



Bente SKJØTTGAARD

Tableaux

sculpture

07.11.2021 > 08.01.2022

PRESS PREVIEW

Wednesday November 17th, 2 pm > 6 pm

OPENING

Thursday November 18th, 5 pm > 8:30 pm

SUNDAY OPENINGS

Sunday November 7th, 2 pm > 6 pm - **un dimanche à la galerie**

Sunday November 28th, 2 pm > 6 pm - **www.marais.guide**

NEWS

Bente Skjøttgaard's work is shown in the exhibitions :

Les Flammes – MAM, Paris – 15.10.2021 – 06.02.2022

Par le feu, la couleur – MBA, Lyon – 19.05.2021 – 27.02.2022

GALERIE

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(previous page)
Exhibition view
December 2021
Galerie Maria Lund

(next suivante)
Phylum Cnidaria #2134
Stoneware and glaze
57 x 43 x 43 cm
2021
BS.2021.009



*It is painful to admit that I will not save the world with ceramics,
but this is my voice.*

Bente Skjøttgaard
Glowing in the Dark, Biennale DK 2021



Phylum Cnidaria #2137
stoneware and glaze
20 x 20 x 16 cm
2021
BS.2021.011



Beige, Turquoise Vase 2021 - 35
stoneware and glaze
46 x 31 x 28 cm
2021
BS.2021.017



Bente Skjøttgaard's studio
October 2021



Green, Turquoise Vase 2021 - 36
stoneware and glaze
43 x 31 x 28 cm
2021
BS.2021.016



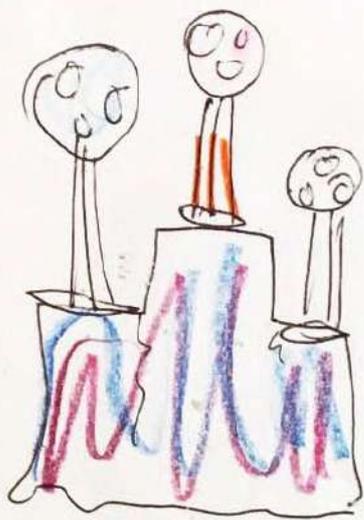
(Exhibition view)
Orange Blossom #2047
stoneware and glaze
36 x 24 x 19 cm
2020
BS.2020.005

SKJØTTGAARD BENTE

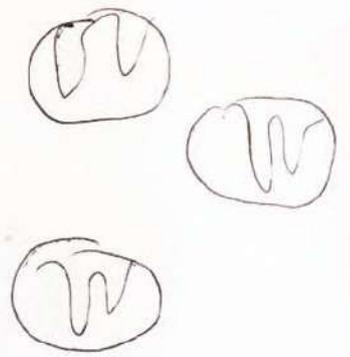
Tableaux

The *tableau* or *tableau vivant* designates a type of theater, where actors are immobilized as a silent image for a brief instant on a set, usually inspired by History. In the science field, the word *tableau* (*table*) refers to a structured presentation of a specific topic in images, words or numbers. *Tableaux* by Bente Skjøttgaard brings to life both these definitions.

During the second half of the 19th century, German biologist Ernst Haeckel (1834-1919) – fervent Darwinian and inventor of the concept of *ecology* – explored, among other things, the submarine world. In his book *Art Forms in Nature* (1904), tables (*tableaux*) inventory beings that live in the depths. These stunning and very detailed drawing boards have always fascinated Bente Skjøttgaard, who drew inspiration from them to create the works shown in *Tableaux*. Her attention focused more particularly on the large family of *cnidaria*. These invertebrates symbolize the beginning of life and movement, as well as 500 years of evolution. Graceful and fearsome, they can be classified into two main categories: the *polyps* (sea anemones, corals) and *medusa* (jellyfish) – some species alternate between these two states. These acephalan simple beings – a stomachal cavity connected to a mouth – possess a venomous system that serves both as a defense and as a way to catch their prey... The tentacles' fluid and catchy ballet is in fact a fatal dance.



