

HOSTLER BURROWS

BODIL MANZ

b. 1943, Copenhagen, Denmark

Focusing and concentrating on a single object such as a sphere, a square, a cylinder, a cup, fundamentally something quite ordinary, the stuff of everyday life, [seems] indeed almost banal. But during the process, we discovered fresh aspects and suddenly 'the ordinary' became a new experience.

—Bodil Manz

Bodil Manz is a ceramicist known for her predominant use of ultra-thin, translucent, eggshell porcelain to create distinctive cylindrical forms, anchored by bold, geometric abstractions in a style evocative of Russian Suprematism. In 1961, Manz studied ceramics at the School of Arts & Craft in Copenhagen and in 1966 she studied at the Escuela de Diseño y Artesanías in Mexico and at the University in California Berkeley in the U.S. Manz established a studio in Hørve, Denmark, in 1967, where she lives and continues to work today.

Initially creating utilitarian works such as traditional serving ware, Manz shifted her focus onto the creation of experimental forms in the 1990s. Manz developed a method to create translucent vessels, whereby she would pour liquid porcelain in a thin layer onto a plaster mold and fire the bisqueware several times in succession at temperatures of up to 1300 degrees. As for the geometric designs that embellish the interior and exterior of her vessels, Manz drafts each composition on paper, which are made into transfers and applied to the surface of the porcelain. These geometric patterns are comprised of bold, tightly composed fields of color. The dynamic, linear patterns take inspiration from modernist architecture and painters such as Mondrian and Malevich. The transfers require several consecutive firings to achieve her desired affect. However, Manz notes, she cannot always control the final outcome. At times, the firing process results in a softening effect upon her initial geometric design.

The resultant forms are a wonderful exploration of the multidimensionality of the cylinder. Her attentiveness to the interior and exterior aspects of the form, the applied geometries, and a consideration for the way in which light acts upon the opaque and translucent elements of those geometries not only enhances each of these features individually, but—in Manz's attentiveness to their cohesive interaction—serves to unify these compositional concepts into a three-dimensional whole.

Each vessel Manz creates is unique. Though they vary in size, texture and design, each is executed with the same technical ingenuity, characterized by a tenuous thinness but also balanced and harmonic design elements that can be observed from every angle. Moreover, despite the unconventionality of Manz's creations, each one references the traditional form of the vessel rooted in her arts and craft training.

Manz has exhibited in Copenhagen, Brussels, Amsterdam, London, and New York. Her vessels are featured in several prestigious public collections including the Museum of Modern Art in New York, NY; Victoria and Albert in London, UK; Los Angeles County Museum of Art in Los Angeles, CA; Musée de Sèvres in Sèvres, France; and the Museum of Modern Ceramic Art in Gifu, Japan. In 2006, Manz was awarded the grand prize at the Fourth World Ceramics Biennale in Korea and in 2008, her works were the subject of a major retrospective at the Kunstindustrimuseet in Copenhagen.

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BODIL MANZ

b. 1943, Denmark

EDUCATION

1966 Escuela de Diseño y Artesanías, Mexico City, Mexico

1966 Art Department, Berkeley University, Berkeley, CA

1965 Arts and Crafts School, Copenhagen, Denmark

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2024 *Bodil Manz*, Galerie Ligne Treize, 18th International Biennial of Contemporary Ceramics,
Carouge, Switzerland

Thin as Paper, Galerie Møller Witt, Copenhagen, Denmark

2020 Hostler Burrows, New York, NY

2012 Galleri Weinberger, Copenhagen, Denmark

2011 Galleri Pagter, Kolding, Denmark

2008 Danish Museum of Art and Design, Copenhagen, Denmark

2006 Galerie Pierre, Paris, France

Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland

Garth Clark Gallery, New York, NY

2005 Puls Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels, Belgium

Galerie Besson, London, UK

2004 Galerie Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark

2003 Galerie b 15, Munich, Germany

Garth Clark Gallery, New York, NY

Galerie Carla Koch, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2002 Puls Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels, Belgium

Galerie Carla Koch, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2001 Garth Clark Gallery, New York, NY

