

eszter imre È designer and ceramic artist »

portfolio | functional and nonfunctional objects



Fix ideas ...

"Earth and Water. That is all. Almost nothing, and this nothing means everything to me. I analyse it, shape it, use it. I own it and convince it, but only as long as its own will allows me to. I'm not forcing, and I'm not disappointed for the failures any more. We discuss. The material and me. We get along day by day. I understand it better and better, and I don't blame it for the cracks, because I know, it's only a wound that I have caused before. She's conscious, so am I.

Nature, time, elements, and choreography. Patience, there is a time for everything. It is a modest material, sensitive, sometimes hysterical, with sharp memory and strong will. Beautiful and hard.

My respect and love for my profession is quite inspiring. I try to find my place in this World, look for opportunities, and opening doors. After all I always end up finding myself with a piece of porcelain in my hands. It amuses me, the only way to do it is with all my heart and smile on my face, because there is a lot to learn and it requires all the patience in the world. Every project is a chapter and every single respectfully finished piece is a success.

I imagine objects behind closed eyes and they come to existence in my hands. I give it all my attention, every state of the process is important: The strange beating feeling in my chest, the thought that takes shape in a certain material, the time, the walk on sunny afternoons, opening kilns, first response.

I believe the object created by my hands become part of History as they emerge from the final fire, surviving the 1300 degrees, and may accompany us on Earth for a few thousands of years. Great responsibility."



Table-wear | special collection of porcelain jewelry for Herend Porcelain Manufactory, 2012





"At some point I just notice things. I find small details and wonder about their stories. Like old objects done by professional craftsmanship.

I wonder about the person created it with care and its first owner who loved it. All the people who touched it, and all the people herited after or bought it on a flea market. I am sure those tiny details were appreccated for all hundreds of years, just like I appeccate it in this century.

I may have the power and opportunity to create such hings myself, and I am ever so thankful. I take my chance to pay respect, create something new and invest all that love, care and attention accumulated by the time. I can only try and hope. "







*"Naturally, beside my eyes, **touch** is the channel I communicate most.
So does most of us. There is something about this sensations...
Feel the shape, the surface, the structure, temperature. Touch gives a lot of
information about an object without even looking at it. Fascinating.*



Hug cups | porcelain cups, 2010-12



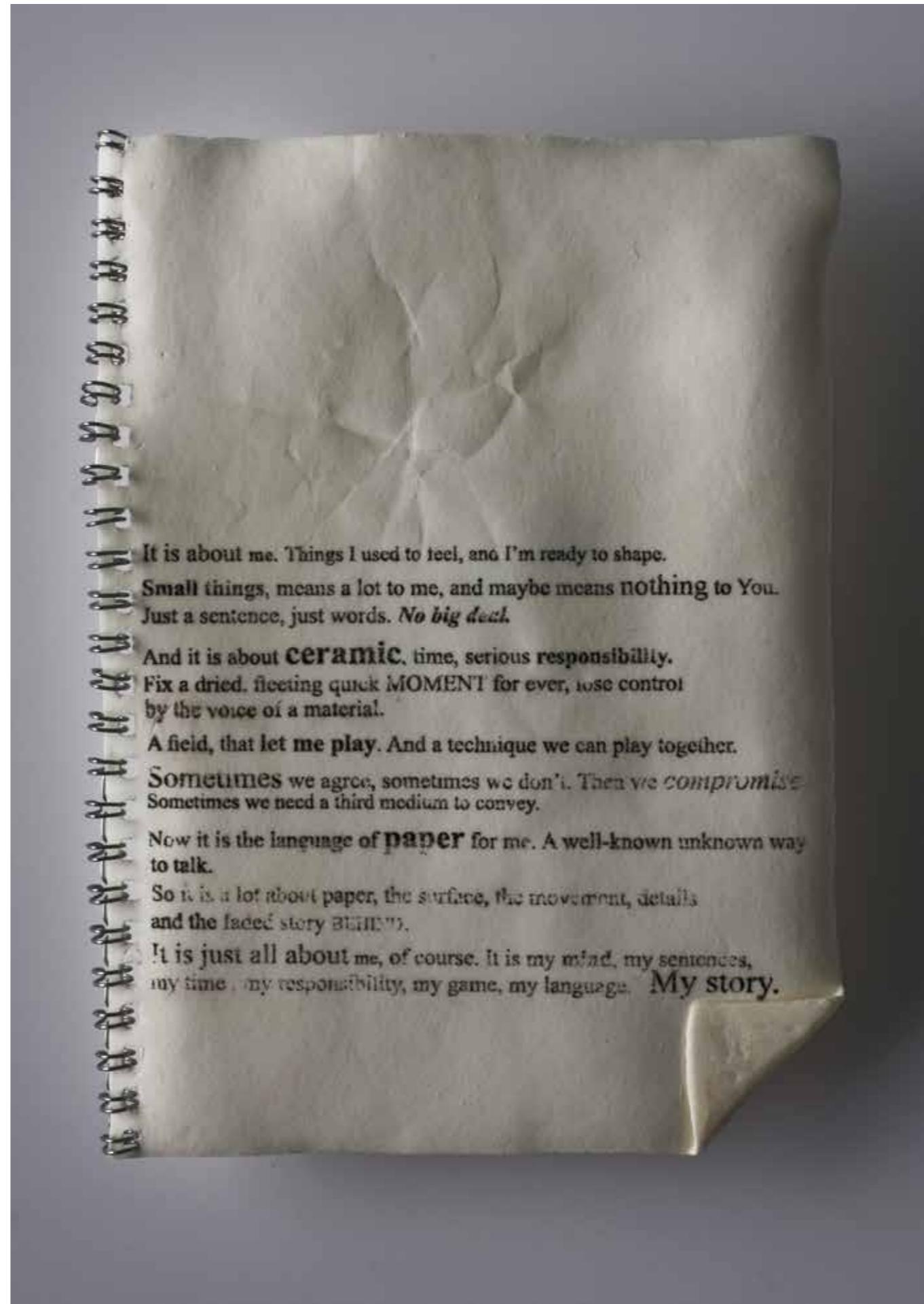
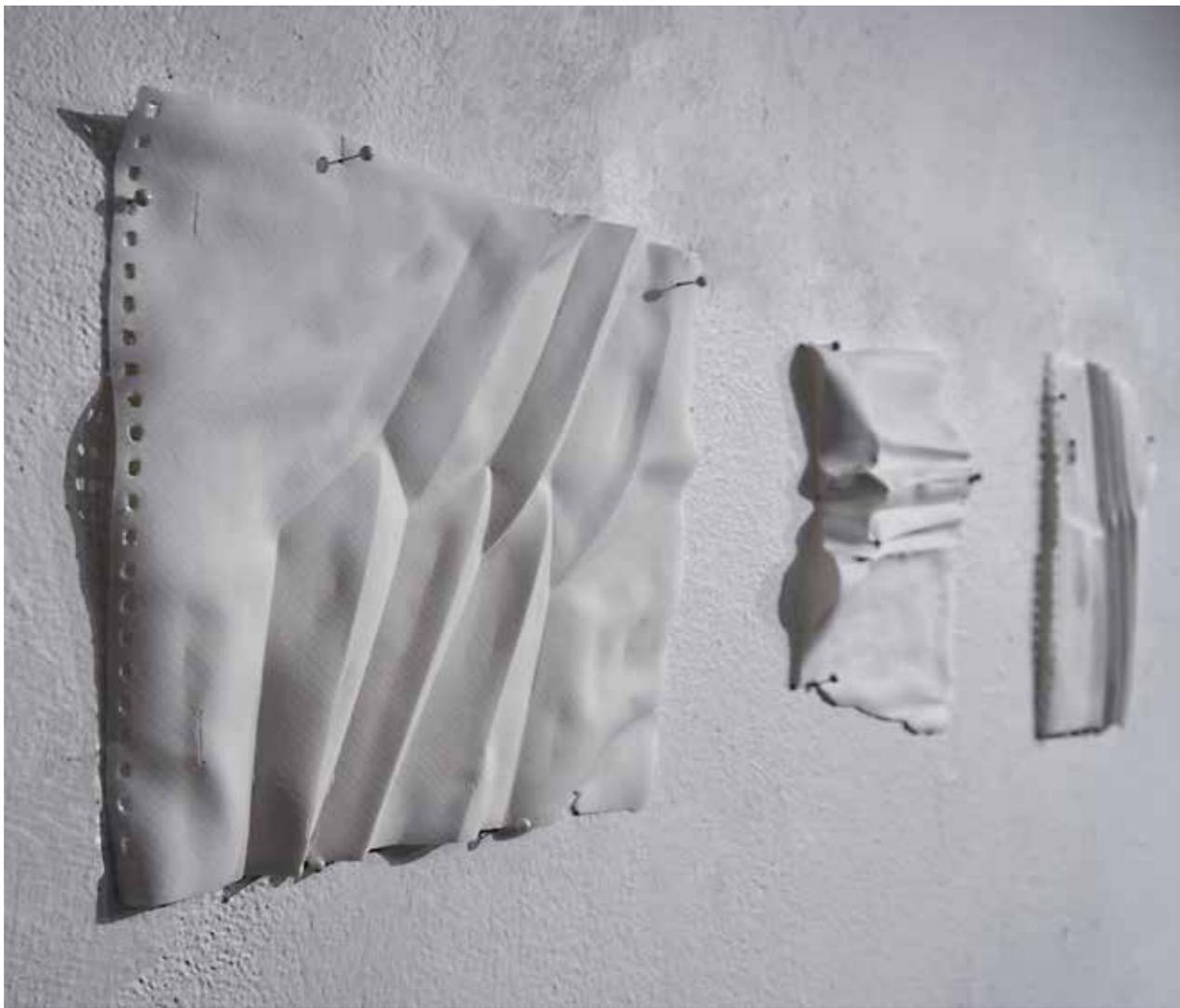


"A nice tea deserves a nice cup and we all deserve a nice cup of tea."





