

Vivian Rosa Koelichen

Biography

I was born in the south of Chile in 1957. At the age of 20 I moved to Santiago de Chile, where I studied translation and raised a family. I first became interested in ceramics in 2002, when I started attending classes at Lise Moller's Ceramic Studio in Santiago. To complement the ceramic classes, I took drawing, engraving and sculpting classes with different artists. In 2004 I quit my job as a translator and built a studio – with an electric kiln -, to devote myself entirely to ceramics, though experimenting, reading, and teaching.

In 2008 I became a member at the Huara Huara Ceramic Studio to learn from and interact with all the participants in the exciting and inspiring atmosphere of this prestigious studio directed by Ruth Krauskopf. I am constantly taking part in workshops and courses conducted by Chilean and foreign ceramists.

My sculptural work is abstract. This abstraction happened gradually through doing and observing. When modelling, I am interested in capturing the essence of the ceramic object, removing any accessory. From this exercise arise pieces increasingly removed from reality. They become "another reality".

Making these sculptures entails dealing with a lot of tension and risk because I play with the precarious balance. After all that stress, all that nervousness, I seek for the result to express serenity. Chaos turns into calm, ready for reflection.

I prepare my own clay bodies to express my primary intention from the material. Some pieces incorporate metal parts. Sometimes these are fine stakes and needles that pierce through and wound; other times they cover up and repair missing parts; they protect a wound. The smoothness and sheen of the metal counterbalances the rough and matte textures of the ceramic pieces.

For my utilitarian pieces, I am inspired by traditional pottery and shapes, especially pure clean lines found in Pre-Columbian pottery. In Chile we have the privilege of having many pre-Columbian works, whose aesthetics permeates my work constantly. I like experimenting with bowls whose base is so small, that they appear to float. I play with the shifting directions of the curves, or the thickness of the rim of a dish, creating sinuous lines and asymmetrical bodies; I take risks with extremely thin walls to accentuate the fragility and lightness of a piece.

Curriculum Vitae

Vivian Rosa Koelichen.

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- 1957 Born in Puerto Varas, Chile.
- 1978 Moved to Santiago and studied translation.
- 1989 Writes a children's book "En la Trapananda" published by Pehuén Editores, Chile.
- 2002 Entered Lise Moller's Ceramic Studio.
- 2004 Built my own ceramic studio.
- 2009 Joined the Huara Huara ceramic studio directed by Ruth Krauskopf.
- 2019 Member of the IAC.

Courses and Workshops

- 2022 Residency on paperclay, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2020 Workshop conducted by Kukuli Velarde, Taller Huara Huara, Santiago de Chile.
- 2018 Workshop conducted by Michael Sherrill and Doug Casebeer, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2015 Workshop conducted by Martha Pachón, Taller Huara Huara, Santiago de Chile.
- 2015 Workshop conducted by Peter Beasecker, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2013 Workshop conducted by Peter Beasecker, Doug Casebeer and Marilú Rosenthal, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2012 Workshop conducted by Mark Shapiro, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2011 Workshop conducted by Chris Gustin, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2010 Workshop conducted by Randy Johnston, Jan Mckeachie, Doug Casebeer, Suzie Lindsay and Kent McLaughin, Curaumilla Art Center, Chile.
- 2009 Workshop conducted by Graciela Olio, Taller Huara Huara, Santiago de Chile.
- 2008 Developing glazes and clay bodies, one year course taught by Ruth Krauskopf, Taller Huara Huara, Chile.
- 2007 Developing clay bodies for electric kiln, workshop at Taller Villaseca Ceramic Studio, Santiago de Chile.
- 2007 Developing crystal glazes, workshop, Barcelona, Spain.
- 2006 Workshop conducted by Chris Staley, Taller Huara Huara, Santiago de Chile.
- 2002-2006 Drawing, painting, and printmaking at the printmaking studio Lautaro, directed by Chilean artist Javiera Moreira.
- 2002-2004 "Sculpture of the human body" under Chilean sculptor Carlos Fernández, Santiago de Chile.
- 2002 – 2004 Ceramic classes under Chilean ceramist Lise Moller, Santiago de Chile.