2000 Galerie Carla Koch, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Galerie Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark

1998 Galerie Besson, London, UK

Garth Clark Gallery, New York, NY

Galerie Carla Koch, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

1995 Nederlands Keramiekmuseum, Leeuwarden, The Netherlands

- Garth Clark Gallery, New York, NY
 1984 Lidköpings Konstall, Lidköping, Sweden
 Facet, Bing & Grøndahl, Copenhagen, Denmark
 1971 Maison du Danemark, Paris, France

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024–25 *Fifteenth Westerwald Prize Exhibition*, The Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Höhr-Grenzhausen, Germany
- 2014 Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
- 2013 Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK
- 2012 Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London, UK
 Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
Cuts and Interventions, Copenhagen Ceramics, Frederiksberg, Denmark
- 2011 Puls Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels, Belgium
 Garth Clark, SOFA Fair, Sante Fe, NM
- 2010 Gudjhem Museum, Bornholm, Denmark
 Galerie Helen Poiree, Paris, France
 Carla Koch, PAN Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 2009 Keramiske Veje, Sophienholm, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2008 Design Museum, Denmark
- 2007 The 4th World Ceramic Biennale, Korea
Ceramics from Denmark, Bayerischer Kunstgewerbe-Verein, Munich, Germany
Transparenz und Masse, Museum Eckernförde, Germany
- 2005 *Transformations: The Language of Crafts*, National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
 The 7th International Ceramics Competition, Mino, Japan
 The 3rd World Ceramic Biennale, Korea
 Biennale Européenne de Céramique Contemporaine, Troyes, France
- 2004 4th Ceramic Triennial, Trapholt, Denmark
Keramiske Veje, Den Frie, Copenhagen, Denmark
 Galerie Pierre, Paris, France
 Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Japan
 From the Kilns of Denmark, US touring exhibition
- 2003 The International Invitational Exhibition, Korea
Crafts Now, Kanazawa, Japan
 Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu, Japan
 2nd World Ceramic Biennale, Korea
- 2002 Galerie Pagter, Kolding, Denmark
From the Kilns of Denmark, touring: Paris, France; Berlin, Germany; USA
 Campio-Masterpieces, Palazzo Bricherasio, Turin, Italy

- The Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, Canada
 Biennale de la Céramique, Andenne, Belgium
 The 6th International Ceramics Competition, Mino, Japan
- 2001 Galerie le Vieux-Bourg, Switzerland
 Sigtuna Museum, Sigtuna, Sweden
Poetics of Clay, Philadelphia Art Alliance, Philadelphia, PA
 Pakhuset, Nykøbing, Denmark
- 2000 The Danish Wave, China
Form and Glasur, Hoechst, Germany
 The Sixth Taiwan Golden Ceramic Award Exhibition, Taiwan
- 1999 *Living Design – Dialogue*, touring: Klaipeda, Riga, Tallin
 (UN) Limited, Craft Council, London, UK
Artist from the World, Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy
Form-Transformation 1966-99, Kunst Industri Museet, Copenhagen, Denmark
Keramik aus Dänemark, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
- 1998 Triennale de Porcelaine, Nyon, Switzerland
 Galerie für Englische Keramik, Marianne Heller, Germany
 Sybaris Gallery, Oklahoma
- 1997 Museum voor Sierkunst, Gent, Belgium
- 1996 Yufuku Gallery of Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan
 Bewegung Europäische Keramik 96, Keramion, Germany
Form und Glasur, Hoechst, Tyskland, Denmark
Das Andere Gefäss, Saarländisches Künstlerhaus, Saarbrücken, Denmark
- 1995 Edinburgh City Art Centre, Edinburgh, Scotland
 Gallery Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1994 Ist Ceramic Triennial, Trapholt, Denmark
 Tapei Fine Arts Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
- 1993 *Keramik Europas*, Keramikmuseum, Westerwald, Germany
- 1992 Kunstindustrimuseet, Helsinki, Finland
 Triennale de Porcelaine, Nyon, Switzerland
- 1991 Museum Het Prinsessehof, Leeuwarden, The Netherlands
- 1990 Gallery Amphora & Singer Museum, Oosterbeek, The Netherlands
- 1989 Scandinavian Ceramics and Glass, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
 Röhsska Museet, Gothenberg, Sweden
- 1987 Boymans van Beuningen Stichtung Museum, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
 The Seibu Art Forum, Tokyo, Japan
- 1981 Museum of Art, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
- 1980 Galerie de Proen, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- 1977 The Danish Museum of Decorative Art, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1970 Städtliches Museum, Wiesbaden, Germany

