

HOSTLER BURROWS



TORBJØRN KVASBØ (Norwegian, b. 1953)
Stack, Turquoise Glazed, 2014
Stoneware
43" H x 39" W x 34" D

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TORBJØRN KVASBØ
Norwegian, b. 1953

Torbjørn Kvasbø is one of the few Norwegian artists to have a significant international career spanning several decades. In his work, he is constantly pushing against his boundaries and the limits of the material and processes in order to develop his art. According to Kvasbø, “My work process in the clay material offers a lot of resistance, and I get to know more of the forces over which I have no control; the incalculable elements in my inner being. Emotional discharges become embodiment of feelings, and the works become actual experiences themselves.”

His current work is large scale, often monumental. The Stack series involves extruded cylindrical tubes shaped and modeled on top of each other. Based on the archetypal vessel form and what it might contain in our history, it is also a body, a three-dimensional torso with gestures and states of mind. His early works are more classical, household objects in the Western studio tradition, inspired by Asian, particularly Japanese, ceramics.

From 1996 to 2000, Kvasbø was the Professor and Head of the Ceramics Department at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden and from 2000 to 2008, he was Professor and Head of the Ceramic and Glass Department at Konstfack, Stockholm, Sweden. Kvasbø is the President of the International Academy of Ceramics, where he has been a Council Member since 2005. He has been involved with numerous solo and group exhibitions, residencies, juries, workshops and lectures internationally. His work is represented in many museums and collections around the world. He lives and works in Venabygd, Norway.

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MEMBERSHIPS

- 2018-2024 President of the International Academy of Ceramics
- 2014-2020 Vice President of the International Academy of Ceramics
- 2005-2014 Member of the Council of the IAC
- 1990 Member of the International Academy of Ceramics (IAC)
- 1978 Norwegian Association of Arts and Crafts

EDUCATION

- 1975-1978 Bergen School of Applied Arts (Bergen Academy of Art and Design), Norway

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Taoxichuan Museum, Jingdezhen, China
- 2019 GICB2019, Korea. Sept. 27.-Nov. 24.
- 2018 The Byre, Ringeby Parsonage (Fjøset, Ringeby Prestegard)
- 2017 The Byre, Ringeby Parsonage (Fjøset, Ringeby Prestegard)
Kunsthall Grenland, Porsgrunn, Norway
- 2013 Lillehammer Art Museum, Lillehammer Norway
Drammen Art Museum, Drammen Norway
- 2010 Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway
- 2009 Trøndelag Centre for Contemporary Art, Trondheim, Norway
Gallery Zink, Lillehammer, Norway
- 2005 Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
- 2004 West Norway Museum of Decorative Arts, Bergen, Norway
Kunstbanken, Hamar Norway
- 2003 Bomuldsfabriken Art Hall, Arendal, Norway
- 2001 MIC, Museum of International Ceramics, Faenza, Italy
Galerie DM Sarver, Paris, France
Gallery Inger Molin, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2000 Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo Norway
- 1998 Gallery Björnen, Stockholm, Sweden
- 1997 Gallery Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1995 Main Street Gallery, Napa, California, USA
- 1994 Leedy-Voukos Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA
The Works Art Festival, Edmonton, Canada
- 1993 Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway
Hordaland Art Centre, Bergen, Norway
Gallery Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1992 Hopkins Hall Gallery, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

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- 1991 The Works Art Festival, Edmonton, Canada
1990 Blås och Knåda, Stockholm, Sweden
National Museum of Decorative Arts, Trondheim, Norway
1987 Hordaland Art Centre, Bergen, Norway
1986 Kunstnerforbundet, Oslo, Norway
1985 National Museum of Decorative Arts, Trondheim, Norway

NATIONAL JURIED COLLECTIVE EXHIBITION

1977-2000 every year, 2012 “The Annual Exhibition of Norwegian Crafts”, different venues, Norway

