

LEFEBVRE & FILS
CONTEMPORARY ART CERAMICS

X
Aurélien Gendras

present

JEAN-PIERRE VIOT

1968 - 1979

April 28 - May 28, 2022



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Lefebvre et Fils gallery is pleased to present, in collaboration with Aurélien Gendras, the ceramics of the French artist Jean-Pierre Viot from the 1970s.

Jean-Pierre Viot by Robert Deblander

Discreet, friendly, attentive, Jean-Pierre Viot is a central figure in French ceramics. [...] Jean-Pierre Viot's research can be summed up in two words: rigor in the construction but sensitivity in the form and the material. While the first term lends itself to the obviousness of abstraction, the second is supposed to turn its back on them. Old debate, apparent contradiction, eternal fight between the classics and the romantics, the latter convinced that rigor engenders a purer emotion, the former convinced that Dionysian intoxication, or the simple Zen respect of nature have a more authentic song.

Jean-Pierre Viot strives to resolve this opposition, to propose a synthesis and shows us, if not demonstrates, that it is possible. I imagine that the work, the discovery of the earth, that of the potter who will undergo so many metamorphoses from the living walls of the quarry's excavations to the certainties of the essential pottery turned and set by the fire, may have guided his approach.

In his very first works he was confronted with architecture and this choice was to bring him the hypersensitivity of clay as if left to itself. His walls, his fountains, his sculptures would have seemed, if the technique had allowed it, to come straight out of the ground just eroded by the rains and the suns. But, under this gesture, the construction, as natural as it seemed, was present.

[...]
Jean-Pierre Viot is lucid and only a great mastery can justify such an ambition. He plays this subtle game of the constructed deconstructed suggesting, his works try hard to elude the brutal referents. [...] We find ourselves in front of objects that have somehow returned to nature and that, beyond their solidity, their construction, their architecture, will allow the viewer to formulate a personal response, to participate in the proposed dialogue.

Jean-Pierre Viot, who is as comfortable in small as in large sizes, knows how to embellish them with graphics, signs, scratches, and sudden thicknesses of enamel that emphasize their underlying organic character. As Haguiko points out, beyond the object itself, he works on a subject that is none other than the space generated by it, a bit like the musician is aware of the volume where the fluid sounds to which he has given birth and form will flow. [...] The work of Jean-Pierre Viot evokes a conquered serenity.

Text from «La Revue de la céramique et du verre n° 94» (mai-juin 1997)

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Jean-Pierre Viot was born in 1936 in Rouen (76). He graduated in 1956 from the School of Fine Arts in Rouen. He participated in the creation workshop of the earthenware factory in Gien (45) between 1957 and 1958. He taught ceramics at the École Supérieure des Métiers d'Art in Arras (62) from 2006 to 2011. He is a member founder of the Contemporary Art Center of Chateauroux (CRAC) of the association Art Objet, Paris and he was also part of the organizing committee of the symposium of La Borne in 1977.

Jean-Pierre Viot is a member of the International Academy of Ceramics (AIC). He was a member of the Society of Decorative Artists (SAD) from 1975 to 1983 and of the National Union of Plastic Artists in Mural Art and Models (SNPCAMM) from 1975 to 1984. He also sat on the board of directors of the International of the new visual object (INOV) from 1986 to 1988 and was a very active member of the organization of the ceramics days, place Saint-Sulpice in Paris from 2006 to 2015.

SOLOSHOWS

- 2021** *À Quatre mains*, J-P Viot et Haguiko, galerie La Manufacture, La Rochelle (17)
2016 *Et Depuis quelques années...*, Musée de la faïence, Malicorne (72) *Du Même pas*, galerie Empreintes, Aydat (63)
HAD, Hier, Aujourd'hui, Demain, J-P Viot et Haguiko, fondation Écureuil pour l'art contemporain, Toulouse (31)
2015 *À Fleur de pot*, Centre céramique contemporaine La Borne (18)
2013 Galerie Geneviève Godar, Lille (59)
2012 *Hello ici la terre...suite*, rétrospective à l'Abbaye d'Harthous, Hastingues (40)
2011 Galerie Capazza, Nançay (18)
2008 *Hello ici la terre, 50 ans de création*, rétrospective aux Cordeliers, Châteauroux (36)
2007 *D'Un côté, l'autre*, espace d'art contemporain Les Roches, Le-Chambon-sur-Lignon (43)
D'Un côté, l'autre, galerie Empreintes, Aydat (63)
École d'art du Beauvaisis, espace culturel François Mitterrand, Beauvais (60) Chez Micky Mallet, La Borne (18)
2006 *Le Blanc, ou presque...*, église Saint-Cyran, Le Blanc (36) Galerie Hélène Porée, Paris
2005 Galerie Yamaki, Osaka, Japon
2004 Galerie B15, Munich, Allemagne
Galerie Loes et Reiner International Ceramics, Deventer, Pays-Bas
2002 Espace Croix- Baragnon, Toulouse (31) Galerie DM Sarver, Paris
2000 Opac de Reims (51)
Sawara Museum Ruhe, Fukuoka, Japon
Galerie Maronie, Kyoto, Japon
1999 Espace Saint-Jean, Melun (77)
Cultures d'automne, Carré Noir - Le Safran, Amiens (80)
1997 Galerie HD Nick, Aubais (30)
Galerie Loes et Reiner International Ceramics, Deventer, Pays-Bas
1996 Maison de la céramique, Mulhouse (68)
1995 Galerie DM Sarver, Paris
Galerie le Vieux -Bourg, Lonay, Suisse
1994 Galerie B15, Munich, Allemagne 1993 Musée de Saintes (16)
1987 Galerie Capazza, Nançay (18) 1986 Galerie DM Sarver, Paris
1983 Galerie Heidi Schneider, Horgen, Suisse Galerie Arcadie, Lyon (69)
1973 Galerie Rasmussen, Randers, Danemark

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Frac Limousin (1983 et 1984) — Frac Alsace (1985) — Frac Basse-Normandie (1985) — Musée national de la céramique de Sèvres (1986, 1998, 2002 et 2005) — Musée de Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgique (1988) — Ville de Saint-Nazaire (1988) — Musée de Mino, Japon (1989) — Musée de Saintes (1991) — Musée d'art moderne de Taipei, Taiwan (1994) — Ville de Melun (1999) — Opac de Reims (1999) — Frac Basse Normandie, (2001) Ville de LE BLANC (2006) — Musée français de céramique contemporaine du Flicam À Fuping-Shaanxi, Chine (2006) — Collection Ateliers d'Art de France, Paris — Musée Bertrand, Châteauroux (2008) — Grassi Museum, Leipzig, Allemagne (2013) — Musée des beaux-arts de Lyon (2021)

Practical Informations



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Galerie Lefebvre & fils
24, rue du Bac
75007 Paris

From Tuesday to Saturday

11am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm

Monday by appointment

01 42 61 18 40
lefebvreetfils@gmail.com
www.lefebvreetfils.fr