The feminine presence clearly stands-out in the early ceramics, in contrast to the current male predominance. The creative process of some of the first female potters kept the identity of the archetypal entities and carried out rituals throughout the making pieces. The mythical figure of the Mother of Clay reveals herself as being emotional, jealous, mean, angry and grumpy. However, she protects her cult devotees teaching them how to take the best clay, model and bake it into the finest pieces. Through the process these devotees had to try the best to maintain distance and all contact from the men, working far from noise and others in a isolated place. The female potters not only had to be skilled with their hands but also in working with the four elements ( earth, water, air and fire) where careful attention was required. Their hard work in obtaining success and social recognition is symbolised in the myths including emotional reactions like love, sexuality, desire, jealousy, envy and loss overall portraying a feminine picture of interior alchemy.

### KEY WORDS

Feminine psychology  
Archetypal symbols  
Feminine creativity  
Amazon myths  
Ceramic art  
Emotions and creative process