The memory of Paper | porcelain sculptures, 2010

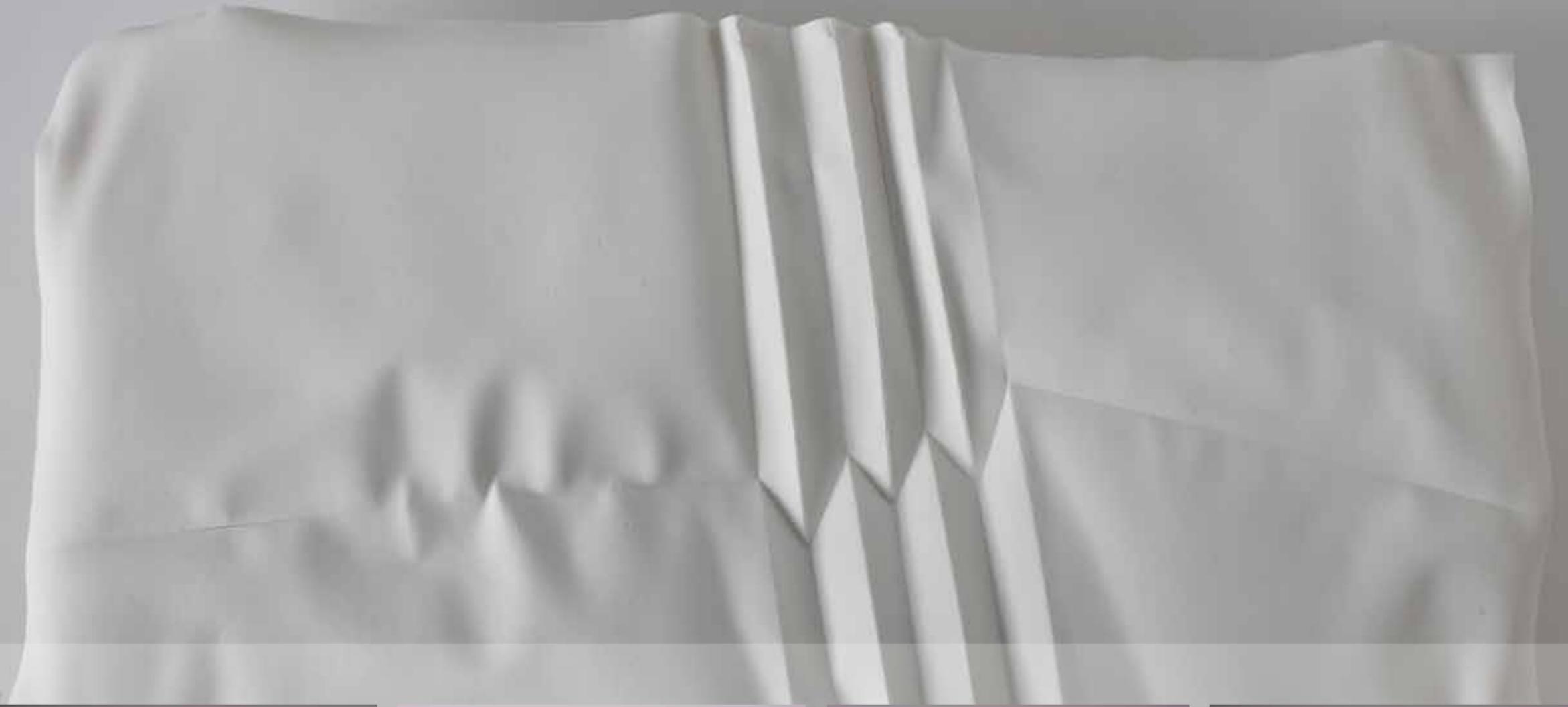




*"An origami piece you made for your mother as a child; A funny post-it note left on your fridge by a good friend;
The napkin with a coffee ring on it saved from the sweet first date. ...*

*Paper, like a moment, is a precious thing. Fragile, fleeting, transitory and easily destroyed. I wish to capture the memory
of paper in real timelessness; to combine the vulnerability of paper and the permanency of porcelain and make paper immortal.*

I created a new world, where I make the rules, break them, and play. "





"Not everything is what it seems, and sometimes what you see is not even there anymore. Porcelain, virtually immune to the passing of time and also the medium I know best.

I explore the dualistic timeless nature of paper and found new ways of creating. During this process we all work together: the paper, the fire, the porcelain and me - I start, they finish - and as the paper burns away the final imprint is made. Like reincarnation the paper is reborn as porcelain, still carrying the beloved characteristics of paper. The paper is gone, forever here, a memory is saved. This is my story about paper, time and transformation. The memory of paper."

• Pro futuro

inca etc



Milk from fridge | porcelain jug, 2010

"As a kid, having busy parents, I spent a lot of time at my grandparents home. It was an ordinary home conserved from the 60's. With ordinary things.

My grandmother is the sweetest woman I've ever known. Restless, warm and patient. How ever there were a few things could make even Her upset.

One of them was when my grandfather drunk the milk directly from the fridge not wasting his time to get a mug. ... Just one of those things you'll always remember."



Tea time! | porcelain bracelet, 2012



We'll cross that bridge ... | porcelain sculpture, 2010





*"What is the most difficult part of my creation?
To explain it. Complexity is the most difficult to
deal with in my work, my personality of contrasts.
I'm always on both side of contrasts. Like making
functional object by artistic drive, or the other way
around. I am complicated, and I end up in simplicity.
There is always so much in one piece. See the hugcups
for example. It is a game with the shape and with
function; it is fun, unexpected, surprising, and
strange. But in some ways it is bloody serious and
very reasonable. It is a suitable product for someone
with osteoarthritis without feeling outcast of society
by his special needs.
It is a concept, but also a product, symbol of not
forgetting life is fun, symbol of help, hope for disable,
it's new, but it is also so very simple as anyone could
think of it, but still haven't. "*



Hug cups | porcelain cups, 2010





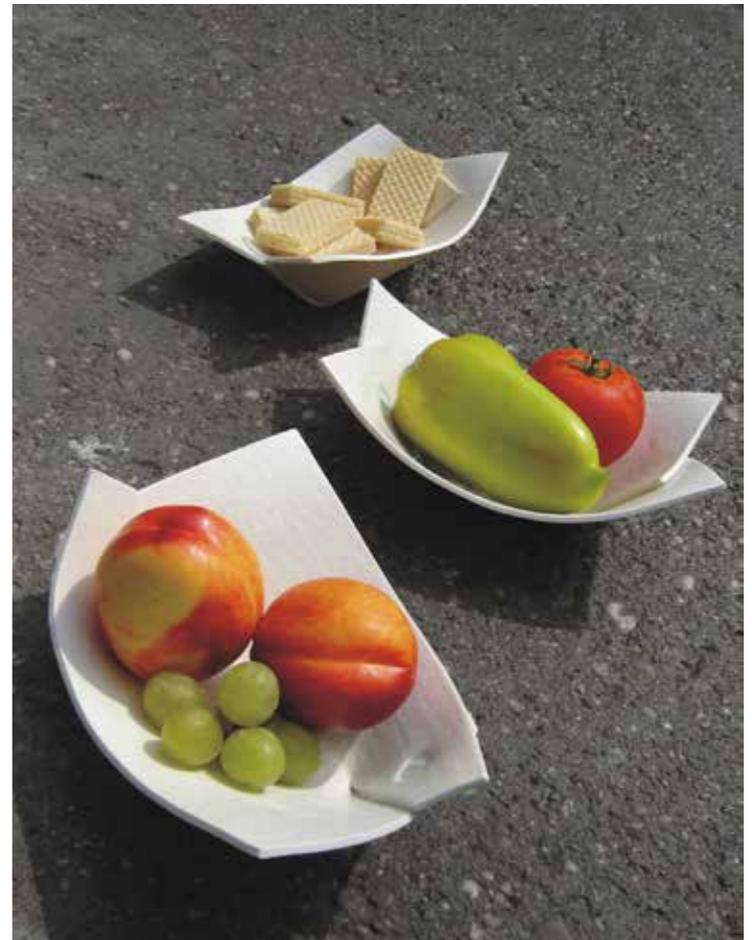
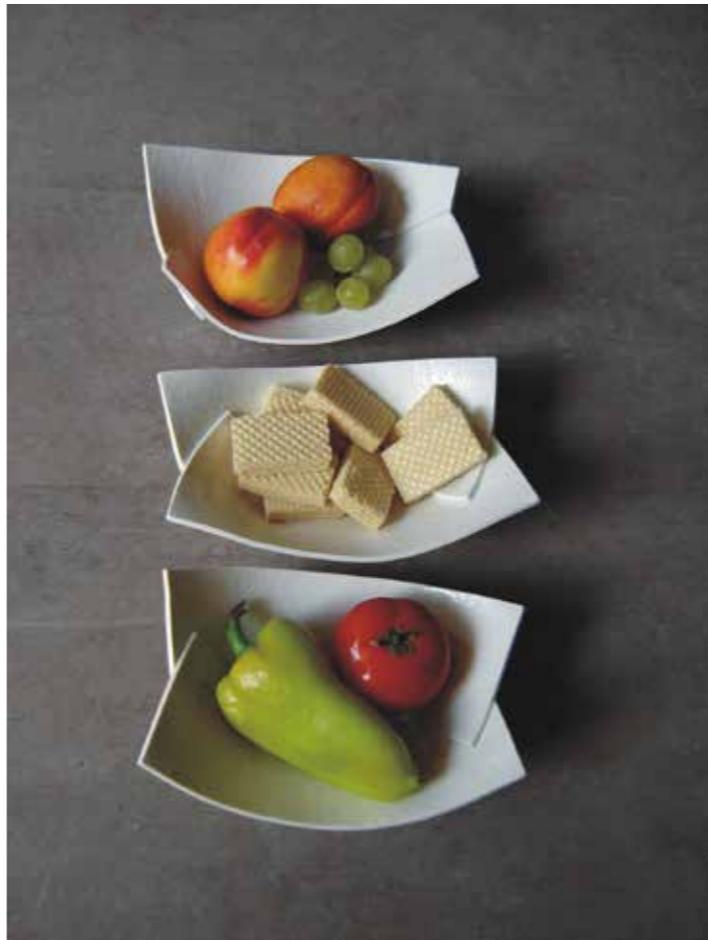
Handle it | porcelain brooch, 2012



one fold | porcelain snack bowl set, 2008



*"Wondering sometimes... about the essence of shaping.
The least I do to turn nothing into something.
One move, one cut... only one fold."*





inspiral | porcelain pendant, 2012





impression of Mor | porcelain sculptures, 2008



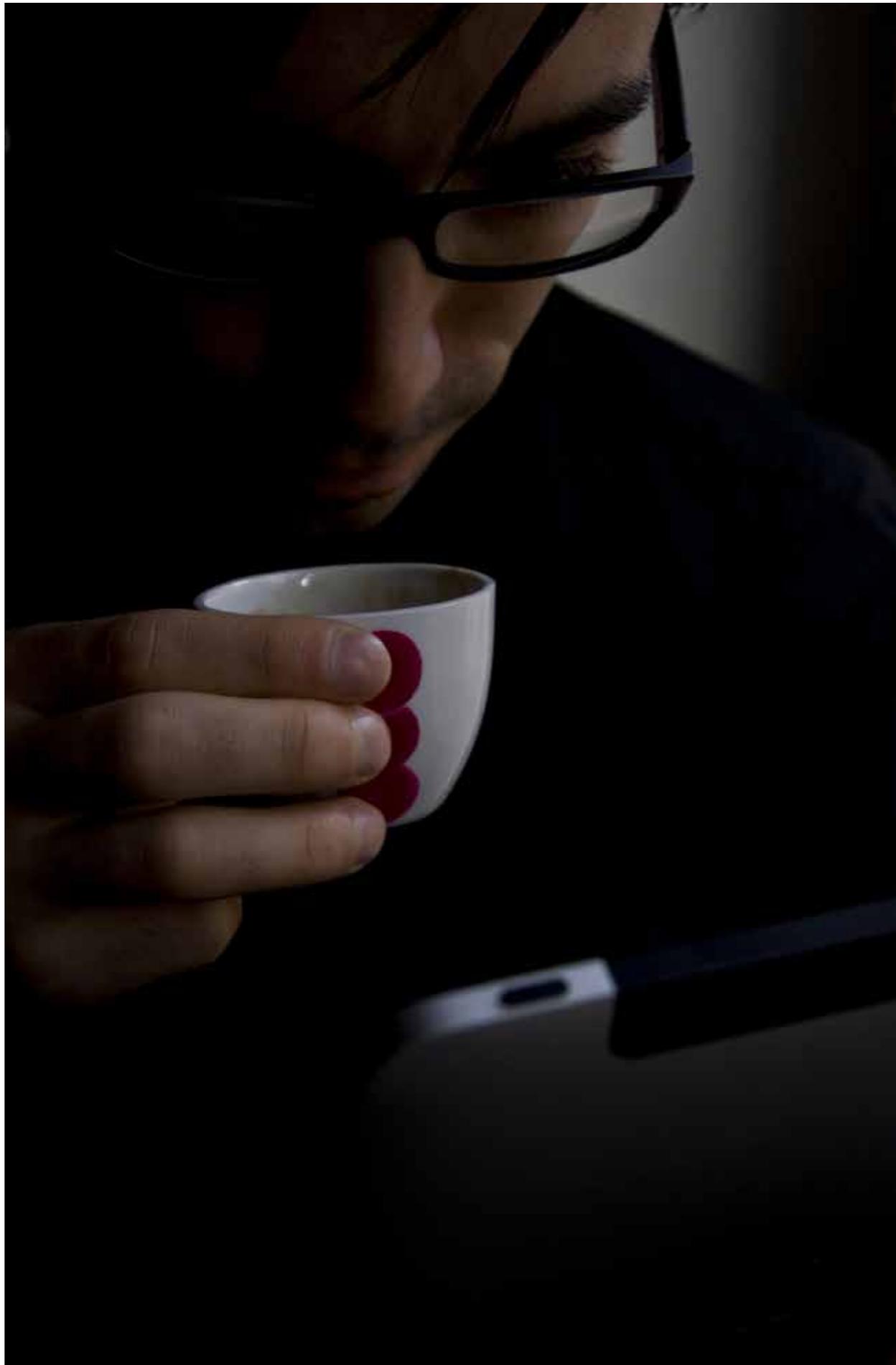
"I always have something to say. But I want you to say it. And I always have something to show. Small things, but important. And I want you to see it just as it is. I can't be there with you at that very moment and it's impossible to share this inner space, but the invitation is a gesture towards the opening up. Welcome."