- 1969 Den Permanente, Copenhagen, Denmark
1966 Mexico City, Mexico

AWARDS

- 2024 Shortlist, 15th Westerwald Prize, The Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Höhr-Grenzhausen, Germany
- 2006 The 4th World Ceramic Biennial, Korea, Grand Prize
- 2005 The 3rd World Ceramic Biennial, Korea, Honorable mention
The 7th International Ceramic Competition, Mino, Japan, Honorable mention
- 2003 Knud V. Engelhardt Memorial Grant
The 2nd World Ceramic Biennial, Korea, Jury's prize
Bavarian State Prize, Germany
- 2001–2002 Anna Klindt Soerensen 2 years grant
- 2001 The 6th International Ceramic Competition, Mino, Japan, Honorable mention
The 1st World Ceramic Biennial, Korea, Special prize
The Thorval Bindsboell Medal
- 2000 C.L. David's Fund
Carl Jacobsen's Travel Grant, The New Carlsberg Foundation
- 1998 The Life Long Grant of the Danish Government
The 5th International Ceramic Competition, Mino, Japan, Gold Medal
- 1997 Ellen and Knud Dahlhoff Larsen's Foundation
Merchant L.F. Foght Foundation Kutani International Decorative Ceramic Competition
Award of Merit, Japan
5th World Triennial Exhibition of Small Ceramics, Zagreb, Krapina prize
- 1994–1995 The Danish Arts Foundation, 3 year grant
- 1993 4th World Triennial Exhibition of Small Ceramics, Zagreb, Grand Prix
Arts, Crafts and Design Council's Annual prize
Johan S. Kroeir Foundation
Silversmith Kay Bojesen and Mrs. Erna Bojesen Memorial Grant
- 1985 Ole Haslund Artist Grant
- 1978 Ole Haslund Artist Grant
- 1972 The Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Manufactory, Jubilee Competition, 2nd prize
- 1969 Den Permanente, Ceramic Competition, 1st prize
The Cowi Foundation
Handelsbanken Jubilee Grant
- 1968 The Danish National Bank Jubilee Foundation
K.A. Larssen and Mrs. L.M. Larssen Grant
Manufacturer and Mrs. Svend Aage Rasmussen Memorial Grant

Painting Contractor Achen Grant
The Danish Arts Foundation

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
The Danish Museum of Art & Design, Copenhagen, Denmark
The Danish Arts Foundation, Copenhagen, Denmark
The New Carlsberg Foundation, Denmark
The Trapholt Museum of Danish Visual Art, Arts & Crafts & Furniture Design, Kolding, Denmark
Röhsska Konstslöjdmuseet, Gothenberg, Sweden
Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden
Musée de Sèvres, Sèvres, France
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, France
Kunstindustrimuseet, Helsinki, Finland
Neue Pinakothek, Munich, Germany
Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany
Sammlung Rudolf Strasser, Museum der Stadt, Landshut, Germany
Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Höhr-Grenzhausen, Germany
Museum Keramion, Frechen, Germany
Museum Boijmans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Museum Het Prinsessehof, Leewarden, The Netherlands
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel
Musée des Arts Décoratifs de Montreal, Canada
The Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, Canada
Palmer Museum of Art, University Park, PA
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, CA
Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA
Museum of Fine Arts Houston, Houston, TX
Everson Museum, Syracuse, NY
The Newark Museum, Newark, NJ
Mint Museum of Craft and Design, Charlotte, NC
Spencer Museum, Lawrence, KS
Hallmark Collection, Kansas City, MO
Detroit Institute of Art, Detroit, MI
The Museum of Ceramic Art, Gifu, Japan
World Craft Forum, Tokyo, Japan
Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan