

“Kaufmann Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition, the Eastern Philosophy in the Western Interpretations” in the Beijing Guozhong Ceramic Art Museum on Nov 6-21

东 方 哲 学 的 西 方 阐 述
The Eastern Philosophy in the Western Interpretations

JACQUES KAUFMANN

Exhibition Time
Nov.6-21,2019

No.100 Dongsishitiao
Beijing
Guozhong Ceramics
Art Museum


Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition

考夫曼当代陶艺展 | 2019年11月6日至21日
北京 东四十条100号 北京国中陶瓷艺术馆

主办单位 | 中国国际文化交流中心 / 中国陶瓷工业协会 承办单位 | 北京国中陶瓷艺术馆 / 中国国际文化交流基金会陶瓷文化发展基金

Sponsors
China International Culture Exchange Center
China Ceramics Industrial Association

Organizers
Beijing Guozhong Ceramics Art Museum
Ceramic Culture Development Fund Of China International Cultural Exchange Foundation



On Nov 6 2019, sponsored by China International Cultural Exchange Center and China Ceramics Industry Association, organized by Beijing Guozhong Ceramic Art Museum and Ceramic Culture Development Fund of China International Cultural Exchange Foundation, Kaufmann Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition was officially opened in Beijing Guozhong Ceramic Art Museum. Xu Honghai, secretary general of China International Culture Exchange Center, Hou Wenquan, vice president and secretary general of China Ceramic Industry Association, Zheng Zhi, President of Yuanyang Investment Group, Torbjorn Kvasbo, Chairman of International Academy of Ceramics (IAC), and Jacques Kaufmann, emeritus Chairman of International Academy of Ceramics (IAC) attended the opening ceremony. At the same time, many well-known experts and scholars from college of fine arts Tsinghua university, Central Academy of Fine Arts, Chinese National Academy of Arts, China Academy of Art, and Nanjing University of the Arts attended the opening ceremony.





Glimpse of Works

“Almost every contemporary art derives from the West, except for the contemporary ceramic art, which is the combined product of the East and the West. As an invention of high temperature ceramic material, it originates from China. At first it spread in East Asia and gradually influenced Southeast Asia, Central Asia, West Asia, Europe and the whole world. Therefore, Kaufmann is deeply attracted by Chinese ceramic art. However, he believes that materials alone are not art. They become art in that they carry culture and aesthetic value. In the absence of human activities, ceramics do not exist. Therefore, the concept of ceramics itself carries the history of human beings. And contemporary ceramics is the historical process promoted by human beings at present. Thus, Kaufmann's ceramic material of art creation is not only the physical ceramic material, but also the ceramic material carrying human history.

To this end, Kaufmann uses contemporary ceramic materials to engage in a dialogue with the history, asking his own heart and soul through dialogue to create art. At the same time, he realizes that the nature of the answers to the questions do not change with the times, but the methods and language of the answers are different from time to time. This kind of thinking has shaped Kaufmann's way of making ceramics and his perspective. For Kaufmann, the materials he created are not only clay that can be touched by the hand, but also traces left on the concept of "ceramics" from generation to generation. Therefore, when he is creating ceramics in China, he not only uses Chinese ceramic materials, but also explores the history of Chinese people from the past to the present contained in Chinese materials. This idea is fully expressed in his works in this exhibition, which consists of three series”

by Curator: Fang Lili

(President of China Society for Anthropology of Arts, Director of the Institute of Anthropology of Arts and Sociology at Southeast University, Chief Professor, Researcher of the Institute of Anthropology of Arts at Chinese Academy of Art, Doctoral Supervisor)

