



ALEXANDER LICHTVELD

modern shapes gallery

CATALOG

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How architecture feeds the imagination of art. Despite the fundamental functions that architecture must perform, the best examples continue to inspire artists across all genres with their masterful use of space, harmony and proportion. Modern Shapes Gallery presents architectural ceramic art by the Dutch artist Alexander Lichtveld

ARTISTIC APPROACH

Volumes, planes, and the multiple combinations of intersections among them form the primitive signs of Lichtveld's vocabulary. His smooth expression is fine and modular, in an endless search for a system. It is therefore not surprising that he often precedes or confronts his constructions with a normal industrial designer's representation: an impersonal yet precise drawing. The object becomes the theme of an obsessional study, the mechanical selection like an exercise in the survival of the fittest theory, the geometrical organization conceived as the sole key to the composition. Not to mention the economy of means as an added value of silence.

One specific example of this cultural inheritance: the care he gives to angles - with regards to the volumes on bases - and the subdued treatment of his surfaces, implicating a parallel to the architectural expressions of the "Amsterdam School." It is a monolithic vision, born of urbanization theories developed by Berlage, the architect responsible for the renovation of Amsterdam between 1912 and 1930, and by which an angle is anything but neutral. Here, the angle's role is to exalt the strength of a mass, to punctuate urban perspectives and to differentiate the various facets within an isolated development. Lichtveld's works appear to be silent, independent developments,

but where a certain tension expresses very telling dialectical polarities: frontal yet with depth, continuity yet with interruptions, masses inscribed in yet circumscribed by a given space. We could even go so far as alluding to a bunker, or a safe or a fortress, where the floor, ceiling and walls are all integrated into the anonymous texture of its camouflage. This tension between the mass and its surface can be grasped at the critical moment when superficiality reveals thickness, when a flat surface is proven otherwise, when a vibration becomes depth.

UNTITLED, 1990-2020

stoneware

H 46 x W 27 x D 19 cm

5.000 EUR



UNTITLED, 1990-2020

stoneware

H 37 x W 29 x D 25 cm

4.800 EUR



UNTITLED, 1990-2020

stoneware

H 40 x W 18 x D 37 cm

4.800 EUR



UNTITLED, 1990-2020

stoneware

H 46 x W 37 x D 16 cm

5.000 EUR



UNTITLED, 1994

stoneware

H 16 x W 43 x D 16 cm

2.500 EUR



UNTITLED, 1994

stoneware

H 21 x W 45 x D 16 cm

2.900 EUR



UNTITLED, 1993

stoneware

H 21 x W 42 x D 22 cm

2.900 EUR



UNTITLED, 1993

stoneware

H 17 x W 43 x D 17 cm

2.900 EUR



UNTITLED, 1994

stoneware

H 18 x W 39 x D 20 cm

2.800 EUR



UNTITLED, 1993

stoneware

H 17 x W 43 x D 22 cm

3.000 EUR



UNTITLED, 1991

stoneware

H 17 x W 53 x D 43 cm

5.000 EUR



Lichtveld, like most of his national colleagues, was trained at the Rietveld Academy in Amsterdam. He immediately adopted a constructed style, far from any temptations of expressionism inspired by nature. Lichtveld's work not only represents the dignified heritage of the Dutch avant-garde school; it also reinterprets it in an explicit manner. This may explain why he is already included in important collections in the best museums - Stedelijk, Boymans, Franz Hals, Arnhem - throughout his country, plus Amsterdam, the city where he was born in 1953 and his personal reference where he has chosen to anchor his creativity.



FORMATION

1973-78 Ceramics at Gerrit Rietveld Academie, Amsterdam

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1984 Museum Fodor, Amsterdam
Kunstzaal, Hengelo

1985 Gemeentemuseum, Arnhem
Galerie Julius Wijffels, Leeuwarden

1986 Nishida gallery, Nara, Japan

1988 Galerie Barbara Farber, Amsterdam
Nishin Gallery, Tokyo
Bihou gallery, Shikoku

1989 Nishida Gallery, Nara

1990 Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Galerie Barbara Farber, Amsterdam

