

# HOSTLER BURROWS

## **VEERA KULJU**

b. 1975, Finland

Veera Kulju is a multi-media artist living and working in Helsinki, Finland. Self-described as a “hybrid of a curious, random-minded artist and a rational, business-oriented designer,” Kulju creates work that poetically dances along the line between art and design, toying with the distinctions between the decorative and the functional. Working primary with ceramics and textiles, she makes intensely layered work hand-built from small, distinct, and precious elements. These small pieces, when brought together, give way to a larger compositional intent of fragile beauty and timelessness with nature often playing a central role. While Kulju generally uses a restrained palette of black and white, she is experimental with the materiality of the objects. She frequently introduces unexpected characteristics within one work employing a variety of glazes, both matte and glossy, and shapes, both smooth and sharp-edged, and evoking a physical experience when viewed.

Kulju, after studying at the School of Design and Crafts, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, and Vihti School of Art and Craft, received a BA from Lahti University of Applied Science, Institute of Design, Experimental Design in 2005, and her MA in 2010 from Aalto University, School of Art and Design. She was a visiting artist at the Arabia Art Department from 2017–2018. Kulju’s work was commissioned to be included in the Finnish State Art Collection and was recently acquired by the National Museum in Stockholm. She has exhibited widely throughout Finland and abroad.

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## VEERA KULJU

b. 1975, Finland

## EDUCATION

- 2010 Aalto University, School of Art and Design, MA Applied Art and Design, Helsinki, Finland  
2005 Lahti University of Applied Science, Institute of Design, BA Experimental Design, Lahti, Finland  
2004 University of Gothenburg, School of Design and Crafts, Exchange Studies, Gothenburg, Sweden  
2000 Vihti School of Art and Craft, Interior Textiles, Artesan, Finland

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *A Horse, The Forest, A Father*, Gallery Halmetoja, Helsinki, Finland  
2020 *Noir*, Gallery Halmetoja, Helsinki, Finland  
2019 *Forest Returns*, Täky – Design Autumn, Lappeenranta, Finland  
*Sounds of Silence*, Konsthantverkarna Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden  
2018 *NAKU*, Mäلتinranta Artcenter Studio, Tampere, Finland  
*Holy Wood*, ARTag Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
2010 *Shadows & Threads*, School of Art & Design, Helsinki, Finland

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 *Recent Works by Veera Kulju, Marianne Huotari, Hanne G.*, HB381, New York, NY  
*After Glow, New Nordic Porcelain*, Kunsthall Grenland – Porsgrunn, Norway  
*After Glow, New Nordic Porcelain*, Clay Museum of Ceramic Art, Middelfart, Denmark  
*After Glow, New Nordic Porcelain*, Gustavsberg Porcelain Museum, Sweden  
2021 *Ceramics Facing the New*, EMMA – Espoo Museum of Modern Art, Finland  
*LUONTO RETKI*, Nastolan kesänäyttely 2021, Nastola, Finland  
*Solid Ground*, IAC Post Tour -program, Väre-Building, Otaniemi, Finland  
*Coming home to Seoul*, FACTORY2, Seoul, South Korea  
*On the Edge – Äärellä*, Rovaniemi Art Museum, Finland  
*SIELUNMAISEMA*, Glasshouse Helsinki, Finland  
2020 *Ceramega 2020 – National Ceramic Exhibition*, Voipaala Art Center, Sääksmäentie, Finland  
*Forest Primeval*, Hostler Burrows, Los Angeles, CA

