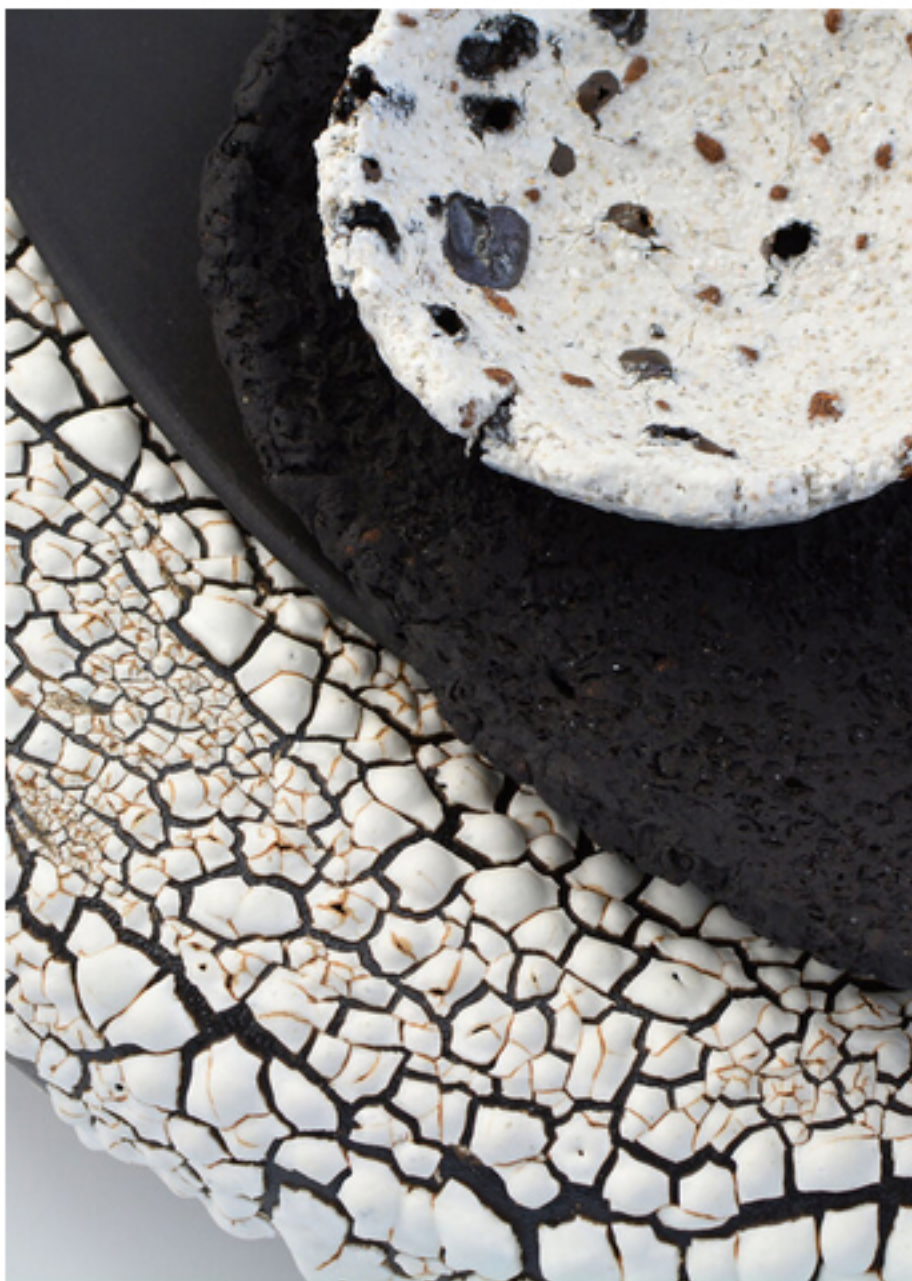


CLUSTER

L O N D O N

ART FAIR, COMMUNITY, CREATIVE HOUSE

TAILORED FOR THE ARTISTS' NEEDS & THE AUDIENCE'S UNIQUE EXPERIENCE



Monika Dabrowska, a ceramist from Poland, is also inspired by the forms she sees in the natural world. Her elliptical ceramic forms take their cues from her personal collection of stones, gathered on walks in the area surrounding her studio.

Dabrowska lives in a small town called Kęty on the banks of the Sola River, and walks into the forests around her studio are a constant source of inspiration.

"Contact with nature engages the senses," says Dabrowska. "I touch wet stones, grass and moss. I listen to the sound of the wind, observe the light; I feel connected in nature."

The work included in the Cluster collections are part of a series called *Rounded Objects*, all inspired by river stones.



The strange, highly textured surfaces of the pieces are created in the raw clay stage with the addition of other ingredients, such as paper, pumice, metal filings and glass granules. These create surprising effects, somewhat like the bark of a tree or barnacles against a rock.

"I love to play with glaze and clay samples during the preparation stage - put them together, match them and draw inspiration from this process," says Dabrowska. "In fact, this is when the most important decisions are made."

Dabrowska's pieces use only monochromatic shades, drawing the attention to the contrast between black and white. The decision, she says, emphasises the emotional impact of the work.

After a year in and out of lockdowns, 2020 has shifted Dabrowska's interests from the landscape to the internal worlds of man as an inspiration for sculpture.

"This year I would like to move away from abstraction for a moment and explore the nature of man," she explains. "It was a year of reflection and searching for meaning. This interest in the human is also an interest in myself and all the processes that take place inside me."



Thank you for reading,
Katie De Klee & Cluster Team.