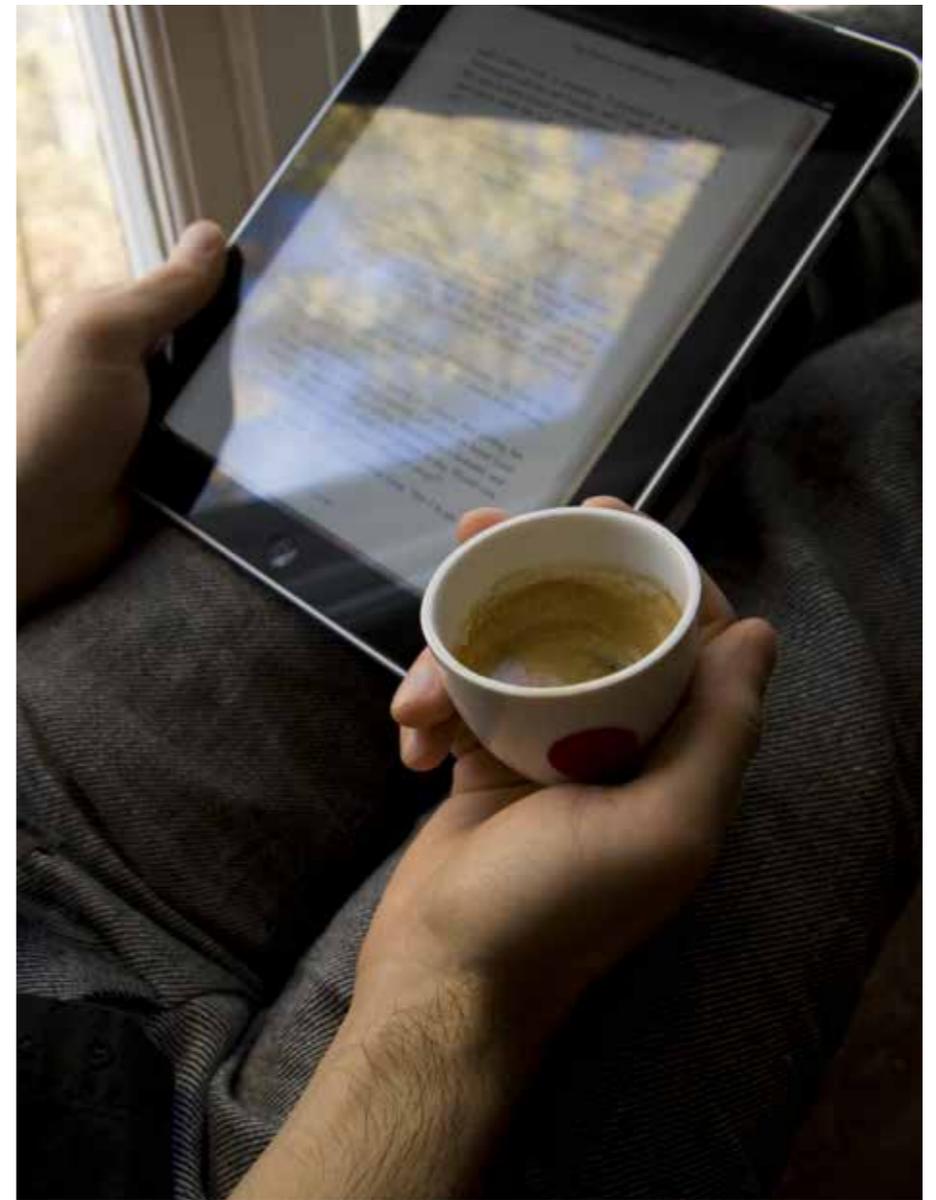


"I'm quite particular in what I like. I always try to find things I can relate to on a personal level. I am probably the kind of person who's looking for a little piece of home in everything. Something that tells it's made for me. Things that speak to me and make me feel at home and special by using it. I usually find this in details. The one little thing that just completes the piece. It can be a nice button on a shirt or a small crack in a handmade cup. It's really difficult to specify what I look for, but I know it when I see it. It just clicks."





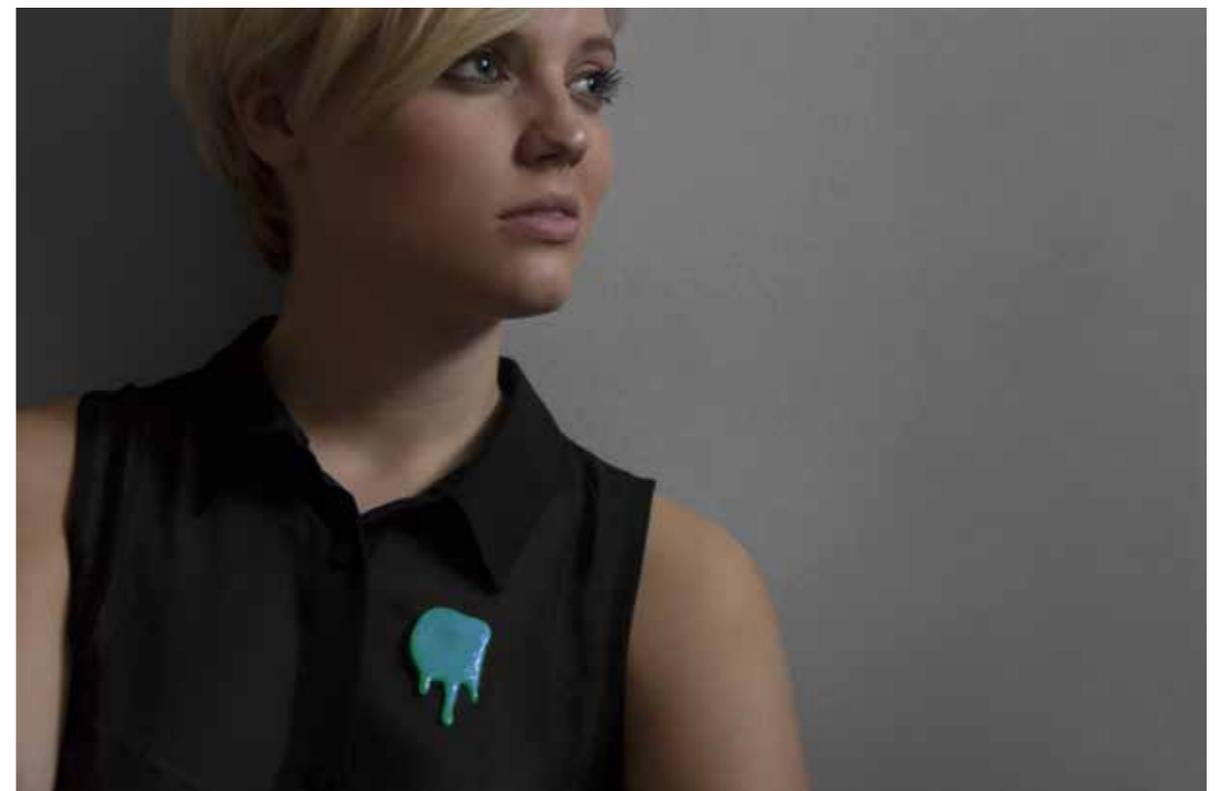
coffee spots | porcelain espresso cups, 2010

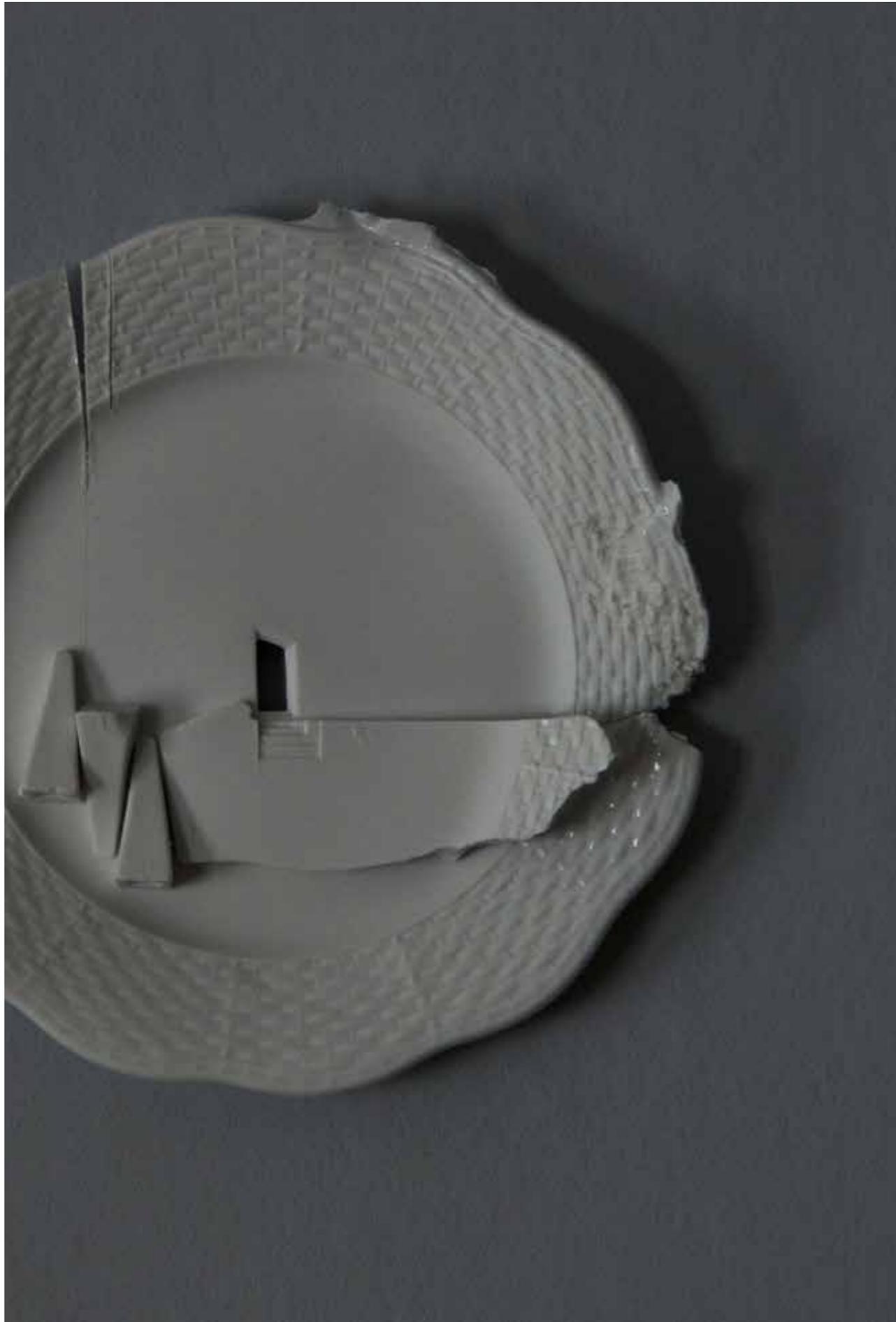


"A hot cup of espresso is a special moment. As a container the cup is a very important part of the ritual, but it's only a driver, never a part of the band. By making the cups a more explicit part of the experience it adds to the moment from first touch. Bringing the coffee closer by accentuating the vessel the cup let your fingers share the front row with your taste buds."

