



Season XXVII
8.9-19.11.2023

Nord
Ann Beate Tempelhaug, Solo Show

Spazio Nobile Gallery is pleased to announce Ann Beate Tempelhaug's first solo show entitled *Nord* and invites you to the Press Preview on Thursday, 7 September 2023 from 2 to 5pm, followed by the opening from 6 to 9pm in the presence of the artist.

SPAZIO
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Ann Beate Tempelhaug

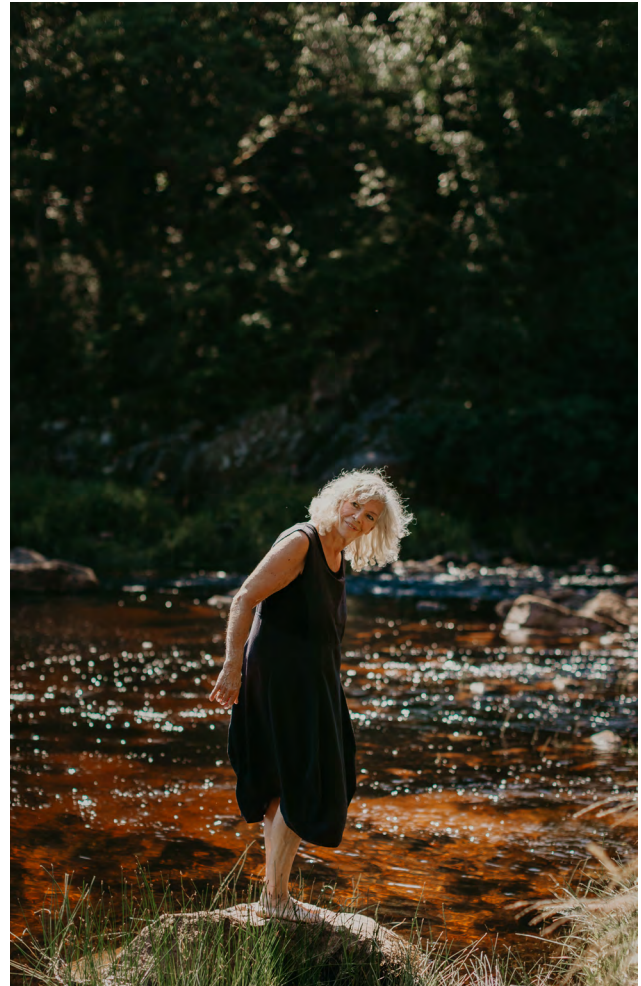
Nord

WE, we waves,
That are rocking the winds
To rest—
Green cradles, we waves!

Wet are we, and salty;
Leap like flames of fire—
Wet flames are we:
Burning, extinguishing;
Cleansing, replenishing;
Bearing, engendering.

We, we waves,
That are rocking the winds
To rest!

— *We waves*, August Strindberg





This first solo show by Norwegian artist Ann Beate Tempelhaug at Spazio Nobile Gallery opens a new chapter in the artist's career that has spanned over forty years. The gallery is presenting a series of some fifteen new works painted in / on life-sized ceramic objects, strong and vivid immersions that call for subtle feelings and visually tactile sensations.



© Lisbeth Finsdahl

Her freely shaped and sculpted ceramic pieces are entirely hand-painted, both on their surface and on their edges, reflecting her curiosity and desire to investigate the duality of beauty and the meaning of life through colours and shapes.

She pushes the limits inherent to ceramics as a medium of creation, and challenges format and weight to reach the feasible in what could be perceived as impossible. All is connected in her art process, the sculptural qualities and the painterly quality melt together as an entirety. Slightly concave surfaces and waves depict the upheavals of time and life. This exploration in the materiality allows her to merge artistic intentions into stories about existence.

Immersed in her own singular universe, Ann Beate Tempelhaug dedicates this exhibition *Nord* to the great Nordic landscapes and the energy flow they provide her. The abstraction of her porcelain glazed works captures the attention and fascinates the eye. Since she was a child, her desire has been to create “these large formats that are bigger” than herself, no doubt as a way of reaching a threshold of spirituality that

belongs to her only, and which she wants to share with us. And for connecting herself stronger to life and to art. “As a child, I remember this huge mountain (Øyfjellet) outside our kitchen window. I had to see the entire mountain, and to be able to, I had to move very close to the window, which I did every day.”

