

ALBERTO BUSTOS

VALLADOLID, SPAIN

Much like new spring grass responding to warming weather, Alberto Bustos uses heat to make each handmade ceramic blade stronger, wispier, and more organic looking. His curated landscapes imitate nature's beauty while capitalizing on its abundant repetitiveness. Each thin, sharp blade of grass is manicured with precision then placed within a set system he deftly controls—an obsession few in ceramics will undertake. At first glance the pieces look delicate enough to be paper; the layered works exude a dual sharp and fragile quality. However, after a closer inspection one can see that the works are indeed porcelain, adding another dimension to their initial appearance. Artist advocate Carmen de Miguel's statement about Bustos sums his intentions up best, "His works urge us to reflect, invite us to work together to try to find ways to uproot the daily human aggression to basic elements that surround us, [which are] essential for the continuity of life."

Right *Eviction*, 22 in. (56 cm) in height, porcelain, pigments, fired to 2210°F (1210°C), 2015.

Below *Vira!*, 18 in. (45 cm) in diameter, stoneware, pigments, fired to 2228°F (1220°C), 2014.

