

Artist Abbreviated Biographies

Beate Andersen, born in 1942 and educated in the early sixties at the Danish School of Arts and Crafts in Copenhagen belongs to the elite within Danish ceramics. After graduation she established a studio with Jane Reumert (1942 – 2016) and Gunhild Aaberg on Lille Strandstaede. That still exists today. She was in the museum exhibitions *Danish Ceramic Design* (1981 -82), *From the Kilns of Denmark, 2002*, and *A View from Denmark, 2008* at Lacoste Gallery.

"It's a matter close to my heart to ensure that my patterns merge with the form of the jar, transforming, becoming a unified whole of its own. A life imbued with a sense of infinity."

Anne Floche, born 1952, was a student of Gutte Ericksen at the Jutland Academy of Fine Arts, Aarhus. She is represented by Lucy Lacoste Gallery.

"I work with a clay, basically mixed of ball-clays, perlite and plastic fibers. This is a very strong and flexible clay that allows me to work freely, building 3 dimensional forms as well as laying out quite big slabs, with no drying or firing problems."

"My tools are many different brushes, sticks for incising simple sketches, knives for deeper traces, fingers, all kinds of things, each suiting the purpose I work with. My colours derive from terra sigillata. I very much like the dryness of the engobes and the clay, desert-like, close to the chalk look of whitewashed walls. It is a very simple way of working and it rarely causes any problems technically. It is a language I can use freely, it allows me to concentrate on what I wish to say."

Mette Maya Gergersen, born in 1973, her ceramic expression is based on movement, both from her observations of nature and her own personal journey through life. Her path has led her through many countries, living and studying, and ultimately gaining a better understanding of her lived experiences, which she embodies in her artforms. Beginning her formal training as a ceramicist in London, she has moved throughout Europe and shown on the international stage for over a decade. She currently has a studio in Silkeborg, Denmark.

Bente Skjøttgaard, born in Frederiksberg, Denmark in 1961, takes inspiration from an amalgamation of sources that continue to push her to experiment with clay. She interacts with the material in such a manner that defies the boundaries of traditional form, often producing works that express her unique interpretation of nature's forms. Skjøttgaard has a long history of internationally showcasing her talent throughout Europe, Asia, and the United States. As stated best by Professor Erik Steffensen at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts, Copenhagen, "Bente Skjøttgaard is not afraid of going to extremes. The artist moves wherever the clay happens to be pointing the way... Bente Skjøttgaard's ceramic work has soul – it is... genuine."

Charlotte Thorup, born in 1973, has had a prolific career in ceramics. Graduating in 2000 from the Glass and Ceramic School of Bornholm, she has since traveled and shown internationally, from New Zealand to Japan, and throughout Europe. Within the United States, she has shown twice at Lucy Lacoste Gallery, first in *Danish Contemporary* (2016) and now in the upcoming show *Danish Women in Contemporary Ceramics* (2020). She resided in Svaneke, Denmark, on the island of Bornholm, where she has her studio.

Gunhild Aaberg, born 1939, is a renowned Danish contemporary artist and ceramist based in Copenhagen with her studio on Lille Strandstraede near the harbor.

Known for sculpture, she spends weeks hand building a piece, reshaping it many times. If she is not satisfied, she destroys it. If the piece is not 'put to sleep', she then focuses on the surface using different tools, followed by layers of slips and glaze. Aaberg was in the museum exhibitions *Danish Ceramic Design* (1981 -82) and *From the Kilns of Denmark, 2002 and A View from Denmark, 2008* at Lacoste Gallery.

Barbro Åberg, born in Sweden in 1958, studied ceramics first in the United States before going to the Art School in Sweden and then the School of Arts and Crafts, Denmark. She has lived in Denmark since 1986. Åberg is known for breathtaking ceramic sculpture inspired by nature and science. Many are openwork forms which are amplified by the play of light. Through her use of paper clay and her own artistic exploration, she has changed the language of contemporary ceramics.

Åberg was in the traveling museum exhibition *The Kilns of Denmark, 2002, and A View from Denmark*, at Lacoste Gallery in 2008. Åberg, represented by Lucy Lacoste Gallery since 2008 has had two solo exhibitions here.