

HOSTLER BURROWS

BENTE SKJØTTGAARD

b. 1961, Frederiksberg, Denmark

In the ceramic sculpture of Bente Skjøttgaard, natural and scientific phenomena find expression in tendrils of clay reaching, flexing, and gesturing in tempestuously coiled combinations. These coils gather to form whip-like networks, spiral whorls, and interlocking molecular geometries. Often poised on the tips of stilt-like supports which buckle ever so slightly beneath the sculpture's weight, the works materialize the physical forces at work in three-dimensional construction: tensile strength, gravitational pull, cantilevered volumes, and the slow alchemy of minerals and glazes combining in the high-temperature crucible of the kiln.

Skjøttgaard's subjects emerge from loose, gestural coils of clay which are deliberately unglazed in places, captured *in medias res*, intentionally imperfect yet always dynamic. Frequently, Skjøttgaard's work pays homage to the turbulence of natural phenomena, whether drawing on the form of brewing storm clouds and whistling tornado funnels or considering the flagella of sea life and the matted networks of tree roots tunneling into the soil. In doing so, she foregrounds the capacity of clay to exhibit opposing ideas — strength and elasticity, density and weightlessness, impressionability and durability — in sculptures based upon the structures of cloud typologies, iterations of the bonds between carbon atoms, or in one case, formed from the imprints of the hooves of cattle grazing.

Her practice is often described in experimental terms for good reason: the variations in glaze and structure perform a trial and repetition of making. It is a way of working which reveals the restless, unrelenting face of the creative process and its pursuit of endless possibility.

Skjøttgaard attended the Kolding Design School and Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design. Her work has been exhibited at the Vejen Art Museum, Holstebro Kunstmuseum, Musée Fabre, and the Trapholt Art Museum. Her sculptures are in the collection of numerous institutions, including the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Musée National de Céramique de Sèvres, the Designmuseum Danmark, and the Annie & Otto Johs. Detlefs Collection. Skjøttgaard is the recipient of awards including the Grosserer L. F. Foghts Fund, the Design Foundation Award, the Arts and Crafts Prize of 1879, and the Exhibition Award of Charlottenborg.

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b. 1961, Frederiksberg, Denmark

EDUCATION

1986 Kolding Design School, Kolding, Denmark

1985 Exchange student at Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem, Israel

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Nature and Glaze*, CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art Denmark, Middelfart, Denmark

2024 *Timberline*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

2021 *Bente Skjøttgaard: Tableaux*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

Bente Skjøttgaard: Ten Tales of Glaze, Køppe Contemporary Objects, Rønne, Bornholm, Denmark

2020 *Bente Skjøttgaard: Biotope*, Ann Linnemann Galleri, Copenhagen, Denmark

2019 *Look at Me!*, Madoura, Vallauris, France

2018 *Look at Me!*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

Nature of Glaze, Pierre Marie Giraud, Brussels, Belgium

2016 *Bente Skjøttgaard, Espèces Nouvelles*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

New Species, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

2014 *Cumulus Congestus*, Galerie Pierre Marie Giraud, Brussels, Belgium

Cumulonimbus, Copenhagen Ceramics, Frederiksberg, Denmark

2013 *Aire de Repos (Rest Stop)*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

2011 *Fokus on Traces*, Vejen Art Museum, Vejen, Denmark

Puls-Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels, Belgium

2010 *Cumulus*, Ann Linnemann Studio Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark

Dans les Nuages (In the Clouds), Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

2008 *Elements in White*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France

Blås & Knåda, Stockholm, Sweden

Køppe Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark

2007 *Puls-Contemporary Ceramics*, Brussels, Belgium

2006 Galerie Maria Lund - La Galerie Danoise, Paris, France

2005 *Interglacial Period*, Galleri Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark

2004 Galerie Maria Lund - La Galerie Danoise, Paris, France

2003 *Bente Skjøttgaard 2001–2003*, Grimmerhus Museum of International Ceramic Art,

Middelfart, Denmark

Glazed Items with Ramifications, Holstebro Kunstmuseum, Holstebro, Denmark

Puls-Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels, Belgium

2001 Puls-Contemporary Ceramics, Brussels, Belgium

2000 *Glasurstykker (Glazed Items)*, Galleri Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark