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2019 Gallery Format, Nomad Venice, Italy
Museum Angewandte Kunst, “House of Norway” Frankfurt am Main, Germany
SKMU Kristiansand
Officine Saffi, Morfologia delle Meraviglie, Italy
Porselensmuseet Porsgrunn. Jan. 17.-March 17.
KODE Bergen May 10.-Sept. 15.
- 2018 Sevres Ceramic Museum, Paris. Sept. 23.-April 1.
About Clay, Exhibition of European Ceramic Art in Fiskars, Finland
- 2017 4th Documentary Exhibition of Fine Arts/ Stress Field. Hubei Museum of Art, Hubei, China
Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale (GICB2017), Rep. of Korea
- 2016 Officine Saffi, Milano, Italy. “Geometry of Chaos”. Carlo Zauli-Torbjørn Kvasbø
Liling Ceramics Valley Museum “The Mode-Int. Ceramics Art Invitational”, China
Hangzhou Int. Contemporary Ceramic Art Biennale, China
“Inspired”, The Scandinavian Center/TaoXicuang Museum Jingdezhen, China
International Trade Fair in Munich, “Modern Masters”
- 2015 International Wood-Firing Festival, Shanghai Institute of Visual Arts, Kina
“Beyond G(l)aze, KODE2, Bergen Norway
“Transformator”, Galleri Format, Oslo Norway
“Transformator”, Hydrogenfabrikken Fredrikstad, Norway
- 2014 SOFA, Chicago, USA
“Transformator”. Bomuldsfabriken Kunsthall, Arendal, Norway
European Ceramic Context, Bornholm, Denmark
“Attention: Craft”, Liljevalchs, Stockholm, Sweden
Beyond G(l)aze, Jinji Lake Art Museum, Suzhou, China
- 2013 Revelations, Grand Palais, Paris, France.
- 2013 “Collect”, Saatchi Gallery, London, Great Britain
- 2012 “Collect”, Saatchi Gallery, London, Great Britain
“Less Colour”, Rogaland Art Centre, Stavanger, Norway
- 2011 “Collect”, Saatchi Gallery, London, Great Britain

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- 2010 “Le Cru et le Cuit” Galerie Favardin & De Verneuil, Paris, France
“Clay Energy Gulgong”, Masters Exhibition, Cudgegong Gallery, Gulgong, NSW Australia
“Collect”, Saatchi Gallery, London, Great Britain
“Intonation”, Deidesheim, Germany
“Taiwan Ceramics Biennale”, Yingge Ceramics Museum, Yingge, New Taipei City, Taiwan
- 2009 “British Ceramic Biennial”, Airspace Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent, Great Britain
“Cheongju International Craft Biennale”, Cheongju, South Korea
“Intonation”, Deidesheim, Germany
“Tendenser 2009”, Gallery F15, Moss, Norway
- 2007 “Terres Extremes”, Maison de la Ceramique Contemporaine, Giroussens, France; Museu del Càntir d’Argentona, Barcelona, Spain
Keramik-Museum Westerwald, Germany
- 2005 “Typical Norwegian?”, Vigeland-Museet Oslo, Norway; Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany
- 2005 “Strata“, Skulpturens Hus, Stockholm, Sweden
- 2004 “Norwegen heute-keramisch“, Hetjens-Museum, Düsseldorf, Germany
- 2003 “NOW&NOW”, World Ceramic Biennale 2003, Icheon, South Korea
- 2002 “Keramik aus Norwegen“, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany
- 2001 “Fifty Years of the Archie Bray Influence”, Holter Museum of Art, MT, USA
“1st World Ceramic Biennale 2001”, Icheon, South Korea
“The 52st Int. Ceramic Art Competition”, Faenza, Italy
- 2000 “Ceramic Circus 2000”, Les Printemps des Poties, Bandol, France
“Norwegian Alternatives”, IADB-Cultural Center, Washington D.C., USA
“Sidney Myer International Ceramic Award”, Shepparton Art Museum, Shepparton VIC, Australia
- 1999 “The 51st International Ceramic Art Competition”, Faenza, Italy
“Norwegian Contemporary Ceramics”, Millenium Symposium, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
“Different Stokes”, Invitational Exhibition, University of Iowa, University Heights, IA, USA
- 1998 “Stars”, Galleri Inger Molin, Stockholm, Sweden
“The Fletcher Challenge Award”, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, New Zealand
“Ceramic Art 1988-1998”, Danmarks Keramikmuseum Grimmerhus, Middelfart, Denmark
“Nordic Ceramic Triennale ‘98”, The Swedish History Museum, Stockholm, Sweden
“Sweden-Norway-Expo Lära”. Västerås Art Museum, Västerås, Sweden
- 1997 “Ceramic Expressionism. 7 Norwegian Ceramicist”. Danmarks Keramikmuseum Grimmerhus, Middelfart, Denmark

