Installation - Kinder Trail

Object: Installation

Place of origin: South East Queensland (made)

Date: 2010 (made)

Artist/Maker: Hanssen Pigott, Gwyn, born 1935 - died 2013 (maker)

Materials and Techniques: Glazed porcelain

Credit Line: Acquired through the generosity of Gerard and Sarah Griffin

Museum number: C.16:1 to 14-2010

Gallery location: In Storage

Public access description

Australian artist Gwyn Hanssen Pigott is a pioneer of ceramic still life and installation art, and her work has had considerable influence. Like many of Hanssen Pigott's linear groups, 'Kinder trail' makes a gentle allusion to a procession of figures. Its title refers to the artist's perception of the pieces as vulnerable, like child refugees moving in a column.

Descriptive line

Installation of glazed porcelain beakers and bowls, 'Kinder Trail', by Gwyn Hanssen Pigott, Australia, 2010.

Physical description

Installation piece comprising ten beakers and four bowls in glazed porcelain, arranged in a linear fashion with precisely defined internal groupings.

Dimensions

Length: 128 cm Installed work, Height: 16 cm greatest height, Depth: 18 cm Installed work

Museum number

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Object history note


In common with other related works, this piece makes an allusion to a procession of figures. The artist indicated that the title had been chosen because she felt the pieces to be vulnerable, like child refugees moving in a column.

In an interview with Craft Australia in 2011, Hanssen Pigott explains this idea further:

Craft Australia:
A review in 1995 described your vessels as an assembly of 'characters', each group a family and each exhibition a 'village'. What leads you to constructing this sense of character and narrative with pots when you present your exhibitions?

Gwyn Hanssen Pigott:
I suppose they are like families. I give names to my groupings of pots based on how they look and feel to me. For example, a group of pots that are small and looking vulnerable, I might call 'Exodus'. This is because it reminds me of a group or trail of children who are refugees. Or, another group, I might call 'Waiting' and it might suggest a group of people waiting at a gate, waiting to get in. I don't design the groups beforehand. I make the pots and after the firing, I see how they might relate.


URL

http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O1227450/kinder-trail-installation-hanssen-pigott-gwyn/