Rick Hintze received an undergraduate degree in Art from Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois; a master degree in Art History from the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa; and a master in fine arts degree in Ceramics from the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Indiana. After teaching ceramics and sculpture at Kirkwood Community College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during the 1990s, he moved to Wisconsin to establish his studio in Johnson Creek and opened his gallery in the fall of 2002.

Hintze's work includes functional pots, coiled vessels and some sculptural pieces. He attempts to exploit the movement of the wheel and the character of the clay, hoping to enhance these qualities with slip and glaze.

Over the years he has received numerous awards, including a National Endowment for the Arts Individual Artist Fellowship, an Iowa Arts Council Artist Project Grant, and an Award of Excellence from the American Craft Council. His work is in the collections of the Racine Art Museum, the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art, the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library, Southeastern Louisiana University, Ripon College, Kirkwood Community College, and various regional and national private collections.