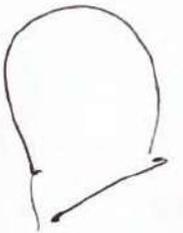
fullermer



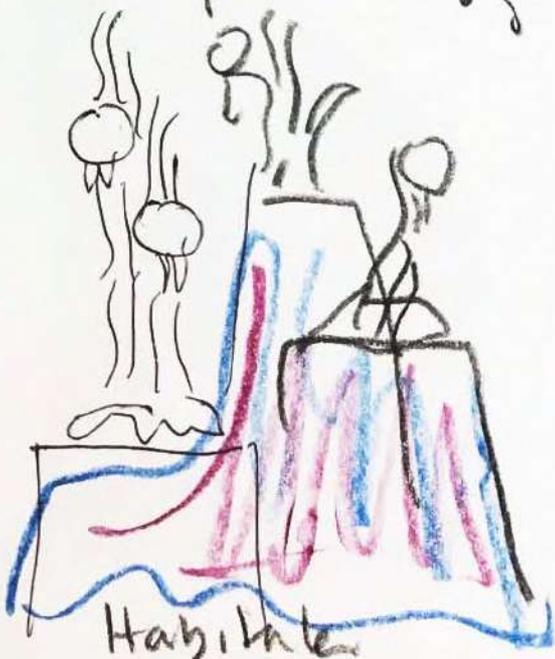
Blossum



spirale of mind



varer



Habitat



Exhibition view
December 2021
Galerie Maria Lund



Habitat #2143
stoneware and glaze
48 x 32 x 25 cm
2021
BS.2021.013



Phylum Cnidaria #2141
stoneware and glaze
50 x 35 x 48 cm
2021
BS.2021.010



Yellow Blossom #2041
stoneware and glaze
52 x 35 x 25 cm
2021
BS.2021.002

SKJØTTGAARD BENTE

Tableaux

Bente Skjøttgaard's works do not try to copy the natural world; they draw inspiration from it to create what is simultaneously concentrations of shapes, sensations and impressions. Extraordinary glazes are spread on the bases and morph into lights, colors, textures, making a parallel world come to exist. The artist thus wants to draw attention to the richness of a fragile environment – in which Mankind is only one species among others – where complex and close-knit relations are at stake. Bente Skjøttgaard takes up the theme of her exhibition *Look at me!* (2018), in which small jellyfish *Mnemiopsis leidyi*, an invasive species, were the emblem of a contemporary reality where correlations (unconscious or accidental) with natural equilibriums can cause disasters for the entire realm of the living.



The Wave #2007
stoneware and glaze
66 x 53 x 4 cm
2020
BS.2020.009



Orange Blossom #2040
stoneware and glaze
53 x 35 x 24 cm
2020
BS.2020.001



Silence #2039
stoneware and glaze
54 x 60 x 4 cm
2020
BS.2020.010



(Exhibition view)
Groupe of Fullerènes
December 2021
Galerie Maria Lund

SKJØTTGAARD BENTE

Tableaux

But *Tableaux* remains nonetheless a feast – a celebration of different types of beauty, extravagance, imagination and a certain humor. By strolling between the tableaux of the exhibition, where in turns are visible, in little groups, natural vases caught in the current, high-headed carbon molecules and the wide-open mouths of ‘gourmet-greedy’ anemones, one understands that Bente Skjøttgaard shares her anxiety with us, but also delivers a tender yet attentive point of view.

As a proud ceramicist, she enjoys creating and defying her matter, searching for lightness and movement when the clay shows to be both dense and static. As always, the kiln and the heat, temperamental and unpredictable collaborators, maintain the artist in her role as an explorer who marvels at surprises and unknown possibilities. Soil and sea come together in this ensemble: detours, textures and blue-green Art Nouveau hues neighbor families of fluorescents and asserted pastels, even chalky surfaces with more muted tones.