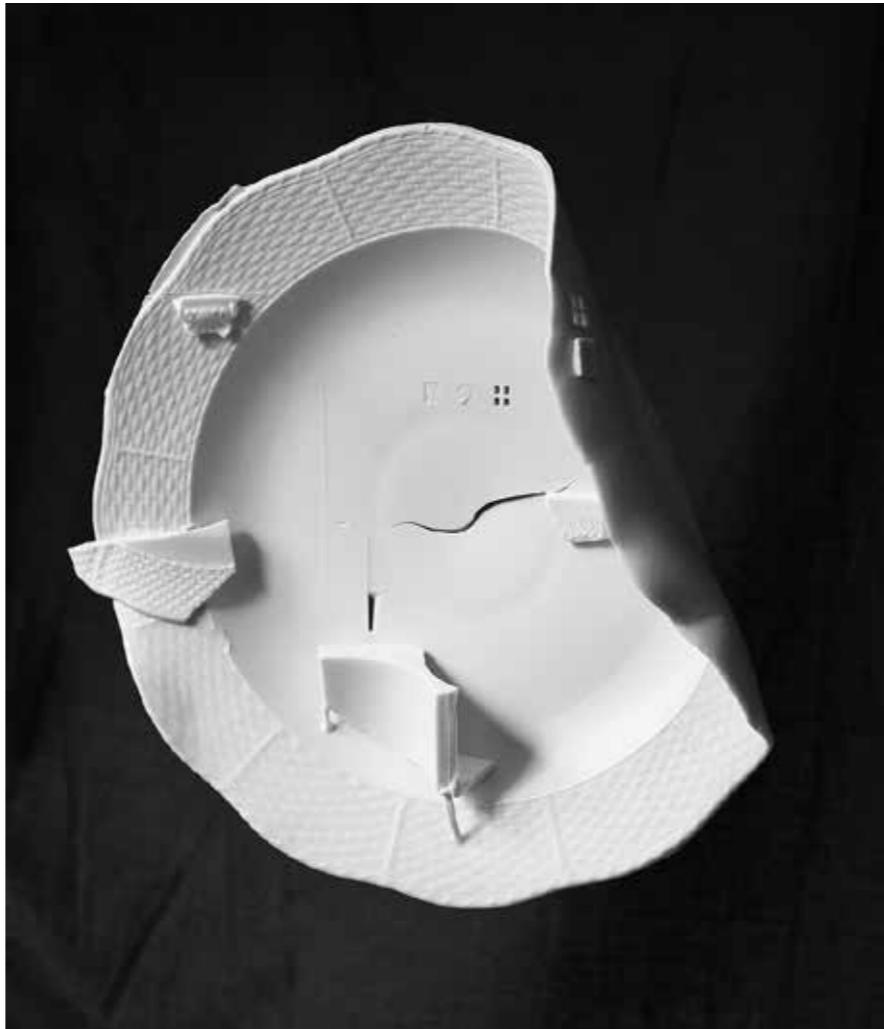


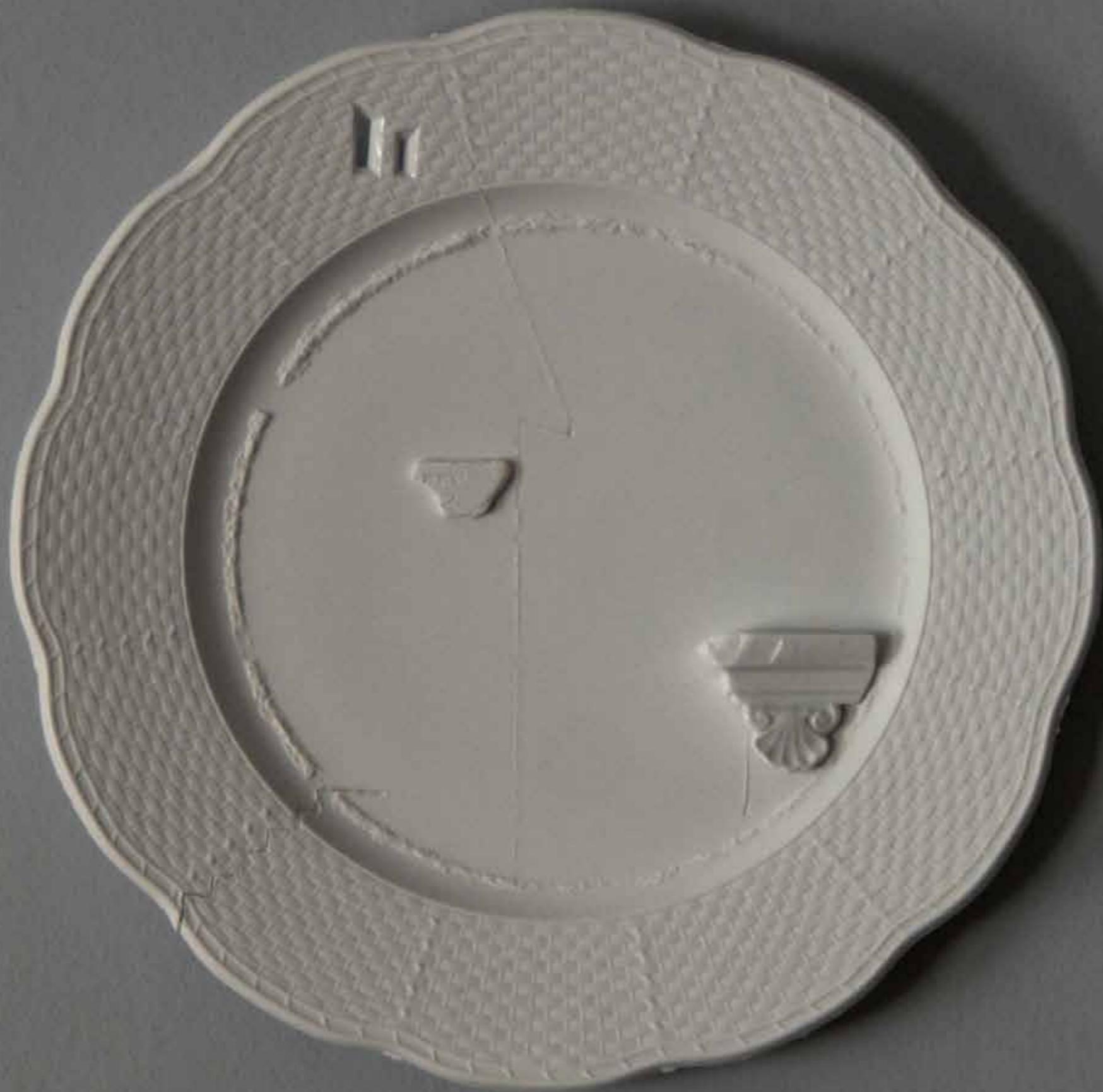
splash of colour | porcelain brooch, 2012





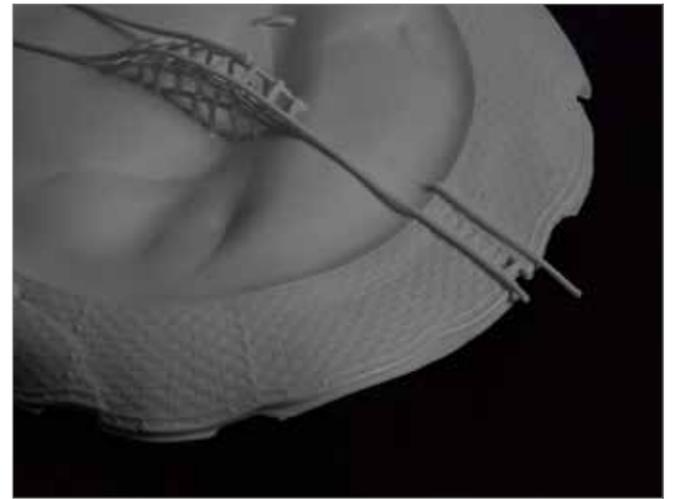
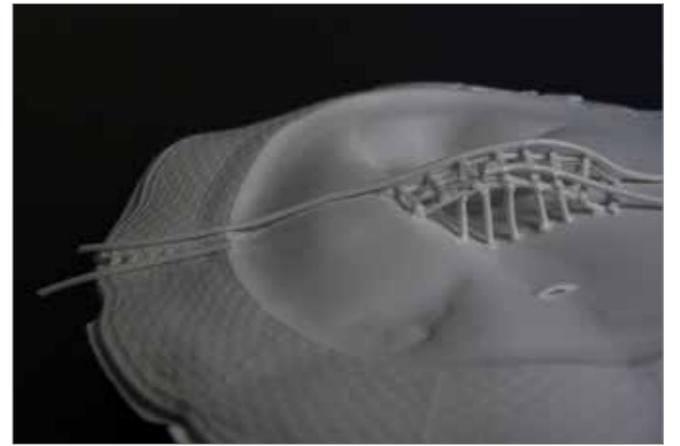
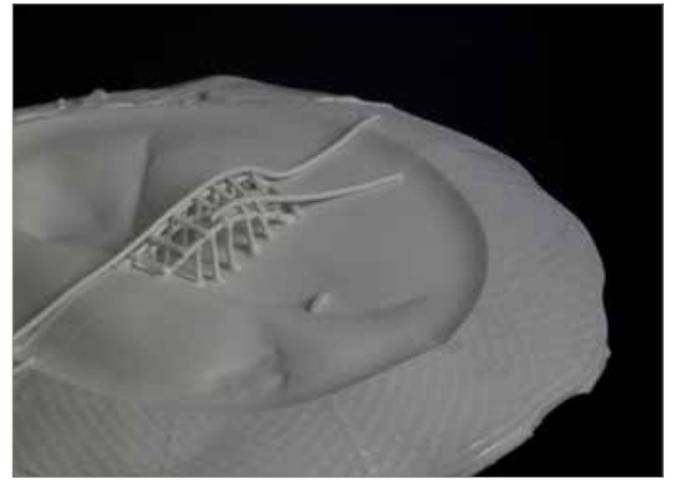
must-produced | porcelain sculptures, 2012

