

Press release

10 February 2022

SPECIAL EXHIBITION

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

20 March - 3 October 2022

Porzellanikon - State Museum of Porcelain, Selb site

Most people associate a stroll through town with shopping, eating out or drinking coffee, and they look at the displays in the shop windows. But who pays attention to the buildings and their architecture that house the restaurants, cafés and boutiques we love to visit? Even a few metres higher above a shop door often offers a view of the beautiful façades of the buildings, showing the architectural ceramics used in them in their most beautiful facets. 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 2022, will show visitors the diversity of the use of ceramic decorative elements in architecture. The exhibition is aimed at families, the interested layman as well as an architecture-loving public.

The special exhibition is designed like a stroll through the city. It takes visitors past shops, churches, castles and factory buildings in which ceramics play an important role as an aesthetic design element. In a spacious and colourful exhibition area, authentically and vividly staged by large-format architectural photographs and numerous screens, visitors can trace the development of this multifaceted material and experience the diversity of uses of ceramics. For thousands of years, fired clay in the most varied forms has inspired builders and architects to use it in the most diverse ways. Depending on the epoch, sometimes more or sometimes less. The exhibition shows visitors that ceramics have always been used, are still used today and even have great potential for contemporary and future-oriented architecture.

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 to entire façade sections, present the dimensions, colourfulness, artistic quality as well as the materiality and effect of architectural ceramics. A special highlight of the exhibi-

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Die Sonderausstellung „MORE THAN BRICKS! – Tradition und Zukunft der Architekturkeramik“ wird realisiert mit freundlicher Unterstützung von:

CERAMICS AND ITS DIMENSIONS:



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tion is the specially created digital reconstruction of the Porte Monumentale, the former entrance gate to the Paris World's Fair in 1900. With the help of VR glasses, it is possible to experience this prominent and monumental building and to see the ceramic works used by important French artists as they were installed at the time and as visitors to the World's Fair saw them. After the visit, everyone will know: Ceramics in architecture was and is an important part of our living environment and will continue to shape it in the future!

For the first time in a special exhibition at Porzellanikon, hands-on stations for children, families and adult play children are directly integrated into the exhibition. And what could be more appropriate for this theme than building blocks in all sizes, shapes and colours? From full-size foam bricks to time-honoured anchor stones and Lego blocks, the special exhibition offers a playground for all builders young and old! Embellish a drab façade with colourful tiles, build your own Lego house in a miniature landscape, or design tiles yourself: There are no limits to your imagination! If you've always wanted to exhibit your own work in a museum, you've come to the right place. Because the tile pictures and houses created form part of the special exhibition and ensure that it is constantly changing and becoming more colourful.

The exhibition is accompanied by a richly illustrated and detailed publication: "MORE THAN BRICKS! Tradition and Future of Architectural Ceramics". The 336-page accompanying publication brings together contributions by eight authors. Each illuminates an aspect in the long, multi-faceted history of the use of ceramic components and decorative elements in architecture from the Middle Ages to the present day.

Further information:

www.porzellanikon.org

Please send enquiries about the exhibition directly to:

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