

HOSTLER BURROWS

Eva Zethraeus (b.1971) is a ceramic artist living and working in Gothenburg, Sweden. Her artwork, ceramic sculpture inspired by botanical and biological specimens, emphasizes the inherent duality of porcelain clay, a durable medium that she shapes into fragile and tenuous biomorphic forms. Many of her pieces exhibit Japanese stylistic influences, resultant of her residency there.

Zethraeus, born in Sweden, was raised in Birmingham, England. At the age of 11, she moved to Madrid, Spain, where she first discovered her passion for art within the walls of the Prado, just feet away from her primary school. Most influential was Hieronymus Bosch's triptych, Garden of Earthly Delights (1490-1510). This is where the artist was first inspired to view landscape as art. Zethraeus then began to conceptualize an immersive environment comprised of diverse ceramic forms.

Zethraeus spent several formative artists' residencies in Japan during which she executed her landscape porcelain series. Frequenting Zen Buddhist gardens in Kyoto, Zethraeus found inspiration in their naturalistic, sensual design. She describes the deliberateness with which large and small, dense and sparse, light and dark were juxtaposed in these environments as a "vivid interplay" effuse with energy. These elements of design translated into her landscape sculpture, a series of frenetic, undulating, biomorphic forms that seem to vibrate with the same organic energy and sensuality as the gardens they are inspired by.

More often than not, her landscapes take on a marine aspect. Zethraeus describes herself as fascinated by the qualities objects take on underwater, describing their slow movement, textures and the qualities of light as being akin to her deliberate, contemplative ceramic process.

Zethraeus received her MFA from the College for Design & Craft at Gothenburg University and her artwork is featured in the collections of both the Nationalmuseum in Stockholm and the Röhsska Muséet in Gothenburg, She is also the recipient of several major grants and scholarships.

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