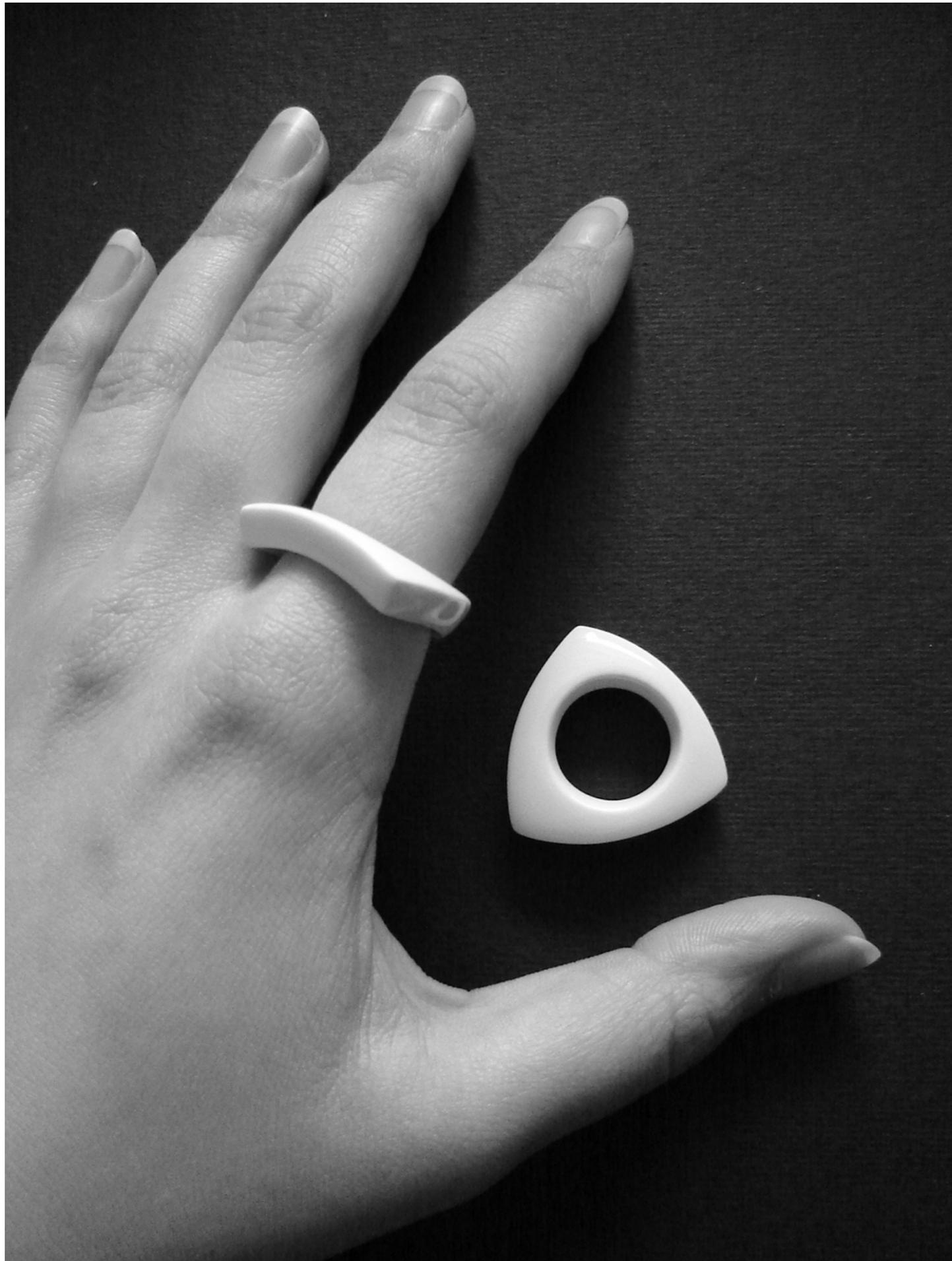






"There are just too many things that fail by our measurements. Not perfect, too big, too small, too ugly, ... always find something to blame... I just want to try at least. Just not to care for once. See the perfection in imperfection and give it a special place. I want you all to notice it is not wrong to be different or inperfect. Sociatly is painfull enaugh."



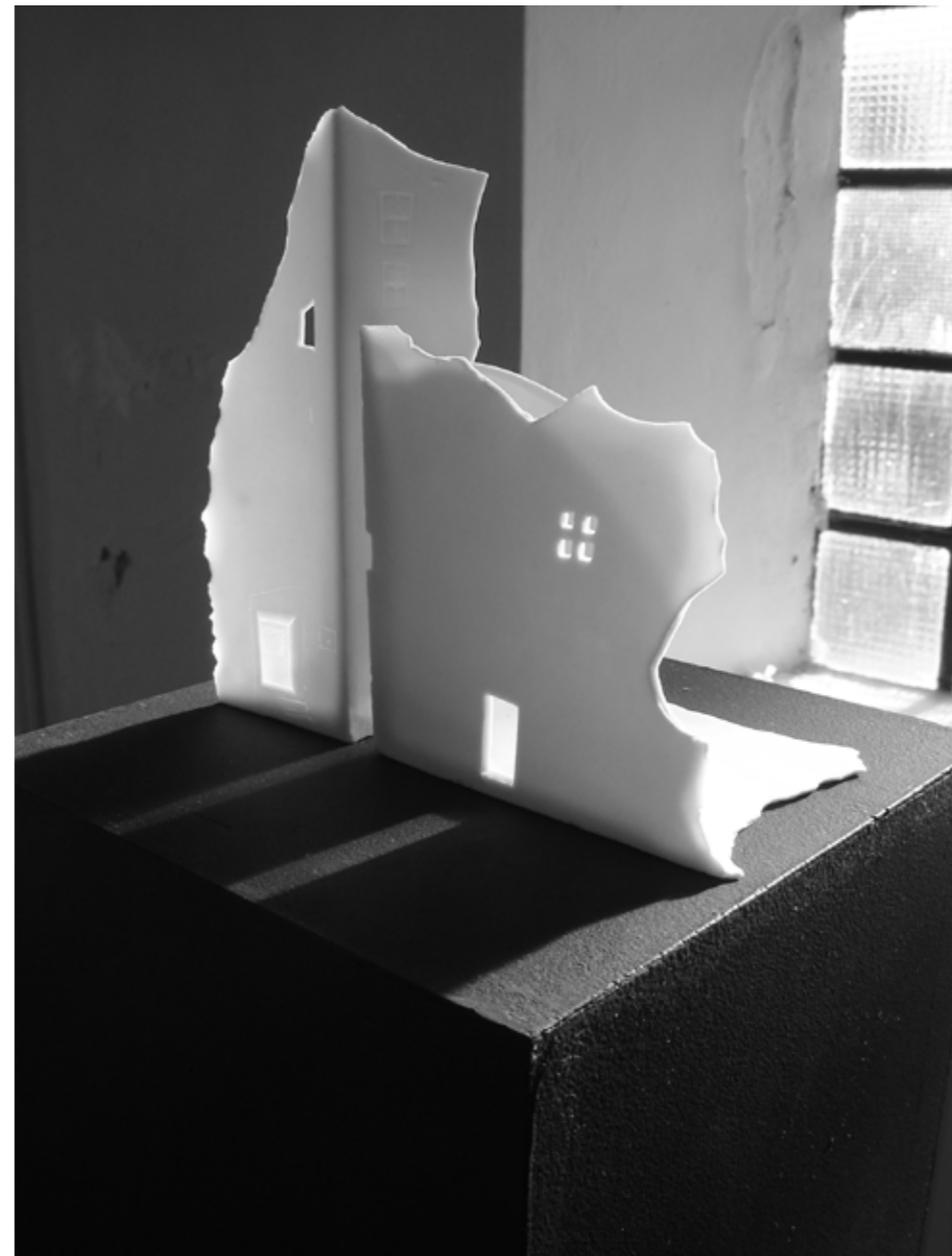


corners | porcelain rings, 2009





home fractions | porcelain sculptures, 2009



"...I'm wondering... if my empty fractions are the dawning canvases of my not yet coloured dreams... or the time-worn world of my faraway memories.."





Soul-homes | porcelain rings, 2009





wave | porcelain cups, 2009







cross-cut | porcelain jewellery set, 2012





Rim | porcelain jewellery set, 2012





"I wish I could design a plate that helps my brother to eat slower; make a bowl that can convince a child to like broccoli; create dishware that makes an anorexic enjoy food.

I don't want to design umpteen plate with a new pattern. I want something more, not just a plate, not only an object, but a lovable object. I want you to remember this object; I want you to want it, love it, to use it, keep it for many years and pass it on to your grandkids. I want to design a part of your day, part of your life."



Caffee Latte | porcelain coffee pot with milk and sugar, 2010





Tea for 2 | porcelain tea pot, 2010





"For me food is always about sharing and company. Whether it's in the company of many friends or that certain special person. Food, like all other pleasures of life, is best when shared."



tea for 2 | porcelain and plexi glass, 2009



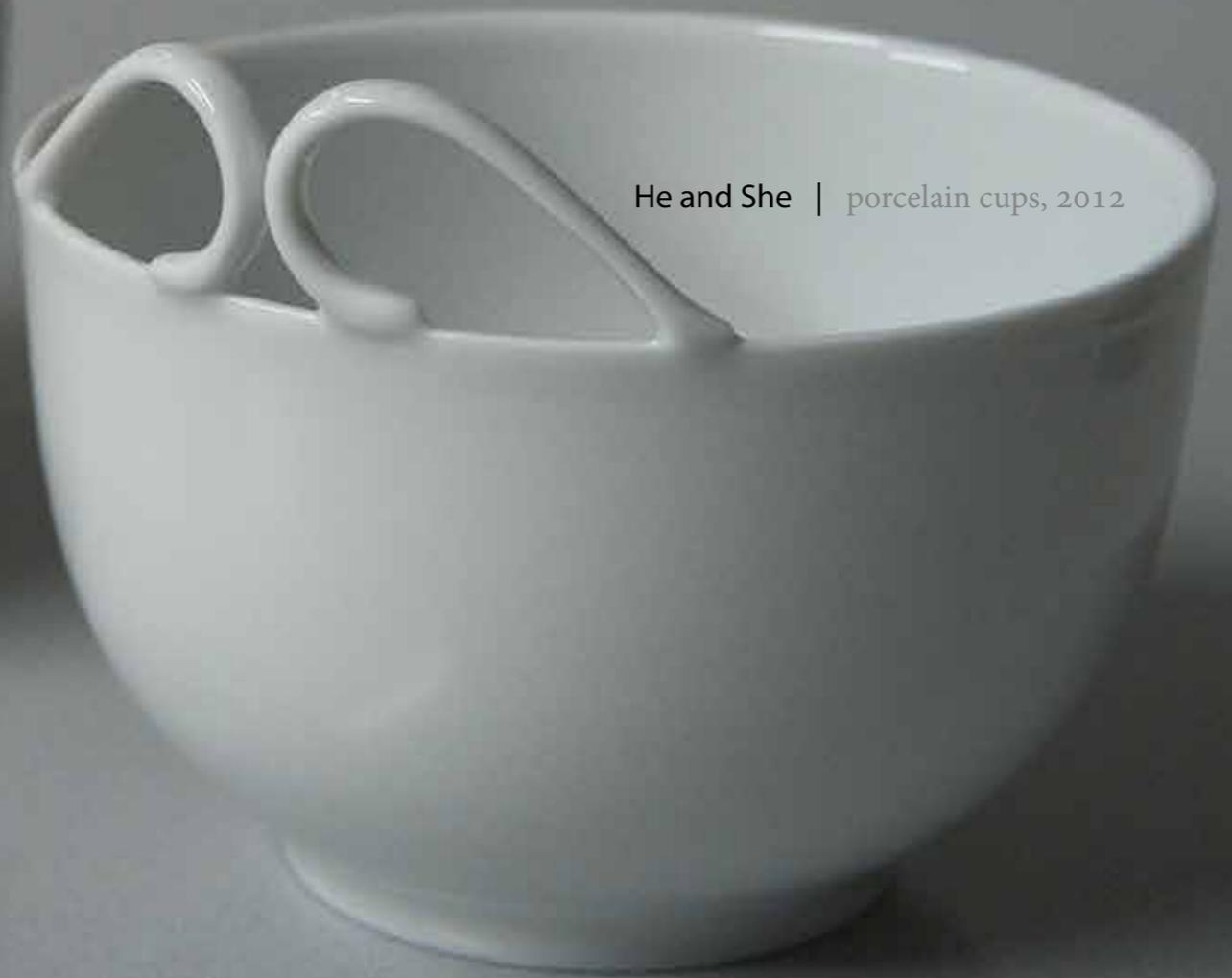


"Goals of my creation? ...