Tempelhaug paints without knowing the final result of her glazes before firing. Working for days on end in her studio at the porcelain factory (NTP) in Norway, she releases her emotions against a backdrop of inner landscapes whose intensity follows the infinite line of jazz (Nils Petter Moldvær, Arve Henriksen, Jan Bang, among others), classic or Piazzolla’s liberated tango, a music she is particularly fond of when she sets to work and which transports to another places, as if in a creative trance. She plunges into her deepest feelings, treating them with successive brushstrokes of varying thickness. Her expressionist paintings are impregnated with colours that reveal themselves after the long five days of firing at 1300° C. They are surging waves of “chiaroscuro”, of dazzling light, sometimes polar and wintry, sometimes solar and summery, that invade the

porcelain-enamelled stoneware mural. Fragile, often weakened by the heat of the kiln. Not all of her large sculptures reach us – that’s the mystery and risk of the ceramic firing process. Her husband and her lover, Eirik Gjedrem, also a ceramist, accompanies her on this artistic and existential adventure like a guardian angel. He is her main assistant during the heavy and complexed creation processes of her works.



© Lisbeth Finsdal

Nord will feature a selection of new large-scale works created during the first part of 2023 including: *Beyond (Bortenfor)*, *Milonga*, *Mirage (Luftspeiling)*, *Mostly North (Det meste er Nord)*, *Into Love (Inn i kjærlighet)*, *Oblivion (Glemsel)*, *Prelude (Forspill)*, *Polar Light (Nordlys)*, *Twilight (Skumring)*, *Umbra...* – along



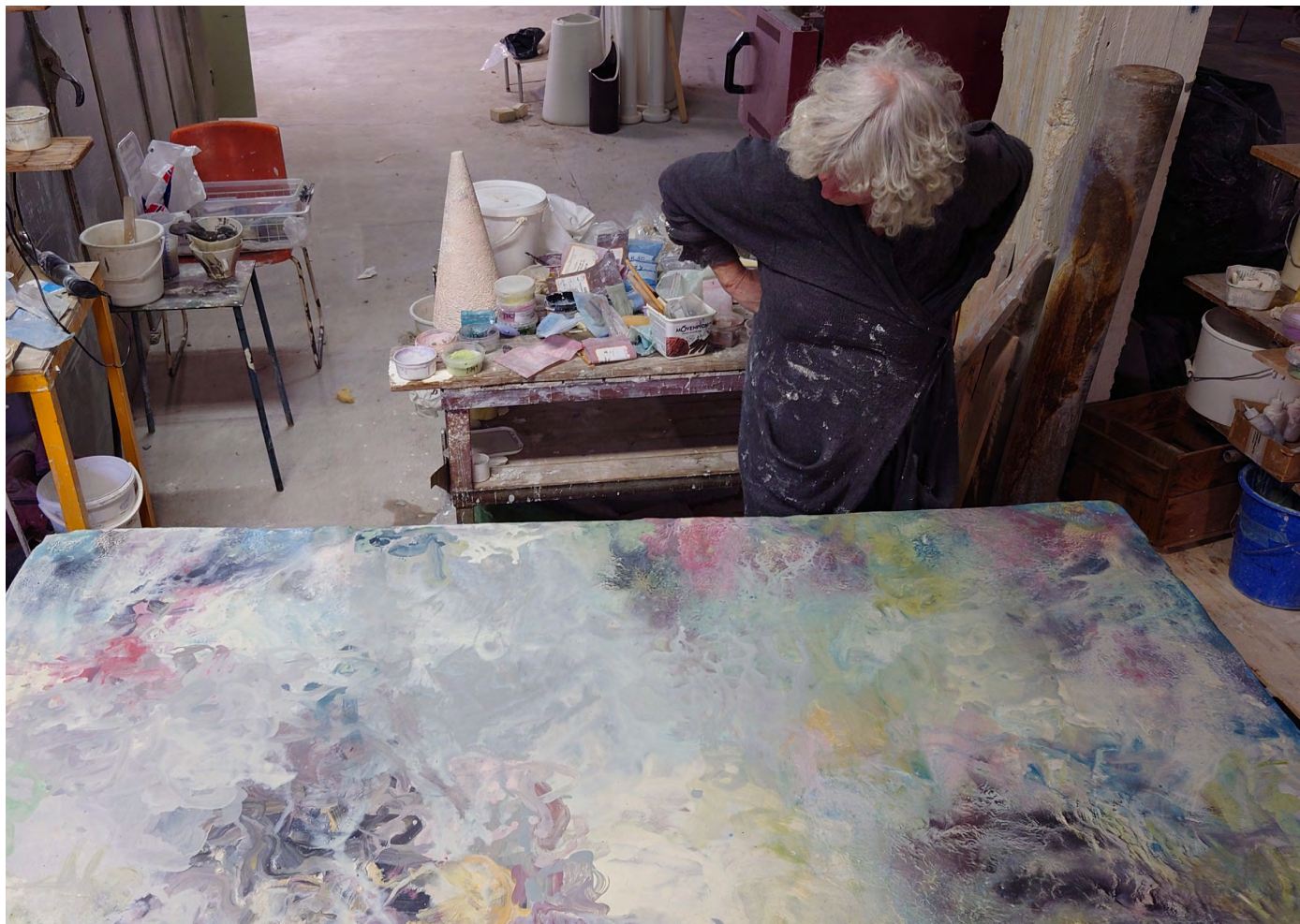
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with smaller, more intimate works with rounded, organic contours like *In-Out*, which transport us into another space-time, both lyrical and metaphysical. The impression is of emerging from nothingness and feeling at one with a lake, a forest, a sky drowning in deep water, in an immensity as far as the eye can see. Each of these extraordinarily powerful paintings expresses, in its own way, the artist's strong and profound emotions, reflecting her life's journeys and her quest for transcendence. "I am moved by nature, but I don't feel directly linked to a movement of painters who work with nature as a subject or a medium". In a free, abstract expressionism, Tempelhaug uses her pictorial art as catharsis.

