Craftica

FEBRUARY 2025
St. Moritz

Craftica Gallery
ul. Ordynacka 11
Warsaw

NOMAD
Former Klinik Gut
St. Moritz

Craftica

GALLERY

Tradition Recrafted

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Craftica Gallery
ul. Ordynacka 11
Warsaw

Craftica Gallery

Craftica is a place dedicated to promoting and selling Polish handicrafts internationally. The gallery connects creators, collectors, and enthusiasts of applied arts looking for unique collector design projects from Central and Eastern Europe.

The gallery's selection includes works by prominent Polish artists who reinterpret classic techniques of working with materials such as wood, ceramics, metal, and clay in innovative ways. Craftica's debut collection includes works by artists such as:

Marek Bimer, Bart Brylew, Formsophy, Katarzyna Harasym, Paweł Jasiewicz, Antonina Joszczuk, Mirosław Kociński, Marzena Krzemińska, Marcin Kuberna, AnnaMilczanowska, Kamila Mróz, Nadbużański Uniwersytet Ludowy, Joanna Opalska-Brzecka, Pani Jurek, Alicja Patanowska, Igor Polasiak, Justyna Poplawska, Monika Rubaniuk, Weronika Surma, Magdalena Szmydtke, Monika Szyca-Thomas, Tafla Studio, UAU Project, Magdalena Wodarczyk, Cyryl Zakrzewski, Aleksandra Zawistowska, Justyna Żak.

Located in a historic tenement in Warsaw, Craftica has the ambition to change the perception of Polish craftsmanship in the wider world, emphasizing its value in dialogue with contemporary design.

Craftica was established in November 2024 by the Starak Family Foundation as a nonprofit project. Profits from the gallery's operations support the foundation's initiatives, such as the Craftica competition, which funds the realization of projects by outstanding artists, and Wena aimed at talented young people. The foundation is also involved in the renovation and adaptation of historic buildings. One example is the project to transform the palace and park complex in Obory near Warsaw, where a museum is planned in cooperation with renowned architect Renzo Piano. The Starak Family Foundation is an institution that reaches several thousand beneficiaries annually, and since 2008 has been consistently building its status as one of the most important organizations in Poland.

The idea of the gallery was born from the long-standing passion of its initiator, Anna Wozniak-Starak, who is committed to promoting Polish artists on the international art scene. Her activities have been repeatedly appreciated: Anna Woźniak-Starak has been awarded the highest Polish distinction, the Gloria Artis Gold Medal, she is an ambassador of the Homo Faber festival in Venice, and for nearly 10 years she has also been cooperating with La Biennale di Venezia, organizing through the Starak Family Foundation exhibitions of Polish artists that are part of the festival's official program.

Nomad *„Tradition Recrafted"*

Tradition Recrafted is a collection of artistic objects made using traditional craftsmanship methods, transformed through the vision of contemporary artists.

Each piece redefines heritage, whether by using materials like dyed straw or reinterpreting classic forms.

This collection blends age-old techniques with modern creativity, celebrating the beauty and adaptability of traditional crafts while connecting the past with the present.

THURSDAY, 20 FEBRUARY - SUNDAY, 23 FEBRUARY

Former Klinik Gut
Via Arona 34
7500, St. Moritz

Marek Bimer

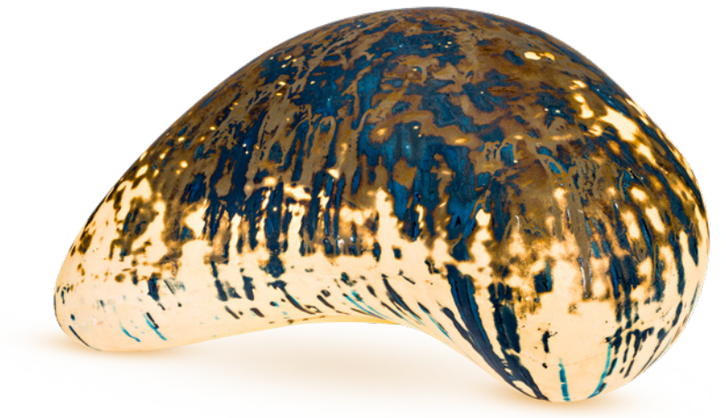
Sculptor, graphic designer, illustrator, interior and object designer.
He is considered one of the most important living and working Polish sculptors.
His famous “Lumieres-Sculptures” are light objects, in simple terms called lamps.
The artist describes them as sculptures to which he has added a new value - internal light. The combination of unusual sculptural forms with resin and fiberglass draws attention to these objects both when lit and unlit. The technique, which was developed by the author over the years, allows for the extraction of beautiful patterns and textures. Resin, when illuminated, gives an exceptionally atmospheric, warm light. The artist often combines these light forms with other materials. He adds casts of bronze patinated in various colors, bases made of stone, aluminum, wood or steel. Light objects displayed in exhibitions or used in interior arrangements often create spectacular, elaborate installations, sometimes resembling schools of fish or billowing clouds.