1997 *Håndvask (Washbasin)*, Udstillingssted for Ny Keramik, Copenhagen, Denmark

1990 The Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Shop, Amagertorv, Copenhagen, Denmark

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2025 *Alive and Unfolding*, Le Delta, Namur, Belgium

Herfra (From Here), Vrå-Udstillingen 83, Kunstbygningen i Vrå – Engelundsamlingen, Vrå, Denmark

Poetry of the Woods: The Call of the Wild, Køppe Contemporary Objects, Bornholm, Denmark

2024 3daysofdesign Festival, Peach Corner, Frederiksberg, Denmark

2023 *Alchemists Convention: A Ceramic Meeting between Past and present*, Vejen Art Museum, Vejen, Denmark; Peach Corner, Frederiksberg, Denmark

The Cheongju Craft Biennale, Cheongju, South Korea

2022 *Bente Skjøttgaard & Anne Damgaard: Everything Flows*, Museet Holmen, Løgumkloster, Denmark

Bente Skjøttgaard & Anne Damgaard: Everything Flows, Peach Corner, Frederiksberg, Denmark

Les Flammes: L'Âge de la Céramique, Musée d'Art Moderne de Paris, Paris, France

Smoke, Jason Jacques Gallery for Last Prisoner Project, New York, NY

2021 *Bend, Bubble and Shine: Copenhagen Ceramics*, Hostler Burrows, New York, NY

Bend, Bubble and Shine: Copenhagen Ceramics, Hostler Burrows Annex, Los Angeles, CA

Glaze Tests, Galerie Handwerk, Munich, Germany

Glowing in the Dark, The Biennale for Craft & Design, Koldinghus, Kolding, Denmark; Peach Corner, Frederiksberg, Denmark

Stefan Reiterer + Bente Skjøttgaard, Stereo Exchange, Frederiksberg, Denmark

2020 *Anne Damgaard and Bente Skjøttgaard: All Solid Melts into Air*, Kunstpakhuset, Ikast, Denmark

Eight Marts Woman Nature, Store Kongensgade, Copenhagen, Denmark

Glowing in the Dark, Jason Jacques Gallery, New York, NY

Ler Er Livet, Erik Veistrups Samling (Laughter Is Life, Erik Veistrup's Collection), CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art Grimmerhus, Middelfart, Denmark

2019 *Ceramic Momentum: Staging the Object*, CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art Grimmerhus, Middelfart, Denmark

reCLAYmed, Berg Gallery AB, Stockholm, Sweden

Regarder les Nuages (Watching the Clouds), Musée des Beaux-Arts de Cambrai, Cambrai,

France

- Turn Me On ... Now, Side Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
100 Års Dansk Keramik (100 Years of Danish Ceramics), Kunstforeningen Det ny Kastet, Thisted, Denmark
100 Års Dansk Keramik (100 Years of Danish Ceramics), Sophienholm, Kongens Lyngby, Denmark
Gabriel & Guillaume, Beirut, Lebanon
- 2018 *Present*, Musée & Jardins Van Buuren, Brussels, Belgium
Mesterværker Jubilæumsudstilling (Masterpieces Anniversary Exhibition), Ann Linnemann Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
100 Years of Danish Ceramics, Maison du Danemark, Paris, France
- 2017 *Claytime!*, Side Gallery, Barcelona, Spain
Glaze, Glasur: Kemi - Masse - Myte (Chemistry - Mass - Myth), Sophienholm, Kongens Lyngby, Denmark
Grand Designs — Clever Hands, CLAY Museum of Ceramic Art Grimmerhus, Middelfart, Denmark
Special Exhibition: Modern Masters, International Trade Fair, Munich, Germany
Nuages (Clouds), Galerie du WCC-BF, Mons, Belgium
Object, My Friends, Grimaldi Forum, Monaco
The Stars, They Are, Berg Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden
Ultimate Impact: Five Phenomena in Nordic Design Culture, Rundetårn, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2016 *Copenhagen Ceramics Invites*, Galleria Salvatore Lanteri, Milan, Italy
Nuages (Clouds), Centre Céramique de Giroussens, Giroussens, France
- 2015 *Climats Artificiels (Artificial Climates)*, Espace Fondation EDF, Paris, France
Glitter and Glaze, Superobjekt Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
Many a Slip, Marsden Woo Gallery, London, UK
Random Growth, Contemporary European Ceramics, Phos Art + Design, London, UK
14e Parcours Céramique Carougeois (14th Carouge Ceramics Route), Biennale Internationale de Céramique Contemporaine, Carouge, Switzerland
- 2014 *Art14*, Galerie Maria Lund, London, UK
Formed, Djanogly Art Gallery, Nottingham, UK
The Ceramic Object, Galleri Format, Oslo, Norway
10 000 Hours – What is Talent, Trapholt Art Museum, Kolding, Denmark
- 2013 *Copenhagen Ceramics Invites*, Galerie Maria Lund, Paris, France
We Would Be Delighted to See, Art Center Silkeborg Bad, Silkeborg, Denmark
- 2012 *Bodil Manz and Bente Skjøttgaard: Cuts and Interventions*, Copenhagen Ceramics, Frederiksberg, Denmark
Glasurglæder (Glaze Joys), Vejen Art Museum, Vejen, Denmark
Underværker (Wonders): Masterpieces from Danish Private Collections, Kunsten Museum of