*Playfulness, professional solutions for simple ideas and technical achievements.
Objects we trust and love.*

*I wish to bring the elements of the real world to people's life. For example
as ceramic can bring in the Earth, the Air, the Water, the Fire, the past
and future at the same time.*

*For me eating is a ritual. The preparation of the food. Eating gives us
time for reflection. I like to take my time in both preparing and eating.
When I prepare my breakfast I like to focus on every movement, to think
about my day, prepare, plan. Breakfast lets me slowly sink into my day.
I also like the feeling when eating brings back memories. Rediscovering forgotten
tastes of our childhood. Brings us home. But it's not only the taste. It's the
smells, the sounds and the sights too. If food is a combination of tastes,
eating is a combination of senses. I want to add to this experience in my
designs. Like everything good in life, Naturally, the experience is best if it is
shared. So in my work a lot is about creating shared experiences."*

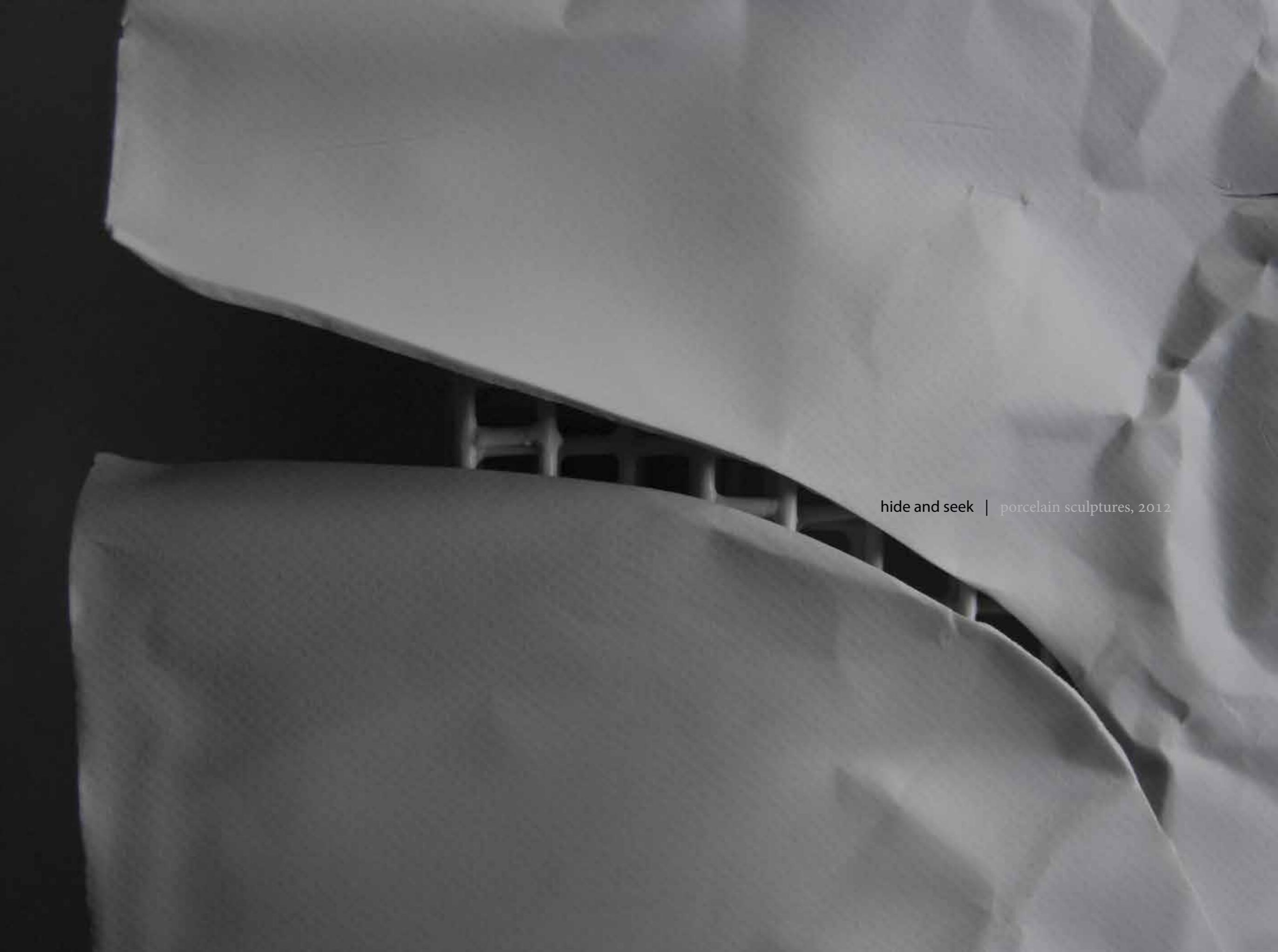


He and She | porcelain cups, 2012

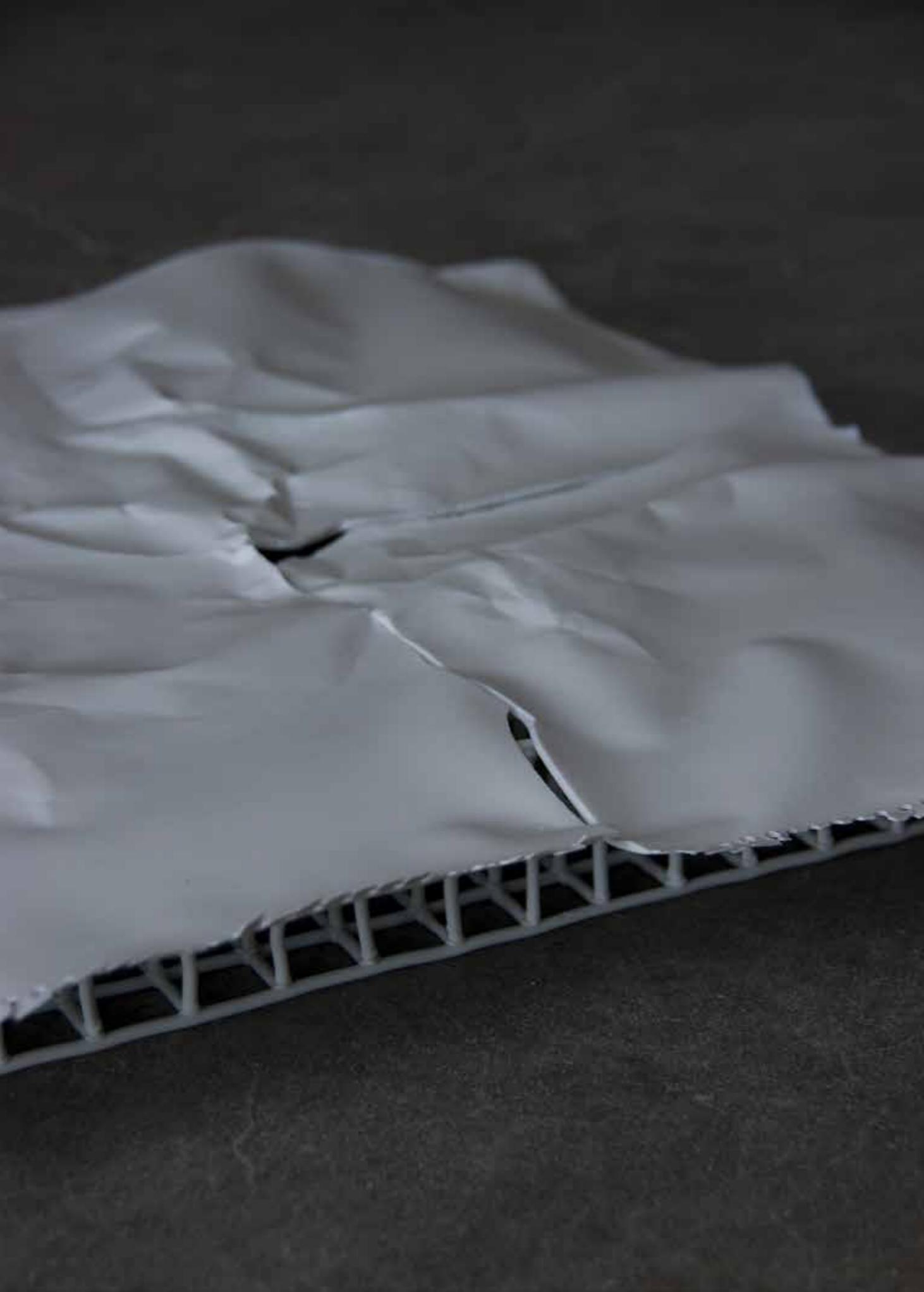


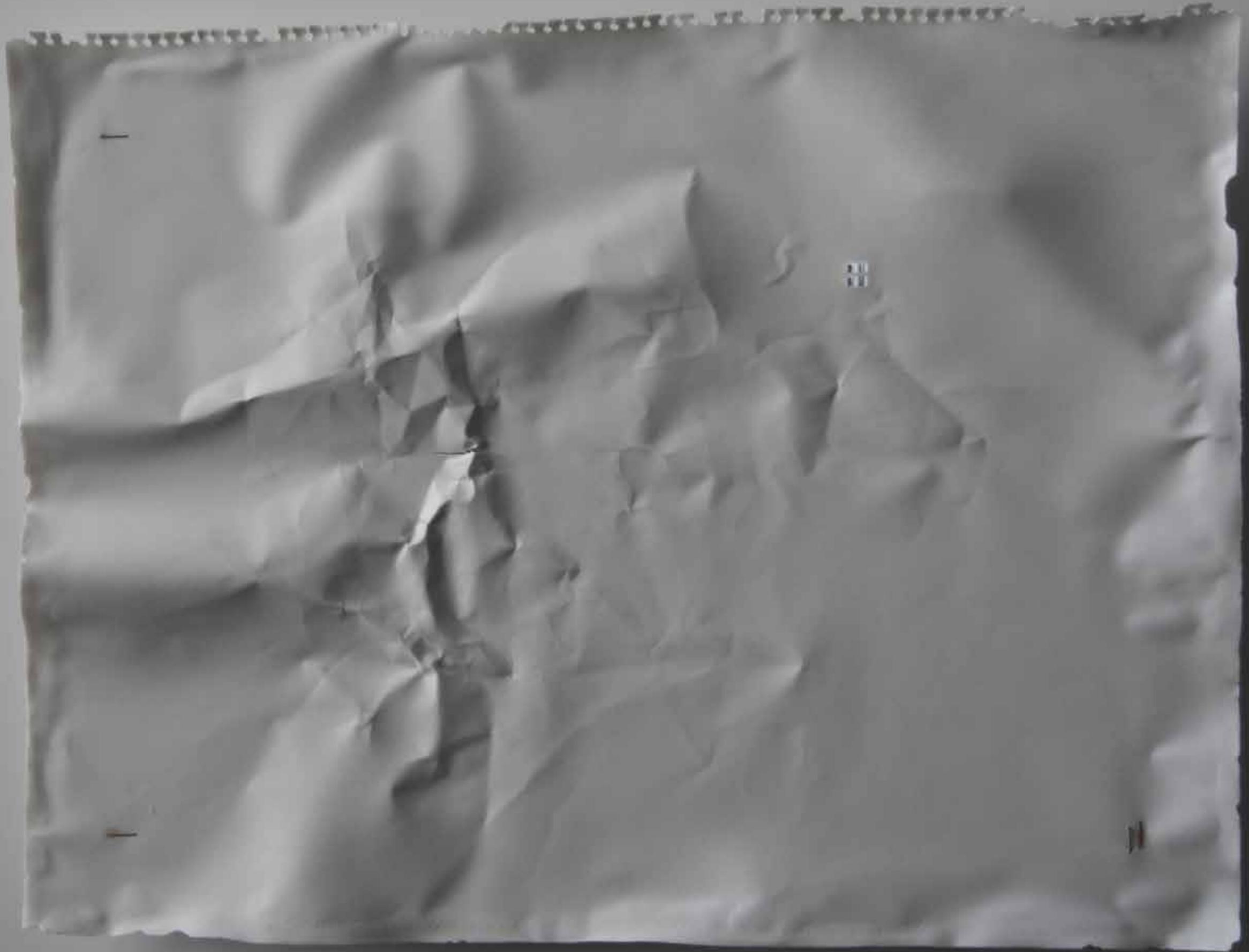


"I would say my focus is usually on objects that can fit in hand. It might be the close connection, the fit-to-grab size, the technical limits... I don't know. My hand is my best measurement, my channel to the material world, to touch, to feel. Object for table is a smaller group of this kind. Objects on table with function are usually about food and eating, connected to everyone, and used every day."



hide and seek | porcelain sculptures, 2012





Pro futuro

"Time might not be a procedure as such, but it is an important ingredient. The process usually takes time. Some projects start slow, coming along from my mind silently, slowly take space, desire my attention, and demand shape.

Other ideas come from who-knows-where, quickly and spontaneously, usually when there is material in my hands. Physical work and creative thinking fuel each other.

The idea is one thing. A good thing, a good start. I like to start with a notion, an idea of what I want to achieve but it is through constant dialog with the material that things take shape.

Ceramics requires knowledge, attention and endless patience. I rely on my senses. Touch, smell, sight... Respect for the material.

Working with porcelain is a time consuming occupation, and all powerful elements are involved: Earth, Water, Air, Fire, Time, and myself. All these are necessary to go through and consider during the process. We compromise and work together. I start a piece, and they finish it."