Marek Bimer

Galaxy

by Marek Bimer

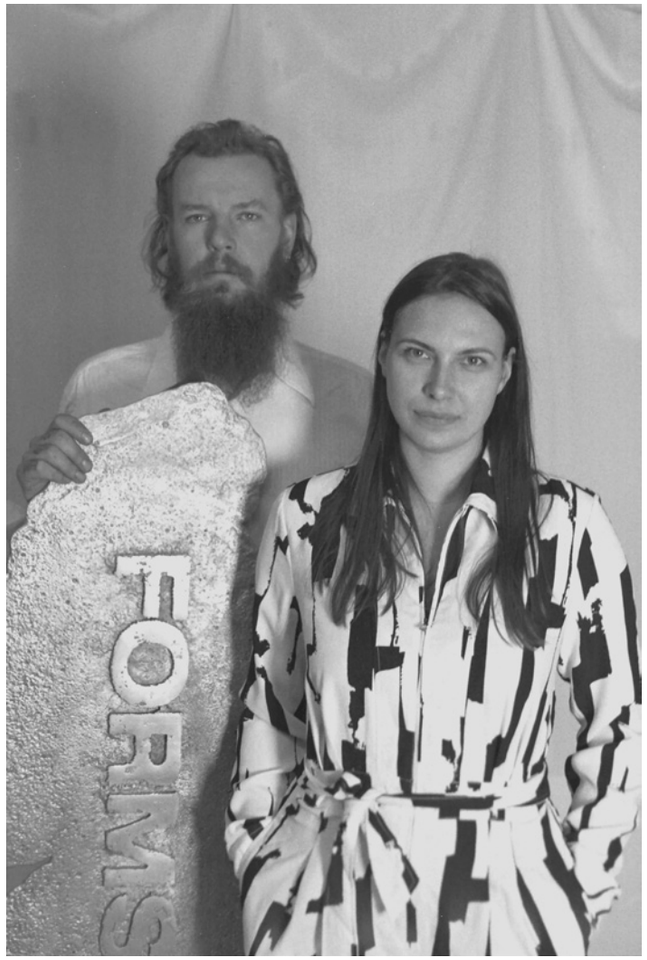
The Galaxy Lamp is an example of “Lumieres-Sculptures,” combining sculptural form with functional lighting. Made from resin and fiberglass, it captivates with its organic shape and texture, revealing abstract patterns in shades of blue and rusty tones reminiscent of landscapes. Illumination enhances the depth of colors and emits a warm glow. Inspired by dynamic forms of nature, the lamp exudes a unique aesthetic.



Date	2024
Size	45 H x 68 W x 135 D cm
Technique	Fiberglass, epoxy resin, various metals, rust
Signature	Signed by artists

Formsophy

Formsophy is the artistic practice of Alicja Prussakowska and Jakub Kijowski. Their profound fascination lies in textures, materials, and the stories these elements convey. Through a mix of traditional and experimental techniques, the studio creates sculptural objects that juxtapose a primeval aesthetic with exquisite details. The duo describes their personal style as romantic brutalism, with every composition meticulously balancing rawness with refinement, boldness with subtlety, reflecting the dynamic interplay between their individual sensibilities.



Alicja Prussakowska and Jakub Kijowski

Tore

by Formsophy

Tore is an object where the boundary between the natural and the crafted blurs. A marble monolith merges into an aluminum mass, reminiscent of rock formations shaped by nature. Only the geometric accents on the surface reveal the artist's hand. Tore tells a story of the artists' fascination with the rawness and absolute beauty of nature. The sculptural quality of Tore is evident in its intricate design and the harmonious blending of materials, creating a unique piece that stands out in any setting. This fusion of organic and geometric elements highlights the originality of the work, making it not just a sculpture, but a statement of artistic vision and craftsmanship.