- Modern Art, Aalborg, Denmark
Fra Sans til Samling (From Sense to Collection): New Donations from Erik Veistrup,
 Grimmerhus Museum of International Ceramic Art, Middelfart, Denmark
Perturbations, Musée Fabre, Montpellier, France
Mindcraft 12, Danish Crafts, Ventura Lambrate, Milan, Italy
- 2011 *Biennalen for Kunsthåndværk og Design (The Biennale for Crafts and Design)*, Koldinghus,
 Kolding, Denmark
Living with Ceramics, Puls-Contemporary Ceramics at Ampersand House, Brussels,
 Belgium
Mindcraft 11, Danish Crafts, Ventura Lambrate, Milan, Italy
*Seizième Biennale Internationale de Céramique de Châteauroux (Seventeenth International
 Ceramics Biennial of Châteauroux)*, Châteauroux, France
The Sixth International Competition, GIC Biennale, Icheon, South Korea
- 2010 *Across*, Carlsberg Ny Tap, Copenhagen, Denmark
Biennale Internationale de Vallauris, Musée Magnelli, Vallauris, France
- 2009 *Quinzième Biennale Internationale de Céramique (Fifteenth International Ceramics Biennial)*,
 Châteauroux, France
Room 141, Gallery Contemporary Ceramics, Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK
The Invitational World Contemporary Ceramics Exhibition: Adventures of the Fire, South Korea
- 2008 *Lux-Lab*, Gimsinghoved, Struer, Denmark
Statistics >< Ceramics, New Danish Ceramics, Röhsska Museet, Göteborg, Sweden;
 Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany
- 2007 *Biennalen*, Trapholt Art Museum, Kolding, Denmark
Everything Is Flux, Drud & Køppe Gallery, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2006 *Bjerger i Dansk Kunst (Mountains in Danish Art)*, Herning Museum of Contemporary Art,
 Herning, Denmark
European Ceramic Context, Bornholm Art Museum, Gudhjem, Denmark
- 2005 *The Carsten Løvbjerg Collection*, Horsens Art Museum, Horsens, Denmark
- 2004 *Biennalen*, Trapholt Art Museum, Kolding, Denmark; Museum of Modern Art, Aalborg,
 Denmark
Corner, Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2003 *New Danish Ceramics*, The Danish Museum of Art & Design, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2002 *From the Kilns of Denmark: Contemporary Danish Ceramics*, The Museum of Art and Design,
 Traveling: New York, NY; Fitchburg, MA; San Diego, CA; Sacramento, CA; Racine,
 WI; Paris, France; and Berlin, Germany
Mellem Rum (In-Between Spaces), Udstillingssted for Ny Keramik at Galleri Nørby,
 Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2000 *Keramik uden Fortilfælde (Ceramics of No Precedent)*, Udstillingssted for Ny Keramik,
 Copenhagen, Denmark
Dansk Form: Design vom Nachbarn (Danish Form: Design of Neighbors), Museum für Kunst