1992 BRS Premsele Vonk, Amsterdam
Galleria Uusikuva, Kotka

1993 Galerie Vormvast, Breda

1994 Garth Clark Gallery, New York
Nishida Gallery, Nara

1995 Garth Clark Gallery, Los Angeles

1998 Galerie Maria Chailloux, Amsterdam
Garth Clark Gallery, New York

1999 Kunstrai artfair, Galerie Maria Chailloux, Amsterdam

2000 Clara Scremini Gallery, Paris

2001 Achter gesloten deuren, private view, Galerie Maria Chailloux, Amsterdam

2003 Galerie Maria Chailloux, Amsterdam

2010 Steendrukkerij, Amsterdam

2011 Bas van Pelt, SPOT, the Hague
2016 Het Kunst Gemaal, Bronkhorst

MAIN COLLECTIVE EXHIBITIONS

1981 Gallery Kupfer, Nidau

1982 Aemstelle, Amstelveen
Gallery Cour St. Pierre, Genève

1983 Institut Néerlandais, Paris
Galerie de Witte Voet, Amsterdam

1984 Helen Drutt Gallery, Philadelphia

1985 Rijksaankopen 1984, Den Haag
'Wat Amsterdam betreft', Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam

1987 Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, New York

1988 Rijksaankopen 1987, Stedelijk Museum, Schiedam
Gemeenteaankopen 1987, Museum Fodor, Amsterdam
Contemporary Dutch Ceramics (vice versa), Roanne

1991 'Emotie Japan, de onbewuste factor', Oude Kerk, Amsterdam
Opening project, European Ceramic Work Center, Den Bosch

1992 Imitation / Inspiration, Suntory Museum of Art, Tokyo
Imitation / Inspiration, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

1994 Water op Bouvigne (Water in the gardens of Castle Bouvigne), Breda

1995 Tom Gallery, Tokyo

1996 'As far as Japan.....', Breda
Keramikmuseet, Grimmerhus

1997 Biennale de Chateauroux (9e)

1999 Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Ceramic Millenium
Galerie Maria Chailloux, Amsterdam

2000 Gallerie Clara Scremini, Paris
AMC, Amsterdam

2002	Art Rotterdam, Gallerie Maria Chailloux Jan van Hoof Galerie, s-Hertogenbosch	Gemeentemuseum, Arnhem Frans Hals Museum, Haarlem
2012	Stedelijk museum, Amsterdam	ICN (Rijksdienst Beeldende Kunst),the Hague
2014	Peppercannister Gallery, Dublin Arcam, Amsterdam	KPN, the Hague Municipal acquisition, Amsterdam
2015	Gemeentemuseum, Den Haag	Municipal acquisition, Helmond
2017	New Dakota, Amsterdam Commissioned work	Bouwfonds Kunstcollectie Walker Hill Art Center, Seoul
1984	Stage set design for production "Galgemaal" Mickery theater Amsterdam	Kita Modern Museum, Sakulai, Nara
1989	Sculpture for school (MTS vakschool) Schoonhoven	Everson Musuem of Modern Art, Syracuse, New York
1990	Outdoor sculpture for EXPO 90 (Hana Haku) Osaka Outdoor sculpture for entrance of a golf course, Osaka	Dai Ichi Kango Bank, Amsterdam JVC Netherlands, Leiden
1997	Floor design for apartment building "Cortile" Amstelveen Outdoor sculpture for the garden of "Cortile" Floor design for a shopping center, Alkmaar	AZU Art Museum-Nelson Fine Arts Center, Arizona
2000	Tile design on the walls of 65 houses "het Fort", Schilderswijk, the Hague	2000 Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu, Japan
2001	Design stained-glass windows for private house, Maastricht	1999 - 2006 Kunstcollectie Akzo Nobel Art Foundation
2001	Design entrance and tunnel of the Olympic Stadion, Amsterdam	2002 Stichting Kunstcollectie KPMG
2007	Project for Liesbeth van der Pol (Dok Architects) Interlocking tile design project	2009 Private collections
2008	Project for Liesbeth van der Pol (Dok Architects) Project for Architectenbureau Marlies Rohmer	2006 ABN AMRO Kunststichting
2012	Project for Liesbeth van der Pol (Dok Architects) Commission for a stone tomb sculpture at Zorgvliet, Amsterdam	2007 Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
2012 - 2015	Sculptures for several private collectors	2009 Keramiemuseum Prinsessehof, Leeuwaren
		PRICES
		Bronze Award, The 3th International Ceramic Competition, 1992 Mino

COLLECTIONS

Work in collection of Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
Museum Boymans Van Beuningen, Rotterdam

Edited by Modern Shapes Gallery
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Studio photography by Michael Francken

