

Press release of 7 March 2014

Sylvan Müller: «Photographs from Japan» Rebecca Maeder: «Porcelain»

On his journey through Japan the Swiss photographer Sylvan Müller kept a culinary diary, in which the people, towns and landscapes of the island kingdom found as much a place as the diversity of the cuisine. His precise and atmospheric images enter into a fascinating dialogue with the porcelain works of Swiss ceramicist Rebecca Maeder, who has been studying in Korea over the last three years. Her most recent works reflect her examination of the traditional forms of Korean ceramics and the special aesthetics of vessels that have been visibly restored. Both artists provide new and surprising perspectives on traditional themes.

Sylvan Müller (*1973), recently among the winners at the «Swiss Photo Award 2013», has completed numerous reportage projects in Europe, Africa and the USA, as well as various internationally award-winning book projects, amongst them «Das kulinarische Erbe der Alpen». The photographs presented here were taken during Müller's 2007 gastronomic journey through Japan. Alongside its cuisine, the ingredients and recipes for which he asked for with the aid of notes in Japanese, Müller also started to discover the country itself. He captured the peaceful and hectic sides of Tokyo, the luscious green tea gardens, the bamboo woods swaying in the wind, the meticulously stacked seafood at the fish market and the cherry blossoms, appearing almost haunting in the light of the night. Müller's extraordinary pictures illuminate the multi-faceted culture behind Japan's culinary diversity.

With imagination, a fondness for experimentation and great ability, **Rebecca Maeder** (*1978) transforms conventional forms into exquisite and distinctive artworks. The new works of this internationally multiple award-winning artist have close links to Korean ceramics. For the «Archaeological cup» series she was inspired by antique museum exhibits that have been visibly – in part with gold lacquer – restored. Maeder tears the porcelain cup before it is dry and re-assembles it with a coloured slip. The perceptible lines that result are reminiscent of a pattern of cracks and give each cup an individual character. The colours of Buncheong ceramics, with white decoration under a greenish hue glaze, provided the idea for «Semence». With countless green and blue spots impressed in the porcelain, Maeder produces a further striking tribute to the rich ceramics tradition of Korea.

You and your friends are warmly invited to the exhibition preview on Thursday 20 March 2014, from 17.00 to 20.00. Sylvan Müller will be present.

The exhibition runs from 21 March 2014 to 10 May 2014.

Opening hours: Wednesday to Friday 12.30 to 18.00, Saturday 11.00 to 14.00, or by appointment. The gallery will be closed on Saturday 19 April 2014 and from 30 April to 3 May 2014.

Discussion with the artist on Friday 11 April 2014 at 18.00.

Dr. Charly Iten, Master of Arts in History of Art and Japanese Studies, talks with Sylvan Müller. Drinks to follow. Registration would be appreciated by 4 April 2014.

Further information available from:

Claudia Geiser

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

Sylvan Müller

Education

- 1996 – 2011 Founder and owner of the «fabrik studios», Lucerne and New York, together with Beat Brechbühl und Simon Eugster; national and international client work
 1995 – 1998 Tutor at GAF (Gruppe autodidaktischer Fotografen und Fotografinnen), Zurich
 1990 Training as a professional photographer

Selected Exhibitions

- 2014 «Das kulinarische Erbe der Alpen», solo exhibition, Photobastei, Zurich (CH)
 2013 «Das kulinarische Erbe der Alpen», solo exhibition, Photogarage, Zurich (CH)
 2011 «Asian art in Zug», group exhibition with Angela Burkhardt-Guallini, Charly Iten, Kei Kawai, Sonja Knapp and Renata Schalcher, Zug (CH)
 2010 «Istanbul – sofort!», solo exhibition, Kleintheater Luzern (CH)
 «Japan – ein Kochreisefotobuch», solo exhibition, community library Adligenswill (CH)
 2009 «Japan – ein Kochreisefotobuch» solo exhibition, DT. 01, Munich (DE)
 «Japan – ein Kochreisefotobuch», exhibition with Angela Burkhardt-Guallini and book launch, Galerie Vitrine, Luzern (CH)
 2007 «Timkat», exhibition with Beat Brechbühl, Kunstraum Rösterei, Niederrohrdorf (CH)
 1996 «FCL», group exhibition, Galerie Timbaktu, Luzern (CH)
 1992 «Testament des Hundes», solo exhibition, Kulturzentrum Boa, Luzern (CH)
 1991 «L'OST», solo exhibition and projections, Kunsthalle Luzern (CH)
 «Ich sehe mich», group exhibition, FotoForum, Luzern (CH)
 1990 «Paris, eine Bildgeschichte», solo exhibition, FotoForum, Luzern (CH)
 «Genève de nuit», group exhibition, Galerie Grand Passage, Geneva (CH)

