

CAREFUL, IT'S FRAGILE!

CERAMICS AND GLASS no longer fall into simple categories like 'functional' or 'pretty'. Designers are using these materials to communicate facts and to underline traditions.



01 ONETEAKETTLE

Winner of the 2009 World Kitchen Tea Off competition, Oneteakettle was 'designed with both boiling and serving in mind'. As the filled kettle heats on the stove, graphics on its surface – applied with thermochromic ink – slowly appear until they are fully visible and the tea is ready. A magnetic trivet allows the kettle to be placed safely on a table.

Vessel Ideation
vesselideation.com

02 TEA TIME BY ANIEK MEELDIJK

Omitting shadows would be a shame: it's a thought that surely occurred to Aniek Meeldijk as she approached the design of her otherwise rather traditional tea set. Intangible outlines ask not only to be used, but also to be seen and experienced. This takes time. Tea time.

aniekmeeldijk.com

03 NEUTRAL/STEEL GREY BANDED BOTTLE BY CALEB SIEMON

The rich hues and undulating topography of Southern California provide Caleb Siemon with inspiration for his collection of 'banded bottles'. Siemon applies alternating layers of opaque and transparent colour to clear, lead-free crystal. Where colours overlap, new ones are formed, adding depth to the various vases and vessels.

calebsiemon.com

04 LOOKING GLASS BY SEBASTIAN BERGNE

Surely *Alice in Wonderland* flashes to mind when you see this upside-down decanter made of borosilicate glass. Sebastian Bergne's Looking Glass features a liquid-filled magnifying lens. Place the carafe next to food, objects or table guests for an exaggerated view of reality.

sebastianbergne.com

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05 SKY PLANTER BY PATRICK MORRIS

Patrick Morris's Sky Planter invites us to look up and enjoy plants from a unique perspective. No longer will pot plants be relegated to an out-of-the-way corner. A simple locking disc holds both plant and soil in place, and a revolutionary reservoir system gradually feeds water to the roots of the plant. Visit YouTube to see how it works.

Boskke
boskke.com

06 DOMSAI BY MATTEO CIBIC

Little hand-blown bell jars on ceramic legs add a spark of personality – and a green manifesto – to the office or home environment. Handcrafted in Italy, each Domsai is unique. The dome can be lifted when the plant needs watering.

Monotono
monotono.it

07 POLAROID FLOWER VASE BY JUNG HWA-JIN

A new take on the perennial pendant lamp, Polaroid Flower Vase reflects both a desire to cherish old memories and a nod to nature. Jung Hwa-Jin's design features a tiny pot and a Polaroid-size frame with a built-in light that illuminates the plant and encourages it to grow.

junghwajin.com

08 LP 08 // D1.2.1 BY LAURA PREGGER

By cutting and combining existing objects, altering surfaces, and manipulating the function of finished and half-finished pieces of porcelain, Laura Pregger provides everyday objects with new contexts. Her work is defined by contrasts such as 'traditional versus contemporary' and 'familiar versus strange'.

laurapregger.ch

09 CONTEM/PLATE BY JAY BAKKER

Jay Bakker covered Wedgwood plates with images of graffiti found along Dutch motorway A2. He combined these photographs with a gold 'working mechanism' that depicts coronary vascular disease.

jaybakker.nl

10 AIR 1 AQUARIUM BY AMAURY POUDRAY

French designer Amaury Poudray has created an elegant object that he says creates 'a link between two materials': tenuous steel legs support a sleek, elongated glass aquarium. He also compares the design to 'writing, which combines letters to create meaning'. The fish, unfortunately, declined to be interviewed.

USIN-e Designers
usin-e.fr

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