makkum

PRESS RELEASE

Makkum, April 2004

Royal Tichelaar Makkum presents “Still Life” by Studio Job

For Royal Tichelaar Makkum, which history dates back to 1594, Studio Job has designed a set of five new objects and tiles. Although tradition is treasured by this company, one of their strong points is that it also has been able to renew itself with young blood without losing its identity. By not fearing renewal, Royal Tichelaar Makkum has been able to add an interesting new collection of contemporary design to their repertoire. On invitation of this company Studio Job designed a vase, clock, box, candle holder and piggy bank. These are all objects that fit in the age-old tradition of Delftware. Clearly recognisable is the style of the objects which show the signature of the artists: fresh almost cartoon-like characteristics that seem to have been made with a nearly childlike joy.

On a collection of tiles insects serve as decoration. The Dutch which normally are well known for their cleanliness and for whom usually a single spider in the bathroom is too much, will be surprised by an overwhelming gang of arthropodals. Omnipresent they are incorporated in a stylish, all over filling complex pattern. As if possessed by a horror vacuum, there is no peace, rest, extra space between the lines, but it seems as if the animal kingdom has taken over the domestic atmosphere.

With this new collection for Royal Tichelaar Makkum, Studio Job adds a new meaning to the history of the age-old company. On the one hand with his contribution he refers to the past from a contemporary perspective. The objects are a wink to a romantic idea of the history, not like it actually was. The candle holder is in its styled abstraction more like a cartoon, a literal blow-up from an idea, than that it is the copy of the original thing. The title of the collection, Still Life, refers to this mechanism of the memory that, if we can even remember it, turns out to be so different from the frozen reality. It also refers to the life and all the crawling of these creatures, which are a binding element and because of the way in which they have been mixed, sampled and reused by Studio Job, form a direct link to the reality of his generation.

Royal Tichelaar Makkum in “the Producer”, via Tortona 12 Milan, from 14 till 20 April 2004.
Press Preview: April 13th, 15.00 - 18.00 hours.
Information: info@tichelaar.nl, www.tichelaar.nl, +31.515.231.341