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- 1997 Archie Bray Foundation NCECA, Green Valley Library Gallery, Las Vegas, NV, USA
“The Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award”, Award of Merit, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1996 “Resident Artist Exhibition”, Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT, USA
“Scandinavian Images”, University of Durham, Durham, Great Britain
“Italy-Norway”, Centro Esposivito della Rocca Paolina, Perugia, Italy
Museum voor Sierkunst, Gent, Belgium
Badisches Landesmuseum, Karlsruhe, Germany
“Neue Wege International”, Saarländisches Künstlerhaus, Saarbrücken, Germany
“Woodfired Ceramics”, Loes and Rainier International Ceramics, Deventer, The Netherlands
- 1995 “The Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award”, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, New Zealand
“Woodstack”. The Gallery of Visual Arts, University of Montana, Missoula, MT, USA
“NCECA Clay National ‘95”, F.R.Weisman Art Museum, Minneapolis, MN, USA
- 1994-96 “Nordic Images”, Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway: Helsinki Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Finland: Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden: Museum of Decorative Art and Design, Copenhagen, Denmark: Röhsska Museum of Decorative Arts and design, Gothenburg, Sweden: West Norway Museum of Decorative Art, Bergen, Norway: National Museum of Decorative Arts, Trondheim, Norway
- 1994 “Fire Men: Masters of the Anagama Kiln”, Leedy-Voukos Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA
“The Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award”, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, New Zealand
“In Touch”, international contemporary crafts, part of the Cultural Programme of the XVII Olympic Winter Games 1994, Maihaugen, Lillehammer, Norway
- 1993 “Mastermeeting”, Ringebu Workshop 1993. Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, Oslo, Norway
Pulverturm am Schlosswall, Artothek in der Peterstrasse, Oldenburg, Germany.
“The Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award”, Judges Commendation, Auckland War Memorial Museum, Auckland, New Zealand
- 1992 “Hot Clay from Cold Climates”, North Project, Art Evo Gallery, Edmonton, Canada
- 1990-92 “Contemporary Norwegian Ceramics”, touring exhibition, Keramion, Frechen, Germany: Kunstgewerbemuseum, Berlin, Germany: Schloss Gottorf, Schleswig, Germany: Polytechnic Gallery, Newcastle, Great Britain: Aberystwyth Arts Centre, Aberystwyth, Great Britain: Crafts Council, Dublin, Ireland: Arts Council Gallery, Belfast, Ireland: World Expo, Sevilla, Spain: Everson Museum of Art,

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1991 Syracuse, NY, USA: National Museum of Ceramic Art, Baltimore, MD, USA
"47. Concorso Internazionale Della Ceramica D`arte", Faenza, Italy

