

NKDWare unveils 'Centring the Clay', a journey behind the process of the potter's wheel at London Design Festival

Islington Design District | Islington Square 18-26 September 2021





Lift vases and breakfast plate by NKDWare © NKDWare 2021

This September, London-based ceramics brand **NKDWare** will present '**Centring the Clay**', an exhibition showcasing the usually hidden processes behind the potter's wheel. Featuring its new *Lift* collection, exclusively available during the London Design Festival, alongside its inaugural *Potter's Wheel* series, NKDWare's pop-up exhibit will run from Saturday 18th until Sunday 26th September 2021.

Kirsi Enkovaara, Founder and Design Director of NKDWare, explains: "With 'Centring the Clay', I wanted to share the fascinating journey of the creation of ceramic objects – from the makers to the owners – revealing the often-invisible crafting process. I believe that the unique qualities of local materials, the processes of the individual pottery techniques and the inherent skill of the maker, all culminate to

fashion the NKDWare ceramics – these attributes, which are the essence of the products, should be celebrated."

The *Lift* collection embodies the moment when the wet clay is lifted from the wheel while the *Potter's Wheel* vases mirror the rotating movement of the wheel, with the maker's touch becoming inherent to the design of the ceramics.

The new *Lift* collection comprises a three-piece breakfast set and an assortment of vases. Expanding NKDWare's typology to everyday objects, the *Lift* breakfast set, which includes a bowl, a plate and a mug, has been designed to expose the inherent imprints – and beautiful imperfections – of the crafting process.



Lift breakfast bowls by NKDWare © NKDWare 2021

Also on exhibit is the **Potter's Wheel** collection, the result of a collaboration between NKDWare and three ceramicists based in London, Paris, and Bangkok. The brand's debut range – launched last year but never-before-exhibited – consists of three series of vases, which are named after their cities of origin and made from local clay.

In addition, NKDWare will host '**Off Centre**', an ever-evolving installation developed in collaboration with visitors to the exhibition. NKDWare's space will fill through a programme of workshops where visitors will have the opportunity to experiment with

a potter's wheel and test-make decorative objects that resemble organic and distorted vases, The workshops will revisit the primary principle of the potter's wheel technique whereby the clay is forced on the centre of the wheel in order to create a symmetric shape.





'Off Centre' experiments by NKDWare © NKDWare 2021

Instead visitors will be encouraged to place the clay off centre to explore the sorts of forms that can be created when the process is not traditionally observed. With this method, no two objects can be the same and the moment of making is permanently ingrained within the final piece.

Over the course of the Festival, these intriguing sculptures will create an continually developing installation of disparate clay objects, thus evoking the human presence behind the wheel.

Book a workshop session via Eventbrite here.



Potter's Wheel vases by NKDWare © NKDWare 2021

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Notes to Editors

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Press Information

'Centring the Clay' by NKDWare London Design Festival Islington Design District

Address: Islington Square, N1 1AB

Exhibition: Saturday 18 - Sunday 26 September | 11am - 7pm Press View: Wednesday 22 September | 5 - 6pm (invitation only) Drinks: Wednesday 22 September | 6 - 9pm (invitation only) Workshops: Saturday 18 - Sunday 26 September | 4pm - 6:30pm

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About NKDWare

NKDWare is a ceramic brand that was founded by London-based product designer Kirsi Enkovaara in September 2020. Each collection celebrates the methodology behind the ceramic-making process, and advocates a transparent approach to manufacturing while highlighting the origins of the materials. Kirsi creates the typology for each of the collections, and her chosen makers select local materials and begin their craft. The resulting pieces are imbued with the spirit of "same-but-different".

<u>nkdware.com</u> | @nkdware

About Kirsi Enkovaara

Kirsi Enkovaara is a London-based product designer, Founder and Design Director of ceramic brand NKDWare. Masters graduate of the Royal College of Art, London, her work combines an artistic design practice with a professional expertise in high-street homeware. Kirsi seeks to humanise mass-production and to develop innovative solutions for ethical retail. Originally from Finland, she has lived and worked in England, Spain, and Thailand, shaping her international perspective on design.