dish with a lid | porcelain dish in wooden lid, 2007



monochrom | pattern for tableware, 2006



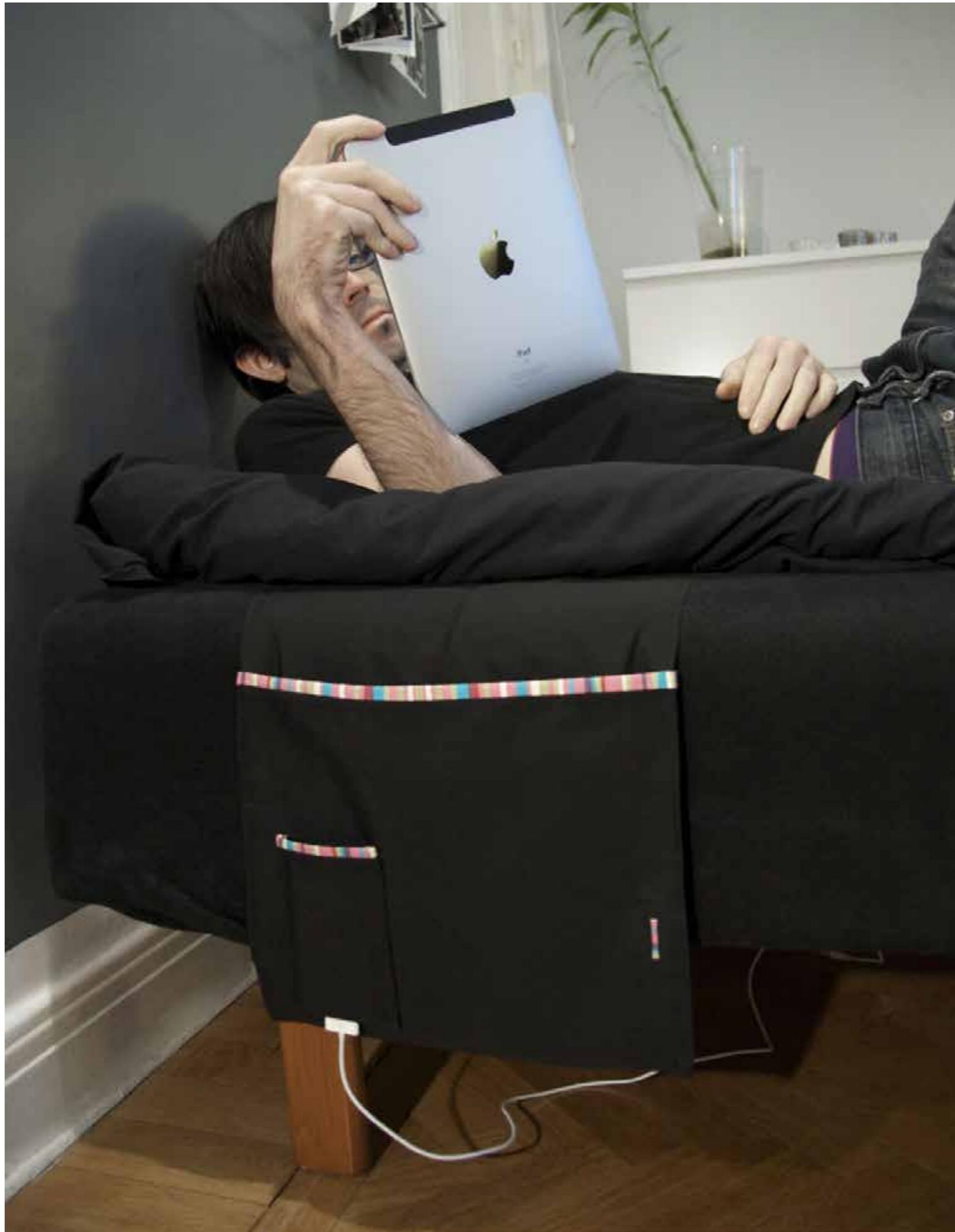
paper tray | porcelain tray, 2012



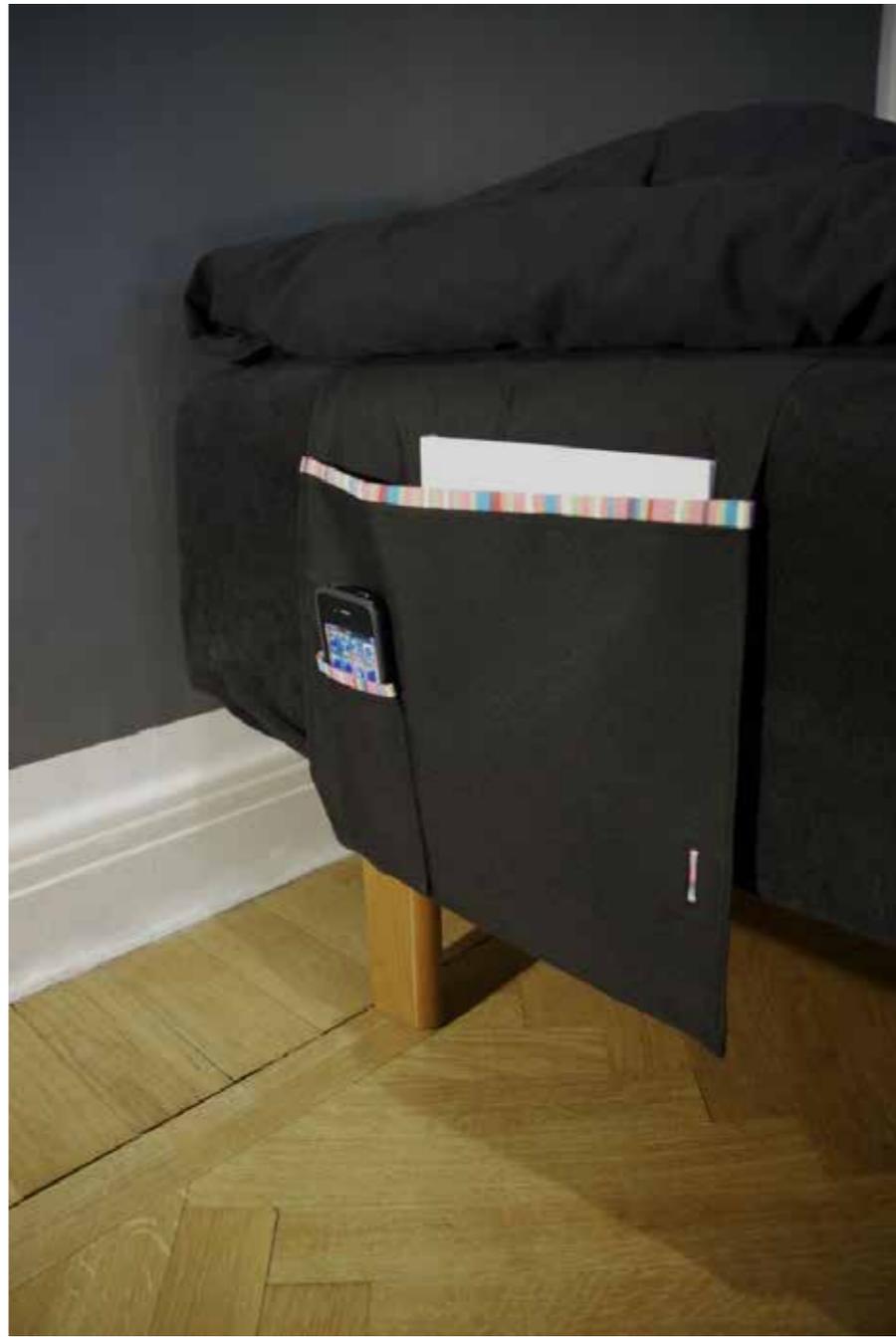


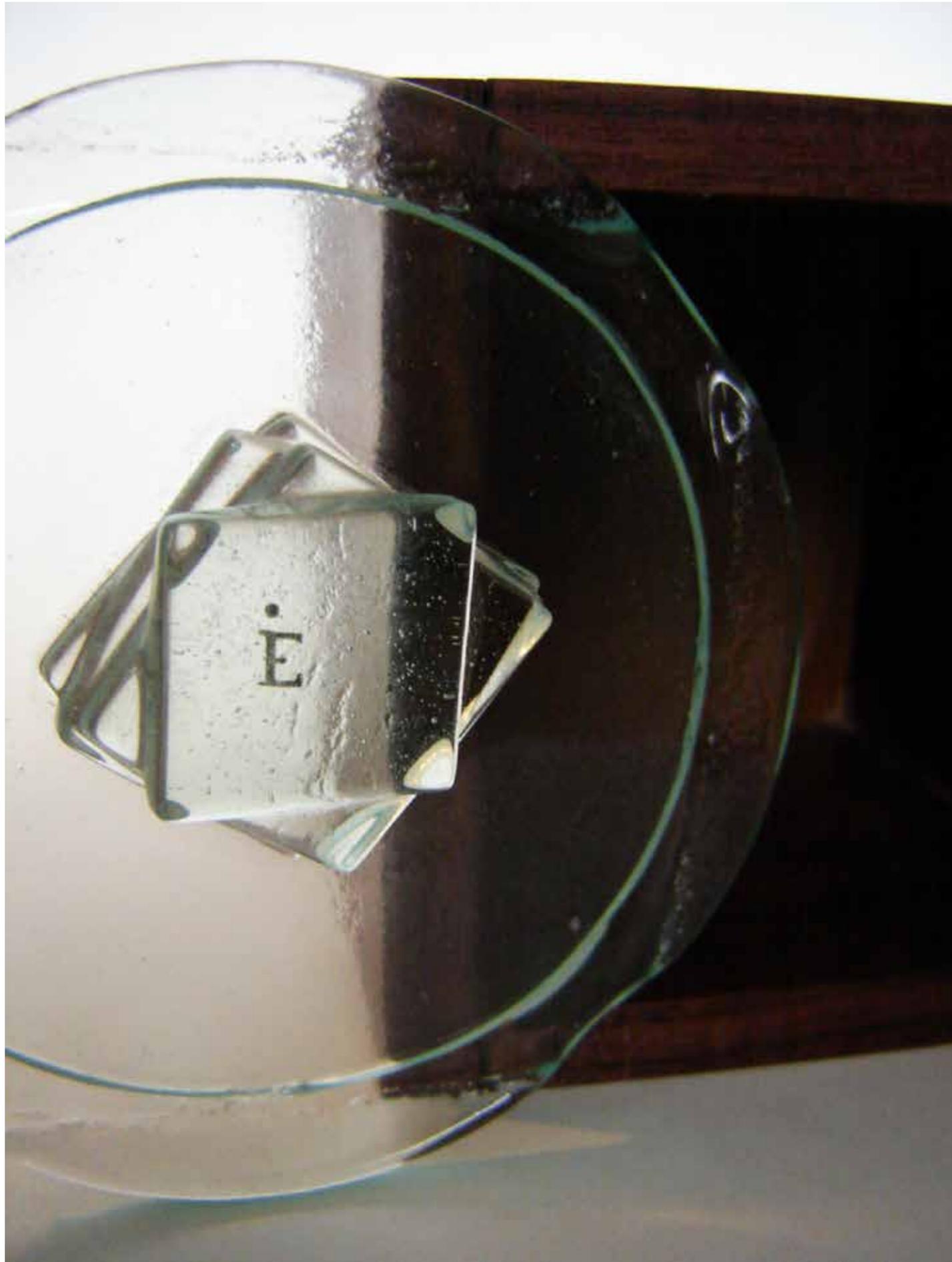


"Keep me alive. Satisfy my sensations. Fill my hunger, give me energy to renew the power of creating every day. Feed my nose with sweet smell and fill my soul with warm joy. Feed the hunger of my eyes to beauty. Calm my mind, convince me. Give harmony to me through my body."



night pockets | storage for small living space, 2011





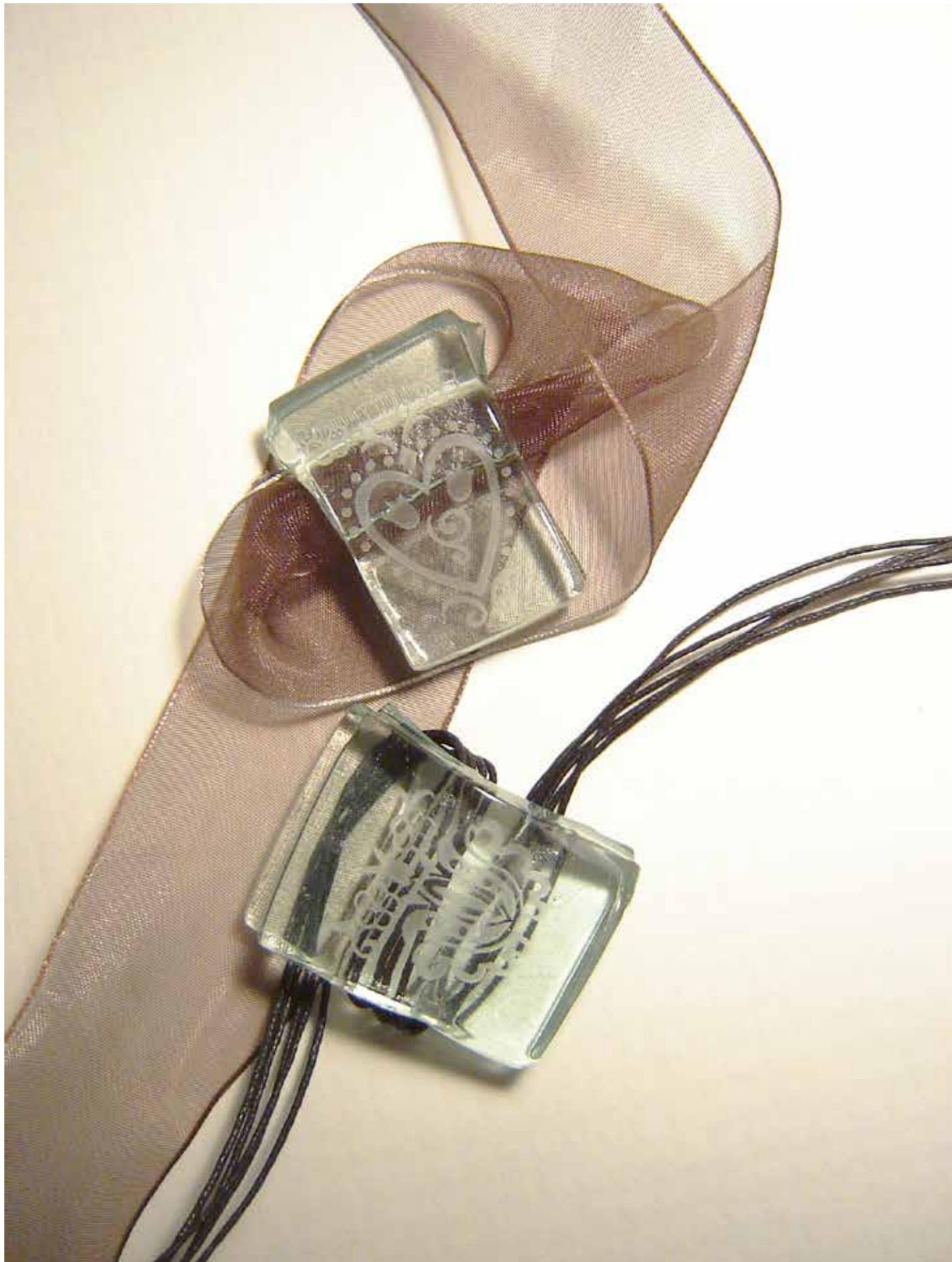