Collective Juried Exhibitions

- 2023 "Tradition to Contemporary", Chilean Artists, John Milde Gallery, Goldmark Cultural Center, Dallas, USA.
- 2021 Jingdezhen International Ceramic Art Biennale, Art Museum of Jingdezhen Ceramic University, China.
- 2020 "AIC New Member's Exhibition", Beijing Guozhong Ceramic Art Museum, China.
- 2020 "Cita en el Parque III", online show, Museo de Artes Decorativas Palacio Rioja, Viña del Mar, Chile.
- 2020 9th China Changchun International Ceramics Symposium, China.
- 2019 "Elemento-Esteka", Centro Cultural Montecarmelo, Providencia, Chile.
- 2019 Large format ceramic exhibition, CV Galería, Vitacura, Santiago, Chile.
- 2019 "Cita en el Parque II", Museo de Artes Decorativas Palacio Rioja, Viña del Mar, Chile.
- 2018 "Negro&Blanco", Centro Cultural Casas de Lo Matta, Vitacura, Santiago, Chile.
- 2018 "Barro y Cobre X", Bodegón Cultural de Los Vilos, Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2018 "Cerámica Contemporánea", Parque de las Esculturas de la Municipalidad de Providencia, Santiago, Chile.
- 2017 "Blancoro Esteka", Sala de Arte de la Municipalidad de Las Condes, Santiago, Chile.
- 2017 "Contener", Centro Cultural Palacio de La Moneda, Santiago, Chile.
- 2017 "Barro y Cobre IX" Bodegón Cultural de Los Vilos, Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2016 "AzulEsteka", Sala de Arte de la Municipalidad de las Condes, Chile.
- 2016 "Barro y Cobre VIII", Bodegón Cultural de los Vilos, Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2015 "NegroEsteka", Centro de Extensión de la Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago, Chile.
- 2015 "Terra Cobre", Corporación Cultural de Las Condes, Santiago, Chile.
- 2015 "Barro y Cobre VII", Bodegón Cultural de Las Condes, Santiago, Chile.
- 2014 "BlancoEsteka", Sala de Arte de la Municipalidad de Las Condes, Santiago, Chile.
- 2014 "Barro y CobreVI", Bodegón Cultural de Los Vilos, Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2014 "IX Artistic Ceramic Biennial", Universidad de Viña del Mar y Universidad de Playa Ancha, Viña del Mar, Chile.
- 2013 "Barro y Cobre V", Bodegón Cultural de Los Vilos, Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2012 "Quema y Creación", Fundación Itaú, Santiago, Chile.
- 2012 "Barro y Cobre IV", Bodegón Cultural de Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2012 "Arte Cotidiano", Centro Cultural de la Scuola Italiana, Santiago, Chile.
- 2011 "Barro y Cobre III", Bodegón Cultural de Los Vilos, Los Vilos, Chile.
- 2010 "25 x 25", Patricia Ready Art Gallery, Santiago, Chile.

Duo Exhibition

- 2017 "Dos Fuegos en Contrapunto", Museo de Artes Decorativas Palacio Rioja, Viña del Mar, Chile.

Solo Exhibition

- 2018 "Rastros", Centro de Artes Visuales CasaPlan, Valparaíso, Chile.

Awards

- 2018 Honorable Mention Esteka, Negro&Blanco exhibition, Centro Cultural Casas de Lo Matta, Santiago, Chile.
- 2014 Third Prize, "IX Artistic Ceramic Biennial", Universidad de Viña del Mar y Universidad de Playa Ancha, Viña del Mar, Chile.

Collections

- 2020 Changchun International Ceramics Gallery, China.
- 2020 Beijing Guozhong Ceramic Art Museum, China.
- 2018 Art Collection Casaplan, Valparaíso, Chile.

Teaching experience

2006 – Until today teaches at her studio.

Articles, Publications and Critics

- 2018 "La Estrella de Valparaíso" newspaper, art critic, Carlos Lastarria Hermosilla, 15th October, p. 28.
- 2018 "Barro Cobre" ceramic book, published by Esteka, ps. 18, 19 y 20
- 2017 "Esteka" ceramic magazine, N. 23.
- 2015 "Blanco" ceramic book, published by Esteka, p. 49
- 2014 "Esteka" ceramic magazine, N. 14.
- 2013 "Quema y Creación" ceramic book, p. 48