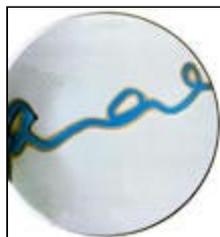


Fire Earth Script

Turkish artist unites tradition with modern form and calligraphy.



Turkish artist Canan Dagdelen, now living in Vienna, has made a name on the European cultural scene with her unusual ceramic artistry.



A porcelain bowl from the series "TAKE-white-PART" - partially glazed with relief (1996)

"We retain all our experiences in our genes: the culture and smell of our homeland, the heat of the midday sun and the cool of the sea with its salt and wind; often recurring, melancholic songs and humorous hours in warm and secure companionship... We carry these memories down the popular-lined paths of our childhood and throughout our lives... But adulthood can be cold and we miss and search in vain for the fire of our youth. Finally, we come to accept and to look for the warmth within ourselves. To be as we are." This is how Canan Dagdelen speaks of herself and her art.

East-west synthesis

Born in 1960, Canan considers herself lucky to be raised in the traditional metropolis of Istanbul where Occident and orient meet. She is imbued with eastern mentality and philosophy but benefits from a western scientific education, rounding off her studies in 1991 at the Vienna College of Applied Art.

Ceramics and calligraphy

Canan's work is indeed rooted in the modern age, but reflects the heritage of Turkish art and craft. The artist brings a new interpretation to the Anatolian tradition of using calligraphy to decorate ceramic objects. She lets object and script merge, creating by omission and simplicity an impression of inner peace and serenity. Her graphic characters offer themselves as readable but as abstractions and not texts in the conventional sense, inspiring individual interpretations in the observer.

"is there any difference?" - red clay, 3-piece (1996)

The technique: traditional but modern

Canan's most important "tools" are her potter's wheel, furnace, and a spray gun to glaze the fired ceramics. "With my spray gun I manage smooth transitions and rich color graduations." explains Canan. "Sometimes, I spray different colors right on top of each other with fascinating results." Air is also put to work to release newly cast porcelain pieces from their plaster moulds. Numerous national and overseas exhibitions, prizes,



and a growing following of enthusiastic collectors confirm the success and international recognition of the artist. The air that Canan puts to such creative use is supplied by an ECONOMY 3.