Words by Lise Coirier, August 2023.



© Lisbeth Finsädd







Ann Beate Tempelhaug (NO)

Artist, Ceramicist

Ann Beate Tempelhaug was born in Mosjøen in northern Norway. She graduated from the Bergen School of Art and Crafts, and since the 1980s has pursued a career as an artist recognised both in Norway and abroad. Her work can be found in public collections such as the National Museum in Oslo, KODE Bergen, Kunstsilo Kristiansand and the Nordenfjeldske Art Museum in Trondheim, as well as in private collections (Rothschild, Hermès, etc.) and institutional collections including those of the municipalities of Bergen, Kristiansand, Mosjøen, Stavanger, the royal residency Stiftsgården in Trondheim, and the temporary collection at the Norwegian Prime Ministers' residence. Recent exhibitions include the group shows with FORMAT gallery, which also showed her at Collective New York and Collect at the Saatchi Gallery in London, and the solo shows at KRAFT gallery in Bergen, Bomuldsfabriken Arendal, Kunstpunkt Lista, T I D Gallery, Mandal, Agder Art Center and the Arteriet gallery in Kristiansand. She has received numerous public and private commissions from

the municipalities of Risør and Vestnes, the universities of Kristiansand and Bergen, and care centres in Nøtterøy, Tangvall and Kristiansand, and has to date benefited from several art grants: National Art Scholarship - The Art and Craft Foundation and Project Funds - Norwegian Fine Art Association.