Chapter 1 *Terra cotta Warriors series*

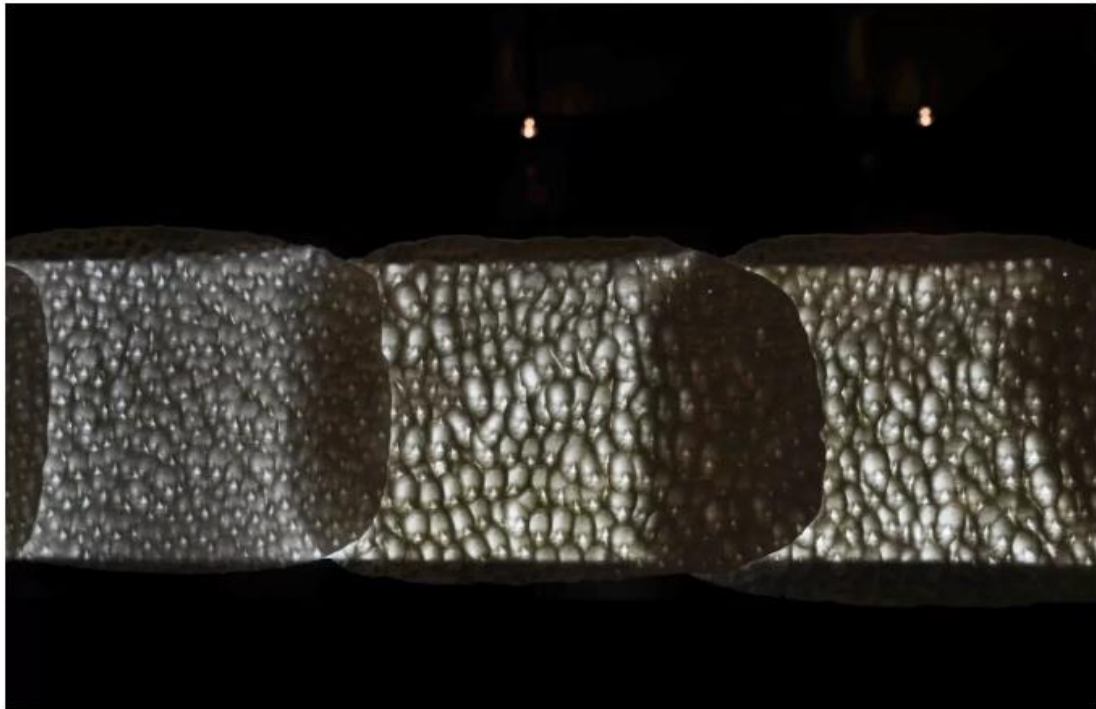
The first is Ghost Series, in which there are works like “*Pillar*” and “*Stone*”, etc. These works represent his dialogues with 60,000 craftsmen who made the Terra Cotta Warriors, traveling through a history of more than 2,000 years.



2 columns, from Terra cotta Warriors series
from Terra Cotta Warriors series



2 blocks, from Terra Cotta Warriors series



Ghosts

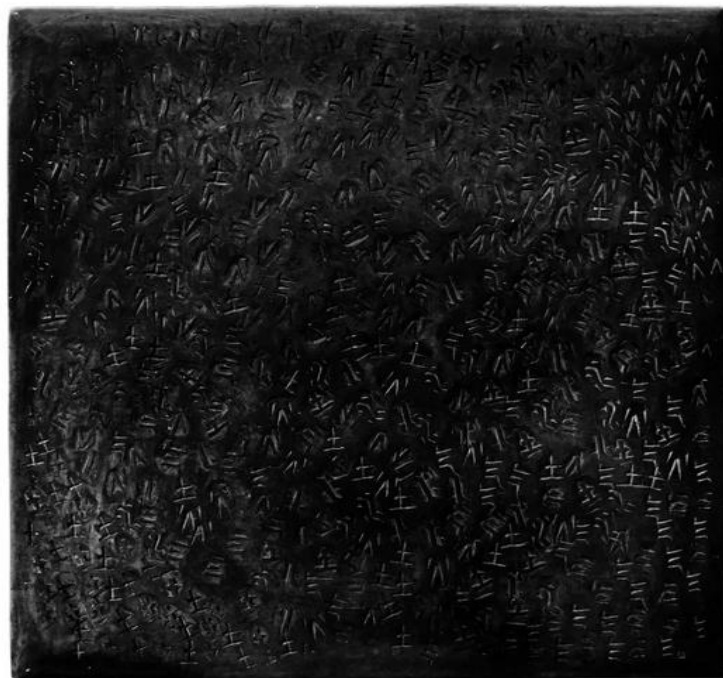
Chapter 2 *Gold Brick Series*

The second series is "Gold Brick Series". These "Gold Bricks" can also be called "Beijing or even Lumu Bricks. They are not ordinary bricks, but a special kind of bricks made by craftsmen in Suzhou for the ground of the Imperial Palace. It is a kind of handmade brick that takes a year to finish with special clay and technique, which is unique and only made in China. As it will take a long time to make with special technique, it is so valuable that it is called "Gold Brick". Not because it is made of gold, but because of its value. "Gold Brick" is made with a traditional floor tile technique, which represents the most exquisite ceramic technique in the world in the classic era. This technique is not recorded in books or preserved in museums at present, but passed on in the "Gold Brick" factory in Suzhou, where the craftsmen still make "Gold Bricks". Kaufmann uses the gold bricks made by contemporary workers carrying the technique of the past as his own material, and works on them with the most advanced ceramic water knife technique. This is a dialogue between the modern ceramist who uses modern ceramic technique and the craftsmen who inherit

traditional craft.



Lumu Landscape



Water, Mud and Fire



Lovers 1.1



Lovers 1.3



Lovers 2.3

Chapter 3 *Mineral Memory Series*

The third series is mineral memory, which is mostly an exploration of the texture and reactions of various materials. The exploration seems to tell us about the possibilities of their own language as materials. Materials, as well as natural traces recorded in materials and human cultural and historical traces, are important themes of this exhibition.



Expansion in Mold

Materials: Fired slate and stoneware



Square Explosion

Materials : Mixed clays



Strata and Wood

Materials : Mixed clays



Landscape Plate

In China, the opening ceremony of “Kaufmann Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition, the Eastern Philosophy in the Western Interpretations” is reported by 20 major China media, including *Art News of China*, *toutiao net*, *CRI Online*, *CFE net*, etc.

Media Reports Summary



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