

#### **PRESS INFORMATION**

# ANDERS GESEHEN—A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. AFRICAN CERAMICS FROM THE COLLECTION OF FRANZ, DUKE OF BAVARIA

PRESS CONFERENCE: THURS 26.9.2019, 11 A.M. OPENING: THURS 26.9.2019, 7 P.M. EXHBITION DURATION: 27.9.2019 – 29.3.2020

In July 2017, the extraordinarily diverse, exquisite, and extensive collection of African ceramics from the nineteenth to the twenty-first century from the collection of Franz, Duke of Bavaria was given as a donation and a permanent loan to Die Neue Sammlung – The Design Museum. It consists of ceramic vessels and figures, spanning a vast region of the African continent. The collection is focused on ceramic items crafted using a hand-building technique, forgoing the use of a potter's wheel. Apart from the northern regions, this technique is prevalent throughout the entire continent. In its scope, the precision of its selection, and the quality of each piece, the collection, which Franz, Duke of Bavaria has been acquiring since the 1970s, is considered one of the most internationally significant collections of African ceramics. The donation of the collection to a public institution means that it will now be presented and made accessible to both researchers and the general public; many of the objects on display are presented here for the first time.

The exhibition features more than 250 objects in a site-specific installation by internationally renowned London architect Asif Khan, who is currently also working on the redesign of the new Museum of London as well as the Center of Contemporary Culture in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The title "Andersgesehen" (A different perspective) references the distinctive nature of the new contextualization. In a museum of design and applied art, the African ceramic items can be seen first and foremost from a creative and artistic point of view and received from different perspectives. Consequently, it is possible to create a presentation that establishes a new, design-focused viewpoint.

The Neue Sammlung's own holdings comprise over fifteen thousand ceramic items. The Münchner Bund collection, established in 1911, forms part of the Neue Sammlung and, with five hundred ceramic pieces from China and Japan, has a clear international focus. The collection of African ceramic items closes a geographical gap with an outstanding inventory in terms of both quality and quantity.

The exhibition will provide information on the wealth of forms and functions of the African ceramic items, as well as the different contexts of their creation. Instead of a presentation organized by region, the aim of this exhibition is a design historical examination of the vessels and figures, starting with the objects themselves. This approach enables a new, fresh look at ceramic production in Africa, examining form, function, decor, and materiality.



The exhibition will be accompanied by a 447-page catalogue published by the Verlag der Buchhandlung Walther König, in which international experts (Kim Bagley, Marla C. Berns, Boureima Diamitani, Stefan Eisenhofer, Caroline Fuchs, Olivier Gosselain, Karin Guggeis, Alexandre Livingstone Smith, Angelika Nollert, Magdalene Odundo, Sylvester Okwunodu Ogbechie, Elizabeth Perrill, Kerstin Pinther, Barbara Plankensteiner, Nii O. Quarcoopome, Josef Straßer, Barbara Thompson, Nanashaitu Aduke Umoru-Ọkỳe,´ Moira Vincentelli, and Julien Volpers) will shed light on individual aspects and areas of the collection (ISBN 978-3-96098-708-6).

The exhibition is complemented by a varied accompanying program of workshops, interactive guided tours, and talks.

ACCOMPANYING PROGRAM (SAMPLE):

### PUBLIC TALK

TUES 3.12.2019 | 6.30 P.M. | Pinakothek der Moderne, Ernst von Siemens Auditorium with Jabulile Nala

### **CERAMIC WORKSHOP**

WED 4.12.2019 | 9 A.M. – 2 P.M. | Haus der Eigenarbeit (HEI) | Wörthstraße 42 | 81667 Munich with Jabulile Nala

South African ceramicist Jabulile Nala (born 1969) is one of the best-known contemporary Zulu ceramicists. The craft has been passed down in her family from generation to generation for over one hundred years. In the workshop she will introduce participants to the basics of Zulu pottery and share practical skills for hand building ceramic items as well as her knowledge of the forms and history of South African ceramics.

Please register for the ceramic workshop at <u>info@die-neue-sammlung.de</u>, Max. 8 people | Cost: 50 Euro (includes materials)

#### PUBLIC TALK

Connexions Talk Series THURS 30.1.2020 | 6.30 P.M. | Pinakothek der Moderne, Ernst von Siemens Auditorium with Clive Sithole

### **CERAMIC WORKSHOP**

FRI 31.1.2020 | 9 A.M. – 2 P.M. | Haus der Eigenarbeit (HEI) | Wörthstraße 42 | 81667 Munich with Clive Sithole

Clive Sithole (born 1971) is one of the most best-known and influential contemporary ceramicists in South Africa. He first learned the craft from his relatives and later studied at the Bartel Arts Trust Center in Durban. His teachers included the great masters Nesta Nala and Magdalene Odundo, among others. In the workshop, Clive Sithole will introduce participants to the basics of Zulu pottery and also share his knowledge of its forms, history, and production.



Please register for the ceramic workshop at <u>info@die-neue-sammlung.de</u>, Max. 8 people | Cost: 50 Euro (includes materials)

## PUBLIC TALK

with Asif Khan Connexions Talk Series

THURS 19.3.2020 | 6.30 P.M. | Pinakothek der Moderne, Ernst von Siemens Auditorium Asif Khan is one of the most internationally sought-after architects of recent years. Founded in London in 2007, his studio portfolio includes public buildings as well as landscape and exhibition architecture. He is currently working on the redesign of the new Museum of London as well as the Center of Contemporary Culture in Almaty, Kazakhstan. In his talk Khan will explain in greater detail his design for the exhibition "Anders gesehen. Afrikanische Keramik aus der Sammlung Herzog Franz von Bayern" (A different perspective. African ceramics from the collection of Franz, Duke of Bavaria).

### INTERACTIVE GUIDED TOURS

In dialogue with the exhibition "Anders gesehen. Afrikanische Keramik" (A different perspective. African ceramics).

Young academics will accompany you through the exhibition and discuss the design and the context of the objects with you.

SUN 1 P.M. 29.9.2019 / 27.10.2019 / 24.11.2019 / 22.12.2019 / 19.1.2020 / 16.2.2020 / 15.3.2020

THURS 5.30 P.M. 10.10.2019 / 7.11.2019 / 5.12.2019 / 2.1.2020 / 30.1.2020 / 27.2.2020 / 26.3.2020



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FURTHER INFORMATION

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