

Pressemitteilung

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Special exhibition "MORE THAN BRICKS! Tradition and Future of Architectural Ceramics".

20.03. – 03.10.2021

Press release for the trade press

Porzellanikon - State Museum for Porcelain, Selb site

*What do Stralsund's town hall, the royal castle of Frederiksborg, the entrance gate to the 1900 Paris World Exhibition, the Zollfrank mine, the New Synagogue in Mainz or the Brandhorst Museum in Munich have in common? In all these buildings, architects and builders have used ceramics in various ways to create the aesthetic appearance of the exterior. The special exhibition **"MORE THAN BRICKS! Tradition and Future of Architectural Ceramics"**, which will be on show at Porzellanikon in Selb from 20 March to 3 October 2021.*

"MORE THAN BRICKS! Tradition and Future of Architectural Ceramics" is an exhibition for architecture-loving professionals, the interested layman and the whole family. 600 m² of exhibition space offer visitors the opportunity to trace the development of this multi-faceted material, to experience the variety of uses of ceramics as an aesthetic design element and to learn about its possibilities for future-oriented, sustainable architecture. A tour of the city, staged by large-format architectural photographs and numerous screens, takes visitors past shops, churches, castles and factory buildings in which ceramics play an important role as a design element. It not only offers architects and those interested in building a view of what has already been created, but also provides inspiring and explanatory impulses for future projects. 80 exhibits from domestic and foreign museums and collections, from the Middle Ages to the present day, from small painted tiles to sculptural architectural ceramics and entire façade sections, present the dimensions, colourfulness, artistic quality, materiality and effect of architectural ceramics. Particularly noteworthy are a Gothic capital decoration from the Chorin monastery, Italian majolica reliefs of the Renaissance, a Neptune figure for the Dianabad in Vienna by Michael Powolny, terracottas from Schinkel's Bauakademie in Berlin, contemporary ceramic elements for the panelling of the synagogue in Mainz as well as the M9 museum quarter in Mestre (Italy) and others. A highlight of the

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exhibition is the specially created digital reconstruction of the Porte Monumentale, the former entrance gate to the Paris World Exhibition in 1900. With the help of VR glasses it is possible to experience this prominent and monumental building and to see the ceramic works of important French artists used in it as they were installed at that time and as they were perceived by the visitors of the World Exhibition. Five of the original relief plates with animal motifs, which the Musée des Arts Décoratifs in Paris has made available for the exhibition, illustrate the aesthetic effect of the glazed ceramics.

After visiting the exhibition, everyone will know: Ceramics in architecture was and is an important part of our living environment and can continue to shape it in the future!

A more in-depth, scientific approach to the subject of architectural ceramics is provided by the richly illustrated accompanying publication. Eight authors from different professions shed light on a specific point in the long, multi-faceted history of the use of ceramic components and decorative elements in architecture. On the other hand, a symposium to be held at Porzellanikon in September 2021 will provide an opportunity for a joint exchange on the subject. The event, organised by Porzellanikon and the Bavarian Chamber of Architects, is aimed at architects, art historians, monument conservators, ceramists and all those interested in the subject. Historical aspects, practical reports and above all questions about the future will be presented and discussed in speeches and workshops.

Further information:

www.porzellanikon.org

Please send your enquiries about the exhibition directly to:

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