- Mexico & the Nordics: A Meditation on Individuality in Craft, Tradition, & Modernism*, Adorno Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2019 *Dark Matters*, Taidekeskus itä, Riutta, Lappeenranta, Finland  
*Coming Home III*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
*Re/Defining Finnish Contemporary Art & Design*, Spazio Nobile Gallery, Brussels, Belgium  
 London Design Week, Adorno Gallery, London, UK  
 CHART Design, curated by Lokal Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Perspectives*, Iittala & Arabia Design Centre, Helsinki, Finland  
*Coming Home II*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
 Collectible, curated by Lokal Gallery, Brussels, Belgium,  
*Re/Defining Finnish Contemporary Art & Design*, The Finnish Cultural Institute for the Benelux & Spazio Nobile Gallery at Collectible, Brussels, Belgium  
 Institut Finlandais, Paris, France  
 Spazio Nobile Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2018 *Coming Home*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
*Juhlat*, curated by Lokal Gallery, Institut finlandais, Paris, France  
 CHART Design, curated by Lokal Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Fiskars Summer House Exhibition*, Fiskars Village, Finland  
*TypoCraft Helsinki*, Reykjavík Art Museum, Hafnarhús Island, Finland  
*Line*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland
- 2017 *Enchanted Forest*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
*Typocraft*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
*Kisses and Popcorn*, Arabia Art Department Society, Designcentre, Helsinki, Finland  
 Arabia Art Department Society, SEB Bank, Helsinki, Finland
- 2016 *Yhes*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
*Signals & ASUN*, Habitare Ahead!, Helsinki, Finland  
*Smaragdus*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland
- 2015 *Ukly Truth*, HABITARE Block area, Helsinki, Finland
- 2013 *Another Setting*, Lokal Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
*Give a New Life*, MONA the Museum of New Art, Pärnu
- 2012 *Hirameki Himmeli*, Tokyo, Japan  
*Finnish Design Unwrapped*, Istanbul Design Biennial, Turkey  
*Yhteinen Pöytä*, Empiresali Helsinki, Finland  
*Everyday Discoveries*, Suvilahti Helsinki, Finland  
*Protoshop*, Habitare Ahead!, Helsinki, Finland  
*Finnish Design Unwrapped*, Helsinki Design Museum, Finland
- 2011 *Hells Looks*, Antwerp, Belgium  
*Finnish Design Unwrapped*, London Design Festival, United Kingdom  
*Protoshop*, Habitare Ahead!, Helsinki, Finland  
 DMY International Design Festival, Berlin, Germany

- Awake*, Argos Young Designers at Argosshall, Helsinki, Finland  
*Open 140*, Design Museum, Helsinki, Finland  
*Masters of Arts 2011*, Salmisaarentalo Helsinki, Finland
- 2010 *Protopp Köln*, Iso-Roba 4-5, Helsinki, Finland
- 2009 *Sprouts*, Young Designers at Argosshall, Helsinki, Finland
- 2008 *Nice08*, Nordic Art and Culture Festival, Bluecoat, Liverpool, United Kingdom  
*100 Show*, Helsinki Design Week, Cable Factory, Helsinki, Finland  
*Wandering*, European Commission Representation, London, United Kingdom  
*Fennofolk*, New Nordic Oddity, Design Museum, Helsinki, Finland  
*THIS IS ME WHO ARE YOU* Young Designers, Argosshall, Helsinki, Finland  
*100% Finlande*, Helsinki á Saint Suplice, Paris, France
- 2007 *Table is Set*, Helsinki Design Week, Esplanadi park, Helsinki, Finland
- 2006 *Helsinki Biennale*, Myymälä 2, Helsinki, Finland  
*The Daughters of Midas*, Jewellery on Tour, Helsinki, Finland

## **COLLECTIONS**

Arabia Art Department Society, Finland  
 Suomen Laatu keskus, Finland  
 Finnish State Art Commission Collections, Finland  
 The Nationalmuseum Stockholm, Sweden

## **GRANTS**

- 2022 Arts Council of Finland
- 2021 Arts Council of Finland  
 FRAME  
 Finnish Cultural Foundation
- 2020 Greta ja William Lehtisen's Foundation  
 TAIKE  
 Arts Council of Finland
- 2019 Finnish Cultural
- 2018 Finnish Cultural Foundation  
 Arts Council of Finland
- 2017 Arts Council of Finland
- 2016 Arts Council of Finland
- 2009 Arts Council of Finland
- 2008 Finnish Cultural Foundation, Raivio & Kulju, group exhibition project
- 2007 Finnish Cultural Foundation, The Daughters of Midas, group exhibition project

## **RESIDENCIES**

2018 Arabia Art Department Society, Visiting Artist

2017 Arabia Art Department Society, Visiting Artist

## **RESIDENCIES**

Ornamo

Artists O

The Jewelry Art Association

The Association of Finnish Sculptors