bio dish set | wooden box with glass lid, 2007





3 parts | glass snack bowl, 2007



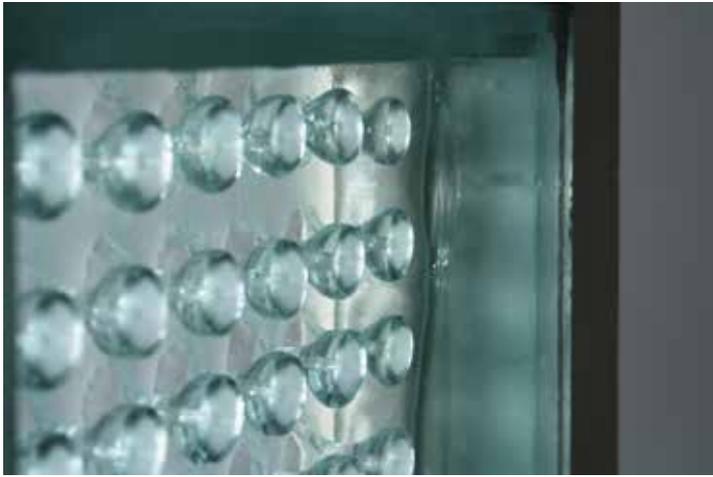


once upon a time | glass jewellery for Zwack, 2008





fascinating surface | glass brick, 2008



» eszter imre

designer and ceramic artist

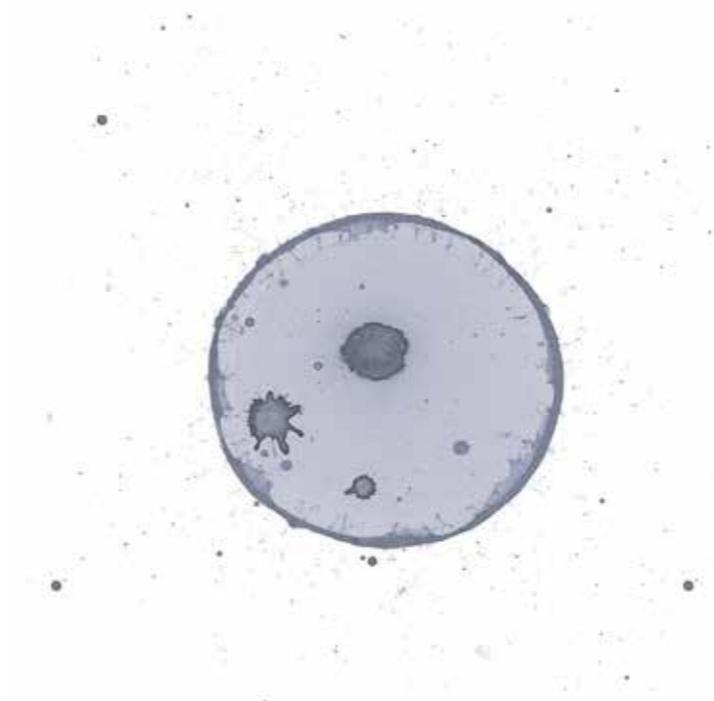
please visit www.imreszti.com
and also www.imreszti.tumblr.com
contact me eszti@imreszti.com

photos

credits and special mentions

pages 5-9 Vivienne Balla
page 40 Kata Kis
page 22 Zoltán Rácskai
pages 26/55 Gunter Binsack
pages 15-19 MatsRingquist
pages 14/15/18/23 JohannesHolmberg
pages 31-34 Róbert Mosberger

all other photos taken by eszter imre



The End.