

**GALERIE
DE L'ANCIENNE
POSTE**

9 September - 2 November 2023

SARA FLYNN

RECENT WORKS

La Galerie de l'Ancienne Poste is pleased to present for the second time in France a new body of unreleased works by famous Irish artist Sara Flynn, whose every exhibition is quite an event. The show will unveil thirty works specially created and selected for the occasion and emblematic of the ceramicist's artistic process.

"Sara Flynn describes her work as a solitary and experimental occupation in the safety of the studio: the pieces are thrown, then subjected to the work of the hands that explore the potential transformations of the initial shape. She cuts, pulls, pinches, twists, folds and stitches back up, deconstructing the basic pot form which she turns into a sculpture by following the material's suggestions and requirements. 'What shapes my work (no pun intended) is the material. Literally and metaphorically. Understanding the qualities of the material is the single biggest factor in developing new work and expressing the forms that are fundamental to make the work my own.' The pieces arise not from a preconceived idea or preexisting design, but from the work of the hand thrust into the heart of the material, exploring it, experimenting it and constructing it. Hence, perhaps, the very physical dimension of these works, the weight of their existence, their carnal density, reinforced by some kind of human-like feel, and magnified by such varied and rich glazes, stemming in turn from incessant experimenting (sumptuous matt, velvety or silky blacks, luminous pale greens, "living" glazes full of germination and blossoming...). There is a feeling here that ceramics is a laboratory where, at the condensed scale of a vase or a bowl, the essential potentialities of sculpture, the infinity of possible forms and surfaces can be experimented with such a perfect, technical mastery and definition of the shapes that each of these formal variations arouses amazement and emotion."

Manuel Jover, journalist and art critic, exhibition catalogue excerpt.

Sara Flynn was born in Cork, Ireland in 1971, and trained in the Crawford College of Art & Design, Cork City, Ireland. Having begun her career in 1999 producing small-scale functional pots, as her skill has increased she has moved entirely into making one-off Sculptural Decorative Vessels.

She is represented in London by Erskine, Hall & Coe, Mayfair, London, England and Galerie de l'Ancienne Poste, Toucy, France.

Sara Flynn's work is displayed in numerous private and public international collections, including The Victoria & Albert Museum London, England; The Devonshire Collection at Chatsworth House, England; The National Museum of Ireland; The Gardiner Museum, Toronto, Canada; The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, England, U.K., The Art Institute of Chicago, U.S.A. and The Hepworth Gallery, England.

She was shortlisted for the inaugural edition of the Loewe Foundation Craft Prize in 2017. She has been a member of the Experts Panel for the Loewe Foundation Craft Prize each year since 2018 and will be on the Panel again in 2024.

Press contact and photographs on request:

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Galerie de l'Ancienne Poste is open from Thursday to Sunday included, from 10.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 3.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

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