Date	2024
Size	58 H x 171 W x 37,5 D cm, ~100 kg
Technique	Cast recycled aluminum, rosario marble monolith
Signature	Signed by artists

Taru

by Formsophy

The Taru Dining Table showcases individual stones and minerals meticulously assembled to form a terrazzo tabletop, complemented by four sand-cast, massive aluminum legs. This unique piece has been entirely hand-crafted by the designers. Marble, citrine, jasper and moon stones were carefully arranged into an alluring composition. The smooth finish of the tabletop's edges brings to mind stones naturally shaped by a river's flow. In crafting the aluminum legs, the designers utilized their bespoke casting technique, ensuring each leg boasts a distinct shape. The name 'Taru' stems from the Finnish word 'tarista,' which means 'to talk or tell stories'. This piece resonates with an air of enigma and a touch of the ritualistic.

Date	2023
Size	75 H x 112 W x 112 D cm, ~100 kg
Technique	Cast recycled aluminum with a terrazzo tabletop featuring stones and minerals
Signature	Signed by artists

Alicja Patanowska

Visual artist, potter, designer and doctor of arts. The embodied knowledge acquired in direct contact with the material is crucial for her artistic practice. She looks at the narratives contained in physical matter and considers the process of creating a work to be its greatest value. The artists response to the escalation of consumption chaos is to take into account the non-anthropocentric perspective in man's relationship with the world.

Alicja Patanowska

Auditory Imagination Space

by Alicja Patanowska

The sound installation – based on ceramic resonators, powerful reverberation of the pumping hall, and the composition of falling water drops – creates an acoustic environment that refers to the Japanese tradition of suikinkutsu. The sound not only determines the rhythm of the ritual, but also mediates communication between man and matter. Water connects all living things and it is essential for the proper functioning of living organisms, just like trace amounts of cobalt that make blue stains. Contemporary environmental movements drawing on the concept of soundscape pay attention to forms of interspecies communication. These mechanisms can only be discovered in the process of deep listening. Water as an environment for the propagation of sound waves, also in the bands inaudible to humans, is a symbol of the hidden and mysterious world.
Audience Award at the 18th Survival Art Review in Wroclaw, City Port, Poland
Curator: Daniel Brożek

A group of 4 objects forming an integral whole of the artistic installation.

Alicja Patanowska

Auditory Imagination Space I, II

by Alicja Patanowska

Date	2020
Size	45 H x 60 W x 50 D cm
Technique	Hand-moulded clay, stoneware
Signature	Signed by artist

Date	2020
Size	65 H x 65 W x 65 D cm
Technique	Hand-moulded clay, stoneware
Signature	Signed by artist

Auditory Imagination Space III, IV

by Alicja Patanowska

Object presented at Nomad

Date	2020
Size	150 H x 150 W x 65 D cm
Technique	Hand-moulded clay, stoneware
Signature	Signed by artist

Date	2020
Size	110 H x 110 W x 60 D cm
Technique	Hand-moulded clay, stoneware
Signature	Signed by artist

Zofia Sobolewska - Ursic

She studied architecture at dieAngewandte (University of Applied Arts) in Vienna under the guidance of Wolf D. Prix, Zaha Hadid, and Hernan Diaz Alonso.
In her studio, working under the name Zofia Sobolewska Ursic, she creates using a variety of materials: wood, glass, metal, stone and straw, whose unique qualities and the art of marquetry she mastered at the Parisian Atelier Lison de Caunes.

Currently, she is working on two projects: a collection of objects combining folk and bourgeois motifs, crafted from rye straw, and a collection of sculptural quills and inkwells titled Pensée Folle, which has been recognized by the curators of “COLLECT Design” in New York.

In 2024, she was included in the AD100 list, published for the first time by the Polish edition of Architectural Digest.

Zofia Sobolewska - Ursic

La Nature est un temple

by Zofia Sobolewska - Ursic

Inspired by Stanisław Wyspiański’s polychromes from 1895, the cabinet is crafted from raw, hand-carved oak, contrasted with a smooth, glossy surface achieved through the technique of straw marquetry. The piece combines elements of folk art with bourgeois aesthetics, evoking a narrative. A story about the shared and complex history of social classes, underscored by the artist’s personal emotional involvement.

