

Aldo Bakker

°1971, Amersfoort

lives and works in Amsterdam (NL)

www.aldobakker.com

SuperStories presents Stool no. 1, Stool no. 2, Stool no. 3, Low table, Side table and Doorhandle from the series Urushi furniture and Oilcan, Saltcellar, Oil platter, Water carafe and Vinegar flask from the series Porcelain tableware at Z33.

Aldo Bakker does not simply create forms, he is a designer*. He gives meaning to forms. He charges his objects with meanings. The language he develops to communicate with is layered and open. His objects are not unambiguous yet clear. He subscribes to the tradition of modernistic designers who have managed to develop a formal language which unites culture with nature.

Isamu Noguchi, Gio Ponti en Piero Fornasetti, Henning Koppel ... their objects are autonomous beings which seem to have spontaneously originated from the very material they are made out of. Everything seems to fit; the evident way in which they exist in the world is but an illusion. All the rounded forms are indivisibly connected and linked to each other in a 'logical' way, just like in nature. The object or being seems to have been shaped into its specific form through time and evolution.

THE FUNCTION is however but a potential function which has been determining in defining the being's final form.

Function is not to be understood in a narrow sense. For Aldo Bakker, to function also implies making the user aware of the beauty, to astonish him or her. To sit, to lick, to drink, to pour, to caress, to doubt... Aldo Bakker manages to go beyond the obvious function, to engage a wide range of primal sensory experiences.

THE MATERIAL

The way Michelangelo lets marble speak of how slaves struggled with this very material is similar to how Aldo Bakker listens to his material. The material follows 'the function' and indicates which form appears to be the right one.

Curator Koos Flinterman brings Aldo Bakker and Germaine Kruij together for SuperStories. Both manage to present the seemingly stringent and temporal modernistic idea in a more multi-faceted, humane, and natural way. What you see is not what you get.

Jan Boelen

*Design: design philosopher Vilém Flusser refers to the original significance of the word design: to signify, to give significance.