

Press release

European Ceramic Context 2010

May 2010

A major European event in ceramics.

European Ceramic Context 2010 forms part of a biennial symposium for European contemporary glass and ceramics on the island of Bornholm in Denmark.

Through comprehensive exhibitions, workshops, master classes and lectures, an opportunity will arise to discuss and present the best of contemporary European ceramics today.

This event is motivated by a desire to promote the disciplines and trades of glass and ceramic art at European and global levels. Through this event we aim to cover the topic and show an overview of contemporary European glass and ceramics with changing biannual exposure.

European Ceramic Context was presented for the first time in 2006 and European Glass Context successfully completed in 2008.

Activities:

2 extensive exhibitions present the best of contemporary European ceramics

2 wide-ranging exhibitions will in each exhibition category show the work of 2 ceramic artists from 30 European countries. The work of 110 artists will be presented in the exhibitions. A national commissioner appointed by the organizers has nominated artists for participation. A selection



committee of 4 international members made the final selection.

The exhibition categories are: **European Ceramic Art** for work made by professional and established artists within the field of ceramic art. **New talent**, this category is for emerging professional ceramic artists under the age of 35 years. The exhibitions will be shown at Bornholms Art Museum, Grønbechs Gård 11.9 – 7.11 2010.

"Relics" by Marieke Pauwels BE

A catalogue will be produced representing all exhibiting artists with images of their work, a short CV and a critical note written by the national commissioners.

2 prizes. A prize of 10.000 € will be given to one outstanding ceramic artist in each of the two exhibition categories. A jury of 3 international members with expertise in the field of ceramics will go through the exhibitions before the opening and select 1 winner in each of the 2 exhibition categories.

The jurymembers are: Prof. Judith Schwartz New York University USA, Art Critic Love Jönsson SE and Museum Director Lars Kærulf Møller Bornholms Kunstmuseum DK.

List of all exhibiting artists:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/events/exhibitions/>

National Commissioners

The national commissioners are all invited to cooperate with ECC2010 because of their expertise and knowledge of contemporary European ceramics. They may come from various positions within the field of ceramics, this being museum curators, art critics, educators or individual curators.

The National Commissioners play a vital role in the profile and organization of European Ceramic Context. Their choices will outline the direction of which ceramics is going in their relevant country.

List of National Commissioners:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/about/national-commissioners/>

A Master classes focusing on "The Figure Today" will be open for enrollment to all professional ceramic artists who wishes to extend their knowledge or seek inspiration and challenge for their daily studio-practice.



"Malte" Frida Fjellman SE

The instructors are Louise Hindsgavl DK, Philip Eglin UK, Katherine Morling UK

Scenes of idyll, cherubic girls in summer dresses, healthy boys leading a calf by a rope, such are the images that spring to mind when speculating on the porcelain figures to be found in "grandmothers house". The figure and its place in our society has previously largely been ignored and sometimes sneered at by ceramic artists who consider themselves to have more to say than just romanticism and chocolate box sentimentality. Nevertheless story telling through the figure is making a strong comeback in today's vibrant ceramic community. Many prominent artists have discovered the potential in figurative work to express the issues they want to address. Many younger artists are realising the subject as a platform for a strong expression..

Read more about the Master Class:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/events/master-classes/>

A workshop for invited students from further educations that specializes in ceramics around Europe will discuss and interpret the state of European Ceramics today.

The themes for this upcoming workshop centers around post industrial industry and alternative ways of exposure for ceramics. The craft maker/ceramic artist as a cultural entrepreneur or worker and how ceramic artists have previously had strong professional identity related to the industry. The ceramic industry is now decreasing rapidly in many European countries compared to before. How does young ceramic artists see themselves today? Many galleries and traditional exhibition spaces are closing and new exposure forms occur. Artists are using alternative forms of exposure to show their work, in the streets or as happenings, in pop up galleries or otherwise, which is far away from the white plinths in traditional galleries.

The instructors are P.hD. Karen Lisa Salamon DK, Artist and Prof. Richard Lauanders USA, Visual Artist Martin Thaulow DK.

Read more about the student workshop:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/events/workshops/>

The conference aims to address, investigate and discuss current themes related to Contemporary European Ceramics, the situation of ceramic art in Post Industrial Industry and what position do ceramic artists find themselves in the present Cultural Economy.

Ceramicists as well as other craft practitioners have traditionally worked in strong collaboration with the industry, designing and developing products for industrial mass production. This collaboration between individual artists has played a historic role when defining the identity of ceramics in Europe. The situation is different today, due to globalization and the changing economic situation. Over the past many years, ceramic production in industry has been minimised to the point where it is almost gone in many European countries. Ceramic products are now being produced cheaply in the Far East or in smaller production units locally.

This conference aims to address and discuss how ceramicists, as well as craft practitioners in general, are recognised as a part of the cultural and creative economy.

Among the speakers are: Keynote speaker Prof. Judith S. Schwartz, Department of Art and Art Professions, New York University Prof. Andrew Burton, Newcastle University UK, Dr. Vanessa Culter, Swansea Metropolitan University UK, Richard Launder, Bergen National Academy of the Arts NO, Jeremy Theophilus & Barney Hare duke, Co directors at british Ceramics Biennial UK. Danmarks Designskole Bornholm 12 – 13 September 2010.

See the full list of speakers and papers:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/events/conference/>

AiR Bornholm. As a new feature this year we are introducing a series of artist residencies in collaboration with Res Artis, a worldwide network of artist-residencies and residential art centers. Selected artists will be given the time and space to develop a new project or body of work in ceramics. Artists will be working at Svaneke Gaarden, Møbelfabrikken and Danmarks Designskole Bornholm, for a period of approx 6 weeks. The selected artists are Laura McKibbin CND, Petra Bittl D, Ian Meares USA, Timea Tihanyi USA, Xavier Monsalvatje ES, Elzbieta Grosseova CZ, Peter Bettaglone AUS and Jo Kamm USA.

Read more about AiR Bornholm:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/events/artist-in-residence/>

Other facts

All of the 27 members of the European Union are invited to participate, as well as Iceland, Norway and Switzerland.

European Ceramic Context 2010 is organized in collaboration between The Art Museum on Bornholm, Business Center Bornholm, Danmarks Designskole Bornholm, Grønbechs Gård, Møbelfabrikken and Hjorths Fabrik – Bornholms Museum of Ceramics.

The Local Municipality of Bornholm and a number of private funds and sponsors are financing the event.

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/about/sponsors/>

Images:

High res. Images for press purposes can be downloaded at:

<http://www.europeanceramiccontext.com/press/>

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For further information go to www.europeanceramiccontext.com