makkum

PRESS RELEASE

Makkum, April 2005

Non-temporary

Royal Tichelaar Makkum presents this year a new collection designed by Hella Jongerius (JongeriusLab*). With a varied series of bowls and plates as starting point, she has added a number of showpieces: a plate, a candleholder and vases. While previous projects by Studio Job, Jurgen Bey and Marcel Wanders were dominated by faience and decoration, Jongerius based her design on authentic majolica, domestic ceramics from the 17th and 18th century. The solid designs make this earthenware actually useful, whereas in the past century Delftware had acquired a more ornamentary role. The earthenware is partially immersed in tin glaze; the remaining surfaces retain the typical stone-colour underneath transparent glazing. On this background rustic adornments are painted, though crockery and showpieces also come in an undecorated version. In this project, Jongerius blends in her own style history, design and production process into a 'non-temporary' collection.

Royal Tichelaar Makkum of 1594 vintage and the oldest company in the Netherlands, has the habit of presenting each year new work of leading designers. Last years for instance, the company cooperated with Studio Job, Jurgen Bey and Marcel Wanders.
Such cooperation projects mutually stimulate creativity, enriching the ancient traditions of Delftware production and inspiring modern designers.

All products are created in traditional faience; Royal Tichelaar Makkum is the last surviving Dutch producer of this technique. All pieces are made from Frysian marine clay and, after firing, covered with a layer of tin glaze. In house trained artists carefully paint the decor in the raw glaze, whereupon the product is fired again. Only this approach, which originates in the 11th century, ensures the special resplendence of original Delftware.

Royal Tichelaar Makkum's fame as producer of their extensive range of hand painted earthenware and tiles, reaches far beyond the borders of Dutch realm. Yet the company does by no means limit application of it's unparalleled historic experience and exhaustive knowledge in the field of ceramics, to these well-known classical products. Ceramics in architecture, restorations, as well as artistic and design commissions form equally important pillars of the company' strength.

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Agenda 2005
April 13-18 Milan, Via dell'Orso 16
May 2 Makkum, Opening craft store
May 13 -17 New York, Stephan Weiss Studio,
711 Greenwich Street
May 28 - September 12 London, Design Museum
September 27 - October 2 Amsterdam, Woonbeurs
October 3-7 Makkum, Craft Week