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Arts Council Norway
Auckland Museum Institute, Auckland, New Zealand
Daum Museum of Contemporary Art, Sedalia, MO, USA
Designmuseum Danmark, Copenhagen, Denmark
Drammens Museum
Dr. Anthony Rucela Collection, Kansas City, MO, USA
Dr. Hans Thiemann Collection, Hamburg Germany
Icheon World Ceramic Center, Icheon, South Korea
KODE Art Museums of Bergen, Norway
Leedy-Voukos Gallery, Kansas City, MO, USA
Lillehammer Art Museum, Norway
Lotte Reimers Stiftung Kunstzentrum, Deidesheim, Germany
Maurice Lambiotte Collection, Paris, France
Musée National Adrien Dubouché, Limoges, France
Mr. And Mrs. Inge Münz Collection, Saarbrücken, Germany
Mr. and Mrs. William Van Keppel Collection, Kansas City, MO, USA
Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche, Faenza, Italy
Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu Ceramics-Park Mino, Gifu, Japan
Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, Sweden
Norges Bank, London, Great Britain
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Norway
Oppland County, Norway
Riksgalleriet, The National Touring Exhibitions of Norway
Ringebu Municipality, Norway
The National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway
The National Museum of Decorative Arts, Trondheim, Norway
The Röhsska Museum, Gothenburg, Sweden
Trondheim Municipality, Norway
Swedish Art Council, Sweden
SKMU Sørlandets Kunstmuseum, Kristiansand, Norway

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

2008-2011 External examiner Royal College of Art, London, Great Britain
2000-2008 Professor and Head of Ceramics & Glass Department at Konstfack – University
College of Arts, Crafts and Design, Stockholm, Sweden
1996-2000 Professor and Head of Ceramic Art Department at HDK – School of Design and
Crafts, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
1998 Judge of the Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award, Auckland, New Zealand

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1985 Guest teacher, external examiner for diploma and special subject examinations, member of boards, member of appointment boards for lectures/professors, Oslo National Academy of Arts and Bergen Academy of Art and Design, Norway

LECTURER, GUEST ARTIST, EXHIBITOR, JURY, INTERNATIONAL ADVISER, WORKSHOP CONDUCTOR

Silica Triennial, Kecskemét, Hungary

60 Faenza Prize, MIC Faenza, Italy.

Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2017, Korea

Event Clay Gulgong, Australia

Casa dell' Architettura, Rome, Italy

2010 Taiwan Ceramics Biennale, New Taipei City, Taiwan

British Ceramic Biennial 2009, Marl Hole project, Stoke-on-Trent, Great Britain

Intonation, Deidesheim, Germany

Central Academy of Fine Art, CAFA, Beijing, China

Peters Valley Crafts Centre, Layton., NJ, USA

Cheongju International Craft Biennale, Cheongju, South Korea

Naori Wood Fired Ceramics, KO-EURO, South Korea

Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

San Jose State University, SAN Jose, CA, USA

San Francisco Art Institute, San Francisco, CA, USA

Chicago Art Institute, Chicago, IL, USA

Mendocino Art Center, Mendocino, CA, USA

Napa Valley College, CA, USA

Iowa University, Iowa City, IA, US.

Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT, USA

Montana University, Missoula, MT, USA

Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO, USA

University of Ohio, Athens, OH, USA

Red Deer College, Red Deer, Alberta, Canada

"The Works Visual Arts Festival", Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Alberta University, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Banff Centre for the Arts, Alberta, Canada

"NCECA", Tempe, Arizona, AZ, USA

"NCECA", Philadelphia, PA, USA

"NCECA", New Orleans, LA, USA

University of Industrial Arts, Helsinki, Finland

Konstfack College of Art, Stockholm, Sweden

Kent State University, Kent, OH, USA

Kolding College of Applied Arts, Kolding, Denmark

Kecskemét International Ceramics Studio, Kecskemét, Hungary

Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award, Auckland, New Zealand

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Auckland Studio Potters Centre, Auckland, New Zealand
Clay-Sculpt Gulgong, Janet Mansfield, Gulgong, NSW, Australia
“The Edge”, Perth, WA, Australia
“Cotta terra”, Perugia, Italy
Faenza, Italy
“Les Printemps des Poitiers”, Bandol, France
“Recontres La Borne”, La Borne, France
Handwerkskammer für München und Oberbayern, Munich, Germany
World Ceramic Biennale, South Korea
The Sculptor Factory, Jingdezhen, China