Projects

- 2014 «Vom Essen und Vergessen», culinary/literary evening on the subject of dementia in the Kleintheater Luzern
 2010 – 2013 «Kulinarisches Erbe der Alpen», book project with Dominik Flammer
 «mama kocht», a culinary search for clues in mothers' kitchens, literary cookbook project
 2010 «Istanbul Tagebuch» with Margrit Rieben and Pedro Lenz, at the request of the Kleintheater Luzern
 2007 – 2009 Culinary diary in Japan
 «WT – Cuisinier», Book project with Werner Tobler
 2002 «Wild West», long-term project USA
 1998 Reportage projects in Burkina Faso
 1997 Reportage projects in Ethiopia
 1996 Reportage projects in Chernobyl
 1992 «Hölderlin», Short film with Stefan Haas
 1991 «Uniformale Privatsphäre», work for the planned national exhibition CH91
 1990 Reportage projects in Paris, Scotland und Geneva
 1989 – 1992 Theatre photography for various clients

Award-winning publications (selected)

- 2013 *Das kulinarische Erbe der Alpen – das Kochbuch*, AT Verlag, with Dominik Flammer
Schwarzenbach – das Zürcher Kochbuch, AT Verlag, with Dominik Flammer
mama kocht, AT Verlag
 2012 *Das kulinarische Erbe der Alpen*, AT Verlag, with Dominik Flammer
tibits at home, AT Verlag
 2010 *André Jäger – Fischerzunft*, AT Verlag, with André Jäger and Rudolf Trefzer
 2009 *Japan – ein Kochreisefotobuch*, Brunner Verlag/AT Verlag
Werner Tobler – Cuisinier, AT Verlag

Selected Works

1. Sylvan Müller, *Rural Beauty 2*, 2009, Lambda print, 85 x 85 cm.
2. Sylvan Müller, *Seaside Sunrise*, 2009, Lambda print, 85 x 85 cm.
3. Sylvan Müller, *Tsukiji fish market IV*, 2009, Lambda print, 28 x 32 cm.
4. Sylvan Müller, *Ueno Park II*, 2009, Lambda print, 28 x 32 cm.

Rebecca Maeder

Education

Since 2012 MA in Ceramics, Seoul National University, Seoul (KR)
 Since 2003 Studio in Switzerland
 1999 – 2003 School of Applied Arts Vevey (CH), Diploma and 2nd prize of the school

Selected Exhibitions and Competitions

2013 Museo d'Arte Mendrisio (CH), swissceramics
 Ferrari Art Gallery, Vevey (CH)
 Galerie Marianne Brand, Carouge (CH)
 Seoul National University Museum (KR)

2012 Galerie Bohrer, Bonstetten (CH)
 Mungyeong Teabowl Festival (KR)
 Galerie Accro Terre, Paris (FR)
 Galerie de l'Ô, Forest (BE)
 Apocalypse, international contemporary art exhibition, Clarens/Montreux (CH)

2011 Le Lavoir, Centre d'Arts Plastiques Albert Chanut, Clamart (FR)
 Mungyeong Teabowl Festival (KR)
 Maison Visinand, Montreux (CH)
 57° Premio Faenza, Concorso internazionale della ceramica d'arte contemporanea (IT)
 Porcelain Museum Selb (DE)
 Mondes céramiques, Centre d'Art des pénitents noirs, Aubagne (FR)
 Château de Réchy (CH)
 Bols Fous – bols sages, Atelier Michelle Dethurens, Carouge (CH)
 X Biennial Internacional de Cerámica de Manises (ES)

2010 12ème Biennale d'Andenne (BE)
 Société Suisse des Beaux-Arts, Villa du Jardin, Geneva (CH)
 Landesmuseum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte Oldenburg (DE), solo exhibition
 Residency in Pondicherry (IN)
 30 Concurs Internacional de Cerámica de l'Alcora (ES)
 Design contest «made for...» in Luzern (CH), form forum Schweiz
 III Biennial Internacional de Cerámica de Marratxí (BICMA) (ES)
 CERAMIQUE 14, 7ème salon de la céramique d'art contemporaine, Paris (FR)
 Galerie ArteSol, Solothurn (CH)
 Galerie de l'Hôtel de Ville, Yverdon (CH)
 Galerie Jonas, Cortaillod (CH)
 Kahla Kreativ Workshop, Porcelain Symposium (DE)
 MIXED MEDIA - KERAMIK PLUS, Ceramics Museum Westerwald (DE)

2009 Exploration in terracotta, New Delhi (IN)
 Maison de la Céramique Contemporaine, Giroussens (FR)
 Terralha, Festival Européen des Arts du Feu, St-Quentin-la-Poterie (FR)
 Prix européen d'arts appliqués, Mons (BE), World Crafts Council (WCC) Europe
 Grassimesse, Leipzig (DE)
 Space & Life, World Ceramic Biennale Korea (KR)
 Journées de la céramique St-Sulpice, Paris (FR)
 CERCO 09 (Feria Internacional de Cerámica Contemporánea), Zaragoza (ES)

