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Press release

Makkum/Amsterdam, November 2006

Pearls from Makkum

On November 30th, fashion designer Alexander van Slobbe and Royal Tichelaar Makkum present a new range of ornaments: 'Pearls from Makkum' at the Dutch Design Foundation Platform 21, Amsterdam. 'Pearls from Makkum' are a series of bigger-than-natural porcelain 'pearls': round, bevelled or bisected, and finished with various glazings and decorations.

The ornaments can be bought either as complete necklace or be composed by the client from the assorted 'pearls' in any combination of colour and shape, to form a unique string of 'pearls'. The individual stones are strung on a 100% silk ribbon or cord, purpose woven by Van Engelen & Evers. The necklace will be presented in a luxury gift box created by graphic designer Irma Boom.

About a year ago Van Slobbe and Tichelaar decided to realise their ambition with gusto and strengthen surviving craftsmanship in the Netherlands through innovative design. This project does in fact crown a longer standing successful relationship. For instance Van Slobbe's garments boast porcelain buttons made by Tichelaar, combining their practical function with elegant refinement. Likewise, Van Slobbe's recently introduced parfume comes in a delicate bottle with hand painted porcelain cap made by Tichelaar.

Working with Alexander van Slobbe is a logical course for Royal Tichelaar Makkum, who often cooperates with Dutch top designers, such as Hella Jongerius, Jurgen Bey and Job Smeets. For Van Slobbe teaming up with Tichelaar serves a symbiotic purpose as well: with his Orson + Bodil brand he tries to make the best possible use of the resources of Dutch craftsmen, either natives or immigrants.

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