

**Press release of 13 March 2015**

## **Jessica Song: «Œuvres Récentes/ Recent Works»**

**Simplicity, depth and vibrancy characterise the ceramics and monotypes of Jessica Song. The Swiss artist with Korean roots combines simple forms and muted colours with surprising textures and effects, lending every work a unique and multifaceted appearance.**

Jessica Song (\*1964) spent her early childhood in South Korea, grew up in Switzerland and was further educated in the US and France. Song's interest in her cultural roots and her passion for ceramics were stirred by working with Neolithic shards on archaeological digs in Korea. Ceramics are a traditional and highly-valued cultural asset in Korea and after finishing her studies Song decided to dedicate herself totally to this timeless art.

The starting point for Song's ceramics is the choice of clay; after this the artist forms a bowl, vase or other vessel inspired by the simple forms of Korean ceramics. Then Western traditions come into play when choosing a suitable glaze. Song makes her own glazes using her technical knowledge, curiosity and creativity and constantly develops them further; they are rough or smooth, lustrous or glossy, monochrome or patterned. Some are reminiscent of stones, metal, wood or solidified lava, others of butterfly wings, leopard skin or snakeskin. Song's artworks subtly hint at nature without imitating it and offer a fresh view of the beauty around us.

Jessica Song discovered the technique of printing only later but her monotypes also already show a wealth of variety and demonstrate her enthusiasm for this additional form of expression. Song applies black printing ink to a plate, then creates textures in the ink with various objects (*Rocher/Rocks*) or lays on textiles, elastic bands and the like (*Etudes/Studies*). Afterwards the image is transferred to paper in the printing press, prints sometimes being made on top of one another. This produces unique prints of surprising depth; some evocative of expressive East Asian ink painting, others offering a new interpretation of the visual repertoire of Western art.

Whether working with clay and glaze or ink and paper, by combining East Asian and Western elements, Jessica Song lends each and every one of her works an unmistakable, elaborate and sensual look and feel that invites them to be continually seen anew and, in the case of ceramics, to be touched.

**You and your friends are warmly invited to the exhibition preview on Thursday 26 March 2015, from 17.00 to 20.00.** The artist will be present.

The exhibition runs from 27 March to 9 May 2015. Closed on 4 April and 2 May 2015.

**There will be drinks with the artist on Sunday 26 April 2015 from 14.00 to 17.00.**

Opening hours: Wednesday to Friday 12.30 to 18.00, Saturday 11.00 to 14.00, or by appointment.

**Further information available from:**

Claudia Geiser

+41 79 675 65 40, info@claudiageiser.ch

## Jessica Song

### Education/ Career

- 2006 Opens her own studio in Auribeau sur Siagne (FR)  
 2001 Opens her own studio in Belleville, Paris (FR)  
 Becomes a member of the artists' association «Maison des Artistes»  
 Since 2001 Works as an independent artist in France  
 2000–2001 Studio Helena Klug, Paris (FR), researches glazes  
 1999–2000 Studio Augusto Tozzola, Paris (FR), works with the potter's wheel
- 1993–1998 Art history and archaeology studies, specialism East Asia, La Sorbonne, Paris (FR); excavations at archaeological sites in Korea in cooperation with the Kyung Hee-University, Seoul (KR)  
 1985–1989 Art history studies, specialism modern art, University of Utah, Salt Lake City (USA)

### Exhibitions

- 2015 Be at home, Zurich (CH)  
 2013 Maison du Thé «Volupté», Cannes (FR)  
 Be at home, Zurich (CH)  
 2012 Salle St Esprit, Valbonne Sophia Antipolis (FR)  
 2010 Galerie Cubik, Montpellier (FR)  
 Hotel Ochsen, Zug (CH)  
 2009–2012 Muralto, Zurich (CH)  
 2009 Galerie Cubik, Montpellier (FR)  
 Hotel Ochsen, Zug (CH)  
 2003 Galerie Art Présent, Paris (FR)  
 2002–2005 Participation in «Portes Ouverts», Belleville, Paris (FR)  
 2002 Forge Subtile, Paris (FR)  
 Marché de Créateur de l'Odéon, Paris (FR)

### Selected works

1. Jessica Song, *Bowl*, 2014, clay (stoneware), hand-thrown, glazed, height 16.5 cm, Ø 17.5 cm.
2. Jessica Song, *Rocher No. 10 (Rock No. 10)*, 2013, monotype, printing ink on paper, 40 x 50 cm, plate 15 x 21 cm.
3. Jessica Song, *Bowls*, 2014, porcelain, hand-thrown, glazed, height 6.5 cm, Ø 12 cm.
4. Jessica Song, *Bowl*, 2009, clay (stoneware), hand-thrown, glazed, height 9.5 cm, Ø 18.5 cm.
5. Jessica Song, *Etude No 6 (Study No. 6)*, 2014, monotype, printing ink on paper, 65 x 50 cm, plate 30 x 21 cm.
6. Jessica Song, *Vase*, 2015, clay (stoneware), hand-thrown, glazed, height 17.5 cm, Ø 18.5 cm.