Spazio Nobile has represented Ann Beate Tempelhaug since 2020 and has exhibited her work in group shows such as *The New Age of Humanism* (2020), *Spazio Nobile At Home* (2021-22-23) and numerous international fairs including PAD Paris, PAD London, Art Week Luxembourg and Collectible Brussels. Recent and emblematic works *Ultra*, *Reflection* and *North* will soon be on show at PAD London, Berkeley Square, from 10 to 15 October, and at Salon Art+Design, The Armory Show, New York from 9 to 13 November 2023. This first Solo Show *Nord* takes place from 8 September to 19 November 2023, with the kind support of Norwegian Crafts and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

About Ann Beate Tempelhaug's works presented



Milonga

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

182 x 111 x 15 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



Milonga evokes the composition by Ástor Piazzolla that forms part of the second movement of the Angel Suite (*Milonga del Angel*). Tempelhaug, who has a particular affection for the music of this composer, uses a palette of warm colours such as yellow and orange to depict the metaphor of a duo of dancers twirling on this two-beat tango originating from Argentina and Uruguay. Feeling like a call from the South, this work in crescendo underlines the duality between two bodies, the artist and her brush, the search for new and unexplored colours with fire, a tango that can also be experienced as a psychic state of mind. As the artist puts it: “Tango is a dance that can be danced by two people, but it can also be danced from within, in the very act of painting, with oneself facing the work in motion. Milonga evokes for me the golden lights of northern Norway, the yellow flowers in the fields, the dream of seeing poppies bloom”.

Umbra

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

182 x 111 x 15 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finstad

Umbra is a painting in which colours appear and disappear with intensity in a range of blues and blacks, emerging from a veil of shadow like a *sfumato* or a large cloud in a changing sky. Presence and absence alternate to give way to a new vital energy. In the artist's view, "*Umbra* is the shadiest side of the poem. There is no luminous sparkle, but to bring out the dark side through colour, you have to bring the light back to the heart of the work".



Twilight (Skumring)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

182 x 111 x 15 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finsdøl

Twilight (Skumring) describes the blue hour, an in-between light, an aurora or a crepuscule that can translate the painter's feelings about herself and the landscape that surrounds her, whether present or imaginary. The shadows are pinkish and bluish, projected like furtive states of mind, sudden incarnations of a passing presence or angel.

Mirage (*Luftspeiling*)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

182 x 111 x 15 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finsdøl

Mirage (Luftspeiling) evokes the celestial light that passes through the clouds, an atmospheric phenomenon in which warm air is less dense than cold air, letting through beams of light that create a fairy-tale effect in the sky and in the eyes. Like *trompe-l'œil* or an optical illusion, the mirage lets an image appear as if in a mirror. Tempelhaug's palette is soft and rich in pastel tones, akin to the refraction of light in a rainbow.



Oblivion (Glemset)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

144 x 88 x 17 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



Oblivion (Glemset) is another evocation of one of Ástor Piazzolla's masterpieces for bandoneon, piano and bass. This famous tango inhabits the walls of the studio and accompanies Tempelhaug's painting sessions. Self-forgetfulness and expectation are intertwined in this very free and rhythmic painting in which two figures can be discerned dancing under coloured spotlights.

Into Love (Inn i kjærlighet)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

143 x 90 x 13 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



Into Love (Inn i kjærlighet): “Who are you? Where am I? I’m not lost, but I’m somewhere else. Not where I thought I’d be”. Ann Beate recalls the northern part of Norway where she was born, although she now lives in Sogne, in the south of the country. “I remember the landscape, the light and its reflections. In this painting, it’s as if I’d seen these lights somewhere, I would have liked to paint it in another colour with violet, but the blue appeared when I’d decided to abandon it for a while. I had confused blue and violet because porcelain glazes are quite similar before firing. What a surprise, but I couldn’t escape it: the blue came back, but with new tones that blended together.”

Prelude (Forspill)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

143 x 90 x 13 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finnsdøl

Prelude (Forspill) is like a musical composition open to visual tactility and contemplation. This ode to light in its varying intensities is interspersed with subtle touches of colour that make this work very painterly yet delicately abstract. It is undoubtedly one of the most rhythmic free forms in the exhibition.



Beyond (Bortenfor)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

144 x 88 x 17 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Fimstad

Beyond (Bortenfor) is a darker, more hushed work than *Oblivion*. The artist inscribes her colours as if in a diary. They are writings and traces of memories that cannot be forgotten. Density is very present, with veils of whiteness covering large hidden areas of interior landscapes that reappear as the composition progresses and time passes. An otherworldly energy emanates from them, piercing through the layer of cloudy vapour.