SELECTED AWARDS

- 2017 Grand Prize at the Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale (GICB2017), Rep. of Korea
2012 Prize for best art work, The Annual Exhibition of Arts and Crafts 2012, Norway
2010 Janet Mansfield Fellowship Award, Australia
2009 The Norwegian Association for Arts and Crafts Honourable Prize
Ringebu Municipality Culture Prize
2008 Villeroy & Boch Gustavsberg ceramics grant.
2001 Silver Prize, 1st World Ceramic Biennale 2001 (GICB2001), Rep. of Korea
1999 Premio Faenza, 1. prize in the 51. Premio Faenza Concorso Internazionale, Italy
1997 Embryo 1997, awarded for the best art education in Sweden
Award of Merit, Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award, New Zealand
1995 The Gudbrandsdalen Cultural Award
1993 Judge’s Commendation, Fletcher Challenge Ceramics Award, New Zealand

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1992, Kvasbø, Torbjørn: “Don’t ever get a steady job”, in Ceramics Monthly, April issue, pp. 41-48
1993, Danbolt, Gunnar: “Between Nature and Civilisation. Ceramic Art of Torbjørn Kvasbø”, in Ceramics: Art & Perception, no. 13, pp. 3-7, 89-91.
1996, Broadwell, Carolyn: “Torbjørn Kvasbø”, in Ceramic Art magazine, no. 10, pp.84-89. (Taiwan)
1999, Veiteberg, Jorunn: “Torbjørn Kvasbø”, in Kvasbø, Torbjørn and Veiteberg, Jorunn (eds.), 1999: Norwegian Contemporary Ceramics, exhib. cat., Amsterdam under Ceramic Millenium: Leadership Congress for the Ceramic Arts, pp. 30-31.
2000, Dewald, Gabi: “Ich habe keine Angst”, in Keramik Magazin no. 1, pp. 24-30.
2000, Andreani, Carole: “Torbjørn Kvasbø – Une dramaturgie de l’homme et de la nature”, in Revue Ceramique et du Verre, no. 113, July-August, pp. 34-39.
2000, Brühl, Birgit: “Der Norweger Torbjørn Kvasbø”, in Neue Keramik no. 5 Sept/Oct., pp 270-271.
2000, Minogue, Coll and Sanderson, Robert: Wood-fired Ceramics Contemporary Practices,

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London: A & B Black, pp. 78-80.

2001, Jonson, Lotta: "The Universe of Clay", in Form no. 4, pp. 62-67.

2003, Torbjørn Kvasbø – ceramics, catalogue, Arendal: Bomuldsfabriken Kunsthall.

2004, Dewald, Gabi: „Über das Unbezähmbare“, in Keramik magazin, no. 2, pp. 22-25.

2004, Veiteberg, Jorunn: "Making the invisible visible", in Kunsthåndverk, no. 91, 1/2004, pp. 22-23.

2004, Stensman, Mailis: „Brandens mästare“, in Konsthantverk, no. 2, pp. 30-35.

2007, Sempere, Emili: Arnold Annen. Una exposició extraordinària, in Revista Ceràmica Contemporània no 31, pp 72-75.

2007, Lambiotte, Maurice and Andrèani, Carole: Contemporary Pottery: Collection Maurice Lambiotte, Paris: Norma, pp. 134-137.

2008, Battle, Michel: "Terres Extremes", in Ceramics Monthly vol. 55, April, pp. 20-22

2010 Harrod Tanya. "The everyday and the numinous". Contemporary British studio ceramics : the Grainer Collection, redigert av Annie Carlano, 11-30. New Haven: Yale University Press.

2013, Jorunn Veiteberg and Kerstin Wickman: "Torbjørn Kvasbø Ceramics – Between the Possible and the Impossible". Arnoldsche Art Publishers. ISBN 978-3-89790-384-5