Date	2024
Size	154 H x 105 W x 41 D cm
Technique	Dyed, pressed straw, charred oak wood, fabric
Signature	Signed by artist

Anna Bera

A sculptor and designer born in 1985 in Lechów in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains. A graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań, she is a lecturer at the School of Form SWPS in Warsaw and a member of Nów. Nowe Rzemiosło. She has been a two-time recipient of the Minister of Culture and National Heritage scholarship. She runs her own studio in Warsaw, where she primarily creates large-scale sculptures and functional wooden objects.

In her work, she focuses on the experience of materiality in the world. She seeks a unique way for objects to exist in relation to space and human beings. Often, she creates objects that are heavy and unwieldy or rich in detail and texture, thereby almost compelling physical interaction. The function of an object is sometimes merely a justification for its creation; its form disrupts functionality, making it a medium of artistic expression alongside shape and color.

Her works have been exhibited in Poland, Europe, the USA, and Southeast Asia, including at the Austrian Cultural Forum in New York, the Lapidarium of the National Museum in Prague, the Ditchling Museum of Art + Craft in England, and NOMUS – New Art Museum in Gdańsk. She has also participated in numerous festivals and fairs, including Milan Design Week, Wanted Design Manhattan, Collect Art Fair in London, Łódź Design Festival, and Stockholm Furniture and Light Fair.

Anna Bera

Very Even Stillness

by Anna Bera

Very Even Stillness is a collection of wall-hung sculptures that may perform the function of mirrors. The small mirror pane attached to the heavy sculptured forms encourages the objects to become decorative mirrors, however due to the proportions between the wood and the mirror they never completely gain the identity of neither a frame nor a mirror. The fact that steel mirror panes are placed at different angles creates an illusion of space; when standing in front of the mirror, one cannot see their reflection, but the space on the other side of the room. The objects are absurd, blurring the line between transcendental and real. Each mirror can be easily hung on a wall in 6 different positions thanks to the customized wall hanger. Mirrors can appear individually or as compositions of many elements.

*Funded by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage as part of the Creative Industries Development Center's own program: Development of Creative Sectors.

F 1

E 2

E 1

Date	2024
Size	45 H x 30 W x 9 D cm
Technique	Canadian maple, mirror polished steel
Signature	Signed by artists

Fragment 2.2

by Anna Bera

Fragment 2.2 is one of the first sculptured mirrors from the newest series of works where the artist explores the notion of touch by investigating the relation between the object, the elements of space and the human body within that space. The mirror that was supposed to hang flat on the wall wants to break off from it. In result, it is neither a free standing three-dimensional object nor a wall hanging mirror. It is in motion. This position creates a new situation, when one can stand in front of the mirror or in the undefined new space behind it.

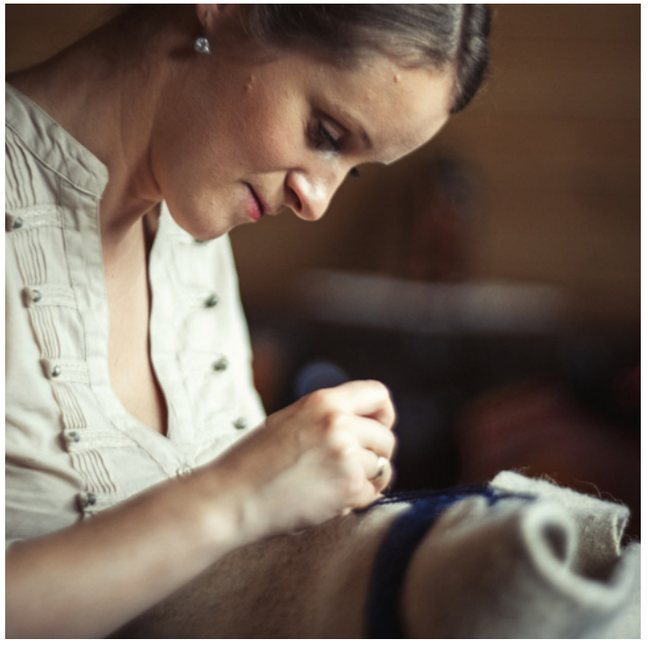
*Implemented under a scholarship from the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage.

Date	2024
Size	143 H x 54 W x 17 D cm
Technique	Alder, wood stain, india ink, mirror polished steel flakes
Signature	Signed by artists

Bogumiła Dańko

A craftswoman and embroiderer from Zakopane, who draws upon the rich decorative traditions of the Podhale region with her passion and skills. She works at the Tatra Museum, where she is responsible for the conservation and restoration of textiles, ensuring the preservation of the region's cultural heritage.