North

Ceramic wall installation

2020

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

184 x 112 x 16 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finsdøl

North, Ouvert, Mostly North (Det meste er Nord) and *Polar Light (Nordlys)* are lyrical works that let the light dance at the heart of the ceramic compositions. Blues in all their hues, from grey to almost translucence, predominate, illuminating skies flooded with Nordic light at different seasons of the year.

Ouvert

Ceramic wall installation / Installation murale en céramique

2020

Stoneware porcelain, glaze / Grès porcelainé, émaillé

184 x 112 x 16 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic /

Pièce unique signée par l'artiste au dos de l'œuvre



© Lisbeth Finsdahl

Mostly North (Det meste er Nord)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

144 x 88 x 17 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



Polar Light (Nordlys)

Ceramic wall installation

2023

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

147 x 93 x 13 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finsådal

Ultra

Ceramic wall installation

2022

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

142 x 91 x 13 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finsädel

Reflection

Ceramic wall installation

2020

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

184 x 112 x 16 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Lisbeth Finsdøl

In Out

Ceramic wall installation

2020

Stoneware porcelain, glaze

60 x 90 x 6 cm

Unique piece signed by the artist on the back of the ceramic



© Margaux Nicot

Info

Spazio Nobile Gallery & Studiolo
Season XXVII- *Nord*
Ann Beate Tempelhaug, Solo Show
8.9 - 19.11.2023

Vernissage 7.9.2023, 18.00-21.00
In the presence of the artist

Sunday Brunches:
10.9.2023, 12-18.00 during Brussels Gallery Weekend
19.11.2023, 12-18.00



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Save the date

Spazio Nobile Studiolo
Group Exhibition
8.9 - 19.11.2023

PAD London
Berkeley Square
London, UK
Booth C11
10-15.10.2023

Salon Art & Design
Park Avenue Armory
New York City, USA
Booth A7
9-13.11.2023

Season XXVIII- Pao Hui Kao, Solo Show
25 Seasons
Spazio Nobile Gallery
24.11.2023 - 21.1.2024

Ceramic Brussels
Tours & Taxis
Brussels, Belgium
25-28.1.2024

Contact

Spazio Nobile
Contemporary Applied Arts,
Design & Photography

Rue Franz Merjay, 142-169,
1050 Brussels, Belgium
+32 2 768 25 10
www.spazionobile.com

Me - sa / wo - za / Wed - Sat,
11.00-18.00
& sur rendez-vous /
op afspraak / by appointment

Lise Coirier,
+32 475 53 19 88,
lc@spazionobile.com

Gian Giuseppe Simeone
+32 477 27 29 04,
ggs@spazionobile.com

Eugénie Frémot,
+32 477 73 37 58,
eugenie@spazionobile.com



By opening Spazio Nobile in 2016 in the very lively and cosmopolitan district of place Brugmann in Brussels (Belgium), Lise Coirier and Gian Giuseppe Simeone have united their passions for creation and art history, initiating a dialogue between contemporary applied arts, design and photography. Without putting boundaries between disciplines, the visual arts interact with the fine arts. By commissioning a collection of unique pieces, limited editions and installations both experimental and artistic, with a sensitivity particular to everything related to nature and minerality, the gallery organizes each year up to five exhibitions. Several curated exhibitions have happened in art and heritage venues such as Maison Louis Carré, France; Ancienne Nonciature, Grand Sablon, Belgium... Spazio Nobile has taken part in Belgian and international fairs such as Art Brussels, Luxembourg Art Week, Collectible Design Fair, PAD Paris and PAD London, Design Miami/ Basel, Salon Art + Design New York, Unique Design Shanghai... The gallery represents around thirty emerging and renowned artists and designers on an international scale while promoting high-end craftsmanship and cultures of East and West. Spazio Nobile also curates and publishes *TLmag_True Living of Art & Design* (©2008), the internationally acclaimed yearly art and design magazine, print and online, sharing its selection and its artistic and cultural commitment to collectible art and design.

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Contemporary Applied Arts, Design & Photography