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press release

Thomas Eyck presents "Withering Tableware"

by Studio Maarten Kolk & Guus Kusters

Thomas Eyck commissioned Studio Maarten Kolk & Guus Kusters to develop a collection in porcelain. They designed a series of tableware entitled "Withering Tableware". This eight-piece hand painted floral dining set is produced by the renown Royal Tichelaar Makkum (est. 1572).

Traditionally, paintwork on fine china is applied by hand, making it a labour intensive thus costly craft. Over the course of last year Maarten Kolk & Guus Kusters developed glazing recipes which do not require craftsmen to paint the crockery directly, but rather, the mold before the product is cast. In this way several copies of one painting can be made. After each cast the glaze further washes away and crumbles, drawing a clear parallel with withering flowers in nature. The image of the flower is clear and sharp after the first cast, withering and fading after multiple reproductions. With this collection Studio Maarten Kolk & Guus Kusters balance nature and production culture, emphasizing the beauty of both worlds. The service set consist of two plates and bowls, a cup, carafe, platter and a vase in 6 or 9 different decorations.

The glaze research of "Withering Tableware" is supported by Sundaymorning@ekwc and Creative Industries Fund NL.

Maarten Kolk (1980) en Guus Kusters (1979) both graduated with honor at the Design Academy Eindhoven in 2006 and work together since 2009. They develop autonomous projects and work as exhibition designers and curators. The poetry they find in nature, history, color and landscape are the foundation of their work. They try to translate this into objects, material applications, exhibitions and innovative production methods. Studio Maarten Kolk & Guus Kusters exhibited their work among others at Sotheby's London, Zuiderzeemuseum Enkhuizen, Textielmuseum Tilburg, Museum Boijmans van Beuningen Rotterdam and Design Museum Holon and is acquired by several museums and private collectors.

Thomas Eyck publishes and distributes characteristic and exclusive contemporary design products. The company values the care and love for choosing materials to work with, its producers and production techniques as well as the skill and creativity of its designers. Thomas Eyck chooses the designers he collaborates with based on their handwriting. Yearly one or two designers are commissioned to design a series of products in a given material; the collection develops slowly. The on-going search for materials to discover has so far led to collections in pewter, willow wood, flax, copper, paper, wool, porcelain and leather by leading international designers such as Studio Job, Scholten & Baijings, Christien Meindertsma, Aldo Bakker, RaR, Irma Boom and Dick van Hoff. The Thomas Eyck pieces form part of the permanent collection of, among others, Victoria & Albert Museum London, Cooper Hewitt Museum New York, Musee d'Art Decorative Paris, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam and Zuiderzeemuseum Enkhuizen.

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exhibition during salone del mobile, april 8-13, 2014

spazio rossana orlandi. via matteo bandello 14-16. milan

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