Purple Vase 2021 - 37
stoneware and glaze
31 x 37 x 26
2021
BS.2021.001



Bente Skjøttgaard's studio
September 2021



Exhibition view
December 2021
Galerie Maria Lund



(previous page)
Phylum Cnidaria #2142
stoneware and glaze
56 x 46 x 42 cm
2021
BS.2021.008

(next page)
Habitat #2145
stoneware and glaze
49 x 28 x 28 cm
2021
BS.2021.014



SKJØTTGAARD BENTE

Parcours

An internationally renowned artist, Bente Skjøttgaard (born in 1961 in Denmark) is also a particularly dynamic figure in the world of ceramics: co-founder of the *SuperFormLab* at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, member of the troika that initiated the exhibition platform *Copenhagen Ceramics* (2011-), she is also part of the team behind the new window for ceramics *Peach Corner* in Copenhagen (2021-).

In France, her sculptures have joined the collections of the MAD – Musée des arts décoratifs, the Fond national d'art contemporain, SEVRES – the Musée National de la Céramique, the Musées de Châteauroux and a number of public European collections, notably the V&A, the Designmuseum Denmark, the Holstebro Kunstmuseum, CLAY – Museum of International Ceramic Art, the Vejen Art Museum, the Trapholt Art Museum, the Danish Art Foundation and the Copenhagen Cultural Foundation.

Bente Skjøttgaard has additionally received many awards for her work.

She debuted her New-York career in 2020-2021 respectively at the Jason Jacques Gallery and at the Hostler Burrows Gallery – as well as a participating in the ***Biennale for Crafts & Design 2021*** (Denmark). The exhibition-dialog ***Regarder les nuages (Looking at the clouds) Georges Maroniez/ Bente Skjøttgaard*** took place at the **Musée des beaux-arts de Cambrai** in 2019-2020 and during the summer 2019 **Madoura - Vallauris** hosted her exhibition ***Look at me!*** Currently, the artist's work is exhibited in ***Les Flammes (The Flames)*** at the **MAM – Paris** and in ***Par le feu, la couleur (Through fire, colour)*** at the **MBA - Lyon (2021-2022)**.

From the kilns of Denmark was a panorama of the Danish ceramics' scene shown at The Museum of Art and Design, New York, Fitchburg, San Diego, Sacramento, Racine as well as at La Maison du Danemark, Paris and the Nordic Embassies, Berlin (2002-2005).

In South Korea Bente Skjøttgaard participated in the *Gyeonggi International Ceramics Biennale, 2009 and 2011: (Adventures of the Fire - World Contemporary Ceramics)*. Her sculptures have also been exhibited at the *Biennale de Châteauroux* (2009 and 2011), at the *Biennale de Vallauris* (2010), for the *Parcours Carougeois* (2015, exhibition on *The Line*), in *Climats artificiels* at the Espace Fondation EDF, Paris, in the show *Nuages* at the Centre Céramique de Giroussens, at WCC-BF, Mons, Belgium (2016), as well as in the 2016 and 2017 editions of *Une partie de campagne*, Chassagne-Montrachet.

Tableaux is Bente Skjøttgaard's eighth exhibition at the **Galerie Maria Lund**. It has been preceded by shows in 2004, 2006, 2008 (*Elements in white*), 2010 (*Dans les nuages/ In the clouds*), 2013 (*Aire de repos/ Rest area*), 2016 (*Espèces nouvelles/ New species*) and in 2018 (*Look at me!*).



(previous page)
The Fossil #1931
stoneware and glaze
76 x 42 x 42 cm
2019
BS.2019.001

(next page)
Habitat #2147
stoneware and glaze
49 x 29 x 28 cm
2021
BS.2021.015





Carbon 60 #2015
stoneware and glaze
42 x 26 x 25 cm
2021
BS.2020.006

