

KILN JOY

TACTILE, HANDMADE AND BEAUTIFULLY FORMED - ART AND CRAFT ENTWINE IN THE FIRED-UP IMAGINATIONS OF A NEW BREED OF TALENTED AUSTRALIAN CERAMICISTS STYLING **GLEN PROEBSTEL** PHOTOGRAPHS **SHARYN CAIRNS**

BRIDGET BODENHAM

"I'm influenced by the constant changes of nature," says Bridget, who specialises in handcrafted utensils and tableware. A food lover, her humble contemporary stoneware vessels celebrate and enhance the visual and tactile experience of eating. In 2006, the same year she graduated from the University of Ballarat with a diploma of arts in ceramics, Bridget was a finalist in Craft Victoria's Filippo Raphael Fresh! Award, which showcases emerging craft and design work.

Stoneware **cup** (in bowl), \$45; stoneware **bowl** with glaze, \$50 for medium; Moon stoneware **plate** with glaze, \$35; porcelain **dish** (front), **bowl** (back) and **spoon set**, \$150, all by Bridget Bodenham, from Craft Victoria. Herman Miller 'Eames' **dining table** with Calacatta polished marble top by Charles & Ray Eames, \$4383, from Living Edge. →



KENJI URANISHI

Born in Nara, Japan, Kenji came to Australia four years ago, and says his new home provides “an environment for more objective study of my own country and culture”. His work has been exhibited extensively and featured at London’s Victoria & Albert Museum as part of 2007’s Collect craft fair. Inlaid with everyday hand-drawn images, his vessels merge traditional Japanese ceramics and contemporary pop illustration.

SARAH WRIGHT

Originally from Canada, Sarah’s artistic trademark is installations – three-dimensional still-lives where precise detail and crisp light and shadow play upon pristine porcelain. The formality of her wheel-thrown vessels is counterpointed by the blanketing detail of her hand-carving, creating an aesthetic balance between form and detail. The glazed interiors of her work also provide a gentle colour highlight.

REBECCA HARTMAN-KEARNS

When designing her collection of glassware, Rebecca Hartman-Kearns moulds each piece into a sensual, even voluptuous, object. After working alongside Australian glass artist B. Jane Cowie in Istanbul, Turkey, Rebecca now lectures in glassblowing at the University of South Australia, and won the critic’s choice award at Adelaide’s 2003 Art East Festival. From her glass ‘gardens’ to her organic forms, her works lend the sensuousness of glass a serious edge.

(From left) Porcelain **plinths** with inlaid coloured liquid clay by Kenji Uranishi, \$180 each, from All Hand Made. Thrown and carved **vases** in Southern Ice porcelain by Sarah Wright, \$880 for a three-piece set, from Planet Commonwealth. Hand-blown **glass vase** in White by Rebecca Hartman-Kearns, \$179 for small, from Exhibit Interiors. **Beaker** in Charcoal by Sophie Milne, \$30, from Craft Victoria. Porcelain **beaker** by Kenji Uranishi (in front), \$88, from All Hand Made. Herman Miller ‘Eames’ **dining table** with Calacatta polished marble top by Charles & Ray Eames, \$4383; Emeco ‘Stacking’ **chairs** in brushed aluminium by Foster + Partners, \$810 each, all from Living Edge. →





KEIKO MATSUI

Born in Osaka, Japan, Keiko studied ceramics in Australia at the National Art School, East Sydney, graduating with a bachelor of fine arts and winning several awards in 2006. Experimenting with glazes and porcelain, her light touch and signature cobalt brushworks (this page, below left) can be seen on objects from sake cups to lotus leaf-shaped bowls.

KIRSTEN COELHO

With a passion for creating and collecting pottery, Danish-born Kirsten now works in Adelaide. Her porcelain pieces (this page, centre and right) blend Eastern influences and Western design and are mostly in the form of tableware, but their sculptural strength transcends the domestic sphere. Kirsten's work was shown at London's Collect craft fair in 2006 and 2007.

ANDREW WIDDIS

Based in Bendigo in central Victoria, Andrew produces small quantities of his minimalist and moody porcelain pieces (opposite page) at a time, focusing on glazes, colour, texture and meldings.





THIS PAGE (From left) Vorto small **cups**, \$33 each, medium **cup**, \$44, and **bowl**, \$88, all in Black Rabbit by Andrew Widdis, from Hub Furniture. **Dish** in Charcoal by Sophie Milne, \$38, from Craft Victoria. **Book**, stylist's own. Pearl **console** in Mink by Wilhelmina McCarroll, \$3320, from Zuster. **Background** painted with Feast Watson 'Black Japan', from \$29.25 per 1L, from Bunnings. **OPPOSITE PAGE** (From left) Small porcelain **vase** with cobalt markings by Keiko Matsui, \$88; **bottle** in tenmoku and celadon glazes, \$180, and porcelain **bowl** in matt white glaze with iron oxide markings, \$330, both by Kirsten Coelho, all from All Hand Made. Portrait **print**, \$45, from Douglas & Hope. **Shelf** painted with Taubmans 'Living Proof' Silk Matt in Bosco, from \$32 per 1L, from Bunnings. **Background** painted with Ultra Flat Acrylic in Lead, \$35.50 per 1L, from Porter's Paints. **ADDRESS BOOK** page 201