und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany

- 1999 *Keramik aus Dänemark (Ceramics from Denmark)*, Galleri Handwerk, Munich, Germany
- 1998 *Bente Skjøttgaard and Anne Tphøj: I Blomst — I Vase (In Bloom – In Vase)*, Udstillingssted for Ny Keramik, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1996 *Duplika (Duplicate): Danish Applied Art*, The Danish Architecture Centre, Gammel Dok, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1995 *Dansk Design Proces: Produkt*, The Danish Architecture Centre, Gammel Dok, Copenhagen, Denmark
- En Badeværelshistorie (A Bathroom Story)*, Galleri Nørby, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1994 *Rooms and Rituals of Everyday Life*, Den Frie, Copenhagen, Denmark
- The Ceramic Jug*, Marienlyst Castle, Helsingør, Denmark
- The Danish Ceramics Triennial I*, Trapholt Art Museum, Kolding, Denmark
- 1993 *The Arts and Crafts Prize of 1879*, The Danish Museum of Art & Design, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1991 *Charlottenborg Autumn Exhibition*, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Charlottenborg Spring Exhibition*, Copenhagen, Denmark
- Never Compromise on Quality*, Spøttrup Castle Museum, Skive, Denmark

PUBLIC COMMISSIONS

- 2011 *Traces of the Jutland Cattle, Art Along the Ancient Road Hærvejen in Jutland*, The Danish Arts Foundation

AWARDS

Annie & Otto Johs. Detlef Ceramics Prize
Danish Crafts
Danmarks Nationalbanks Jubilæumsfond af 1968
Designfonden
Det Reiersenske Fond
Grosserer L.F. Foghts Fond
Inga & Ejvind Kold Christensen Prize
National Workshops for Arts and Crafts, Ministry of Culture, Denmark
Nationalbankens Påskønnelseslegat
Ole Haslunds Artist Foundation
The Arts and Crafts Prize of 1879
The Danish Art Foundation
The Danish Art Foundation, Three-Year Grant
The Design Foundation
The Exhibition Award of Charlottenborg

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 2014 Jury member at the Biennale Internationale de Vallauris, France
- 2012 Co-manager of Copenhagen Ceramics, Smallegade 46, Frederiksberg, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2011 Co-founder of the exhibition platform Copenhagen Ceramics
“10 Days,” International Ceramics Workshop at the GIC Biennale, Icheon, South Korea
Co-initiator of “SuperFormLab”, the new ceramics department at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design
- 2009–11 Traces of the Jutland Cattle: Art Along the Ancient Road Hærvejen in Jutland, a project by the Danish Arts Foundation
- 2009 ISCAEE Symposium: The International Symposium of Ceramics Education and Exchange, South Korea
- 2006–08 Board Member, International Ceramic Research Center Guldagergaard, Skælskør, Denmark
- 2006 Co-founder of the exhibition group “Lux Lab”
- 2005 Lecturer at the Department of Ceramics, The Danish Design School, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2002–03 Crafts Collection 6 and 7, Danish Crafts, Ambiente, Frankfurt, Germany
- 2001–02 Jury Member, Charlottenborg Spring Exhibition
- 2001 Co-founder of the exhibition group “New Danish Ceramics”
- 1999–2000 Joint Owner of Udstillingssted for Ny Keramik, Kompagnistræde 25, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1994–2005 Visiting Teacher, Kolding Design School and the Danish Design School, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 1986–90 Artist at the Royal Danish Porcelain Factories Bing & Grøndahl and Royal Copenhagen

COLLECTIONS

Annie & Otto Johs. Detlef Collection
Carsten Løvbjerg Collection
Copenhagen Culturel Foundation
Designmuseum Danmark, Copenhagen, Denmark
Erik Veistrup Collection, Museum of International Ceramic Art, Denmark
Fond National d’Art Contemporain, France
Grimmerhus, Museum of International Ceramic Art, Middelfart, Denmark
Holstebro Kunstmuseum, Holstebro, Denmark
Kunstforeningen af 14. August, Copenhagen, Denmark
Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, France
Musée National de Céramique de Sèvres, France
The Danish Art Foundation

Trapholt Art Museum, Kolding, Denmark
Vejen Art Museum, Vejen, Denmark
Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK