

Press Release



BODIL MANZ

13 March – 3 August 2008

Opening Wednesday 12 March at 5 PM

Bodil Manz belongs in the international elite of ceramicists who are represented in important museums and private collections worldwide. The time has now come to document and create an overview of the rich ceramic universe of this artist with an exhibition at the Danish Museum of Art & Design.

Through 40 years Bodil Manz has developed a craftsmanship of which the parchment-thin and transparent cylinders are a pinnacle. Bodil Manz has always experimented and sought new challenges in expression and technique, she has worked with plaster tableaux, sand-cast porcelain and handmade paper. The exhibition at the Danish Museum of Art & Design illustrates the whole spectre of Bodil Manz' work, from the expressionistic pieces of the early years of youth to the cylinders with geometric abstract graphics of the latest years, 'Transparent Zen'.

"Artistic quality is always found where a person is really passionate about examining something."

The quote is from an interview with Bodil and Richard Manz in 1993 and it sums up the artistic development project, which Bodil Manz has unfolded over the span of a generation owing to a refined sense-apparatus, the will to experiment with materials and expressions and an enormous amount of diligence. The works created over the many years span the entire ceramic universe from workshop and industrial production of everyday objects to ceramic decorations and the magical one-off pieces.

A pinnacle of Bodil Manz' work is the cylinders, the development of which she began around 1990. The cylinders are cast and made from

**KUNST
INDUSTRI
MUSEET**
DANISH
MUSEUM
OF ART
& DESIGN

DET DANSKE
KUNSTINDUSTRIMUSEUM
BREDGADE 68
DENMARK
TEL +45 3318 5660
FAX +45 3318 5666
INFO@KUNSTINDUSTRIMUSEET.DK
WWW.KUNSTINDUSTRIMUSEET.DK
CVR NR 55798516

THE NATIONAL ART
& DESIGN LIBRARY
BIB@KUNSTINDUSTRIMUSEET.DK
WWW.DKIM.DK

white, transparent and crisp porcelain. They vary in size and character, some are smooth, others have reliefs, and all have decoration applied on transfers, which melt into the raw biscuit. Through the transparency of the thin biscuit, the outer and inner decoration becomes part of one composition, one image.

Bodil Manz is the leading graphic designer of the ceramic art, whether she draws with a delicate, frail line, as personal as handwriting, or uses saturated blue, black, red fields that can assume endless variation and richness. Bodil Manz's excellence is in the transformation of this geometric-abstract world of shapes from a flat decoration into a three-dimensional work of art.

Bodil Manz's work is characterized by continual exploration and experimentation. In recent years these experiments have been unfolded in a series of tableaux in plaster, as well as very rough and expressionist sand-cast porcelain squares, which are screwed together to make sculptures that resemble buildings.

Recently Bodil Manz has received *Grand Prize, The 4th World Ceramic Biennale 2007, Korean International Competition, Korea.*

In connection with the exhibition the book "Ceramicist Bodil Manz" will be published at Nyt Nordisk Forlag Arnold Busk ISBN 978-87-17-03957-5. It will contain 230 pages, richly illustrated and with both Danish and English text. It will be available at the Danish Museum of Art & Design shop and bookshops across the nation for DKK 299.

Download press release and photos at

<http://kunstindustrimuseet.dk/presse/presserum>

Information

Secretary and Press Contact Lotte Rohde

Tel. 33 18 56 77 mail lro@Kunstindustrimuseet.dk