

"Hares" by NADJA REMPP

Annette Ody



Nadja Rempp graduated from the Staatliche Fachschule für Keramik in Landshut this year. The general compulsory subject for the graduation year was "Hares". She studied the subject in its full breadth. From the meaning of hares in various cultures in the world to a documentation in art and literature in various eras, to bold, highly personal interpretations in her own work. Nadja Rempp's hares are outstanding pieces of work born of this complex.

Rempp paid particular attention to hares made by the American artist, Beth Cavener Stichter, which according to Rempp have "anthropomorphic features. I wanted to create a female counterpart to a very masculine Stichter hare. This happened very quickly with my hands, as soon as I started modelling it. With my lady hares, I would like to express femininity in an unobtrusive way, perhaps my own femininity too," say Nadja Rempp of her work.

Nadja Rempp was born in Heilbronn in 1973, and with her training to become a ceramist, she has completed her second complete course of vocational training - in 1988, she qualified as a tiled stove builder and warm air heating engineer in Eppingen.

The choice of going into the heating business was down to the "careers advice of her environment", says Nadja Rempp. "Everyone said to me, 'Just don't become a ceramist, there is no money in that nowadays'." But nevertheless, the deep-seated desire to become a ceramist never left her. Four years after finishing her first training course, during which she had two children (now she has three), she started her training at the State Technical College for Ceramics in Landshut.

"For me, the fascination of ceramics has especially to do with the fact that I became acquainted with clay as a medium as something earthy and archaic, alive and perhaps even fleshly. Any creative aspect of my personality finds its parallel in this material. It always fills me with enthusiasm when I start to work with the various clay bodies. My hands, my ideas and the material become part of a symbiosis, which has a mind of its own. It is simply magical, and I become a ceramist body and soul. Next year I want to enrol in the master class at the School in Landshut, and I am delighted that the School gives me the opportunity and the freedom to pursue my career. Of course a lot of initiative and self discipline are necessary."

For our School, a student like Nadya Rempp is a godsend. Not only her continuing interest in the course content and her knowledge from her training in stove building but also, and in particular, her creative talent give us great pleasure. She is an asset to the School.



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