2008 Sidney Myer Fund International Ceramic Award (AU)
 11ème Biennale d'Andenne (BE)
 Galerie Jonas, Cortaillod (CH)
 Biennale de Vallauris (FR): Swiss exhibition
 28 Concurs Internacional de Cerámica de l'Alcora (ES)
 Galerie Hofstetter, Fribourg (CH)
 International Triennial of Silicate Arts (HU)
 Kiwanis Förderpreis, Bern (CH)
 Galerie des Emibois, Les Emibois (CH)

- 2007 Concours de la ville de Carouge (CH)
 5. Keramik Biennale Kapfenberg (AT)
 ICMEA (International Ceramic Magazine Editors Association) young ceramicist competition, Fuping (CN)
 Halles de la Fonderie, Carouge (CH)
 La Borne s'enflamme, La Borne (FR)
 Symposium Art of Fire, Luboradow (PL)
 Galerie Ab Ovo, Todi (IT)
 IV Bienal de Cerámica, El Vendrell (ES)
 The 4th World Ceramic Biennale Korea (CEBIKO) (KR)
- 2006 Talente 2006, Munich (DE)
 european ceramic context 2006, Bornholm (DK)
 Europ'Art, Geneva (CH)
 Espace Art & Objets, Lausanne (CH)
 Design biennale Luzern (CH)
 Montreux Art Gallery (CH)
 Z'Art, Langenthal (CH)
 Biennale de la sculpture, Mamer (LU)
- 2005 Ceramica Multiplex (HR)
 Parcours céramique carougeois (CH)
 Kunsthaus Mürz, Mürzzuschlag (AT)
 Ceramica Multiplex, Varazdin (HR)
- 2004 Westerwaldpreis (DE)
 9ème Biennale d'Andenne (BE)
 Ceramics Symposium Gmunden (AT)
 Terralha, Festival Européen des Arts du Feu, St-Quentin-la-poterie (FR)
- 2003 101 potiers tournent à l'unisson pour la planète, Dieulefit (FR)
 3rd International Triennial of Ceramics: Cup 2003, Belgrade (YU)
- 2002 18ème biennale internationale de céramique d'art de Vallauris (FR)
 Concours international de céramique contemporaine, Sarreguemines (FR)

Selected Prizes

- 2013 XI Biennial Internacional de Cerámica de Manises (ES): Design prize
- 2011 – 2014 Korean Government Scholarship
- 2010 NASPA Förderpreis «Mixed-Media» (DE): Stipendium award
 III Biennial Internacional de Cerámica de Marratxí (BICMA): Honourable mention
- 2009 Sabal tea bowl competition, Seoul (KR): Special prize
 Keramiktage Oldenburg (DE): Prize of the *New Ceramics* review
 IX Biennial Internacional de Cerámica de Manises (ES): Award «Ciudad de Vénissieux»
 XV Concurso de ceramica de Valladolid: III special mention
- 2008 International Triennial of Silicate Arts (HU): Honourable mention
 ex-tempore ceramics Piran (SI): Grand prize
- 2007 World Ceramic Biennale Korea: Bronze prize
 IV Bienal de Cerámica, El Vendrell (ES): 1st prize
- 2006 Biennale de la sculpture, Mamer (LU): Visitors' prize
- 2005 Grassimesse, Leipzig (DE): Grassiprize of the Carl and Anneliese Goerdeler foundation

Collections

Museum für Kunsthandwerk, Leipzig (DE); World Ceramic Exposition Foundation, Icheon (KR); Ayuntamiento de El Vendrell, fondo de arte municipal (ES); Museum für Gestaltung Zurich, Applied Art Collection (CH); Akademia Sztuk Piłknych we Wrocławiu (PL); Fonds céramique Pictet & Cie, Geneva (CH); Sanskriti Foundation, New Delhi (IN); collection of the Lotte Reimers foundation, Deidesheim (DE).

Selected Works

1. Rebecca Maeder, *Semence*, 2013, porcelain, cast, impressed pattern, 1260°C, burnished, 26 x 28 x 28 cm.
2. Rebecca Maeder, *Archaeological cup*, 2013, porcelain, cast, torn and bonded with a coloured slip, trimmed, glazed to the interior, polished to the exterior, 1290°C, height 8 cm, Ø 6.5 cm.
3. Rebecca Maeder, *Jardin secret*, 2010, porcelain, cast over a balloon, tip gilded, 1260°C, 8 x 27 x 6 cm.
4. Rebecca Maeder, *Fairy Tale Crockery*, 2010, porcelain, cast, pinched, 1400°C, 12 x 20.5 x 11 cm / 5.5 x 9.5 x 7 cm.