In her private time, she focuses on embellishing elements of traditional Podhale folk costumes, specializing in embroidery on woolen dresses and leather decoration. Her work is a blend of artisanal precision and a deep love for the heritage of Podhale.



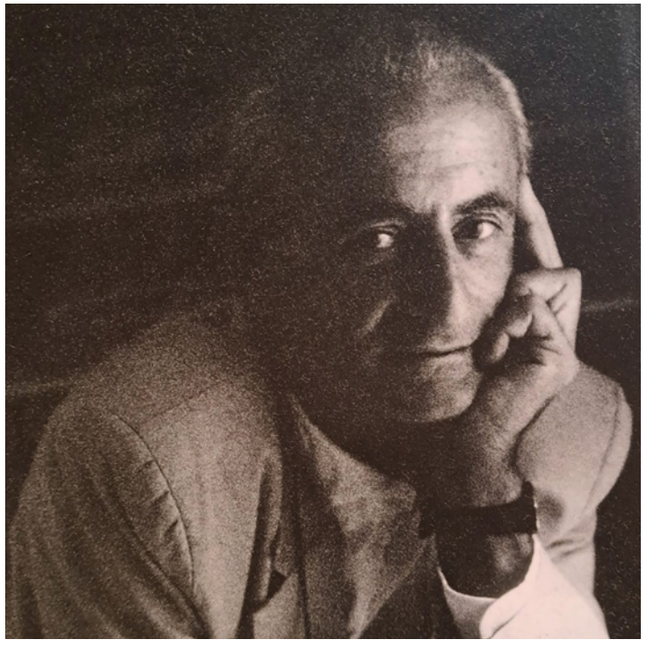
Bogumiła Dańko

Patrice Nourissat

Patrice Nourissat, an interior architect born in 1943, has cultivated a distinguished career in luxury interior design, marked by his refined taste and extensive expertise. He began his education at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris, later continuing at the prestigious École Camondo, a renowned interior design school. His training was further enriched by collaborations with various accomplished architects.

In 1973, Nourissat established his own company, quickly gaining recognition and becoming a prominent figure in the Parisian design scene.

Throughout his career, he has designed private residences across the globe, including in Istanbul, St. Barth, New York, Warsaw, Geneva, and Tokyo. His portfolio also features collaborations with esteemed brands and institutions, such as Longchamp, the Perrier-Jouët Museum, Pera Museum, and Lanvin perfume.



Patrice Nourissat

Untitled Armchair

by Bogumiła Dańko & Patrice Nourissat

The armchair is a masterpiece of craftsmanship, combining modern design with the artistry of Polish masters. The fabric, adorned with appliquéd flowers inspired by Chanel's Camellias, was designed by the renowned decorator Patrice Nourissat. His vision was flawlessly brought to life by Bogumiła Dańko, a master embroiderer from Zakopane, celebrated for her extraordinary precision and artistic expression.
The upholstery is made from natural cloth – a high-quality woolen fabric. The neutral shade of the material provides a subtle backdrop for the embellishments.
The ornaments, meticulously hand-cut by Bogumiła Dańko, feature delicate floral and leafy patterns, connected with fine woolen thread using traditional stitches such as daisy and cross-stitch.

The wooden frame, inspired by Hans Olsen's Fried Egg chair model, crafted from iroko and beech wood, was meticulously created by Mirosław Strzelczyk, a master carpenter and upholsterer, highlighting the Scandinavian style and the natural beauty of the wood.

Date	2024
Size	70 H x 60 W x 70 W cm
Technique	Hand-embroidered felt, beech frame, iroko wood base
Signature	Signed by artist

Michał Zaborowski

Michał Zaborowski – a Polish painter known for combining classical aesthetics with melancholic narratives and a subtle interplay of light, drawing inspiration from the works of Edward Hopper and Balthus. A graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw (1985), he studied under Professor Ludwik Maciąg. His artistic journey began with monumental sacred projects, such as the polychrome “Heavenly Jerusalem” in Warsaw and an impressive stained glass window in the church in Ożarów.

Zaborowski has gained recognition both in Poland and internationally, evidenced by numerous solo exhibitions in prestigious galleries and institutions. Among the most notable are the Berggruen Gallery in San Francisco, DESA Unicum in Warsaw, the Mieczysław Karłowicz Philharmonic in Szczecin, and “De lo pictorio del Mito” at the Palacio de Pimentel in Valladolid, Spain.

Michał Zaborowski

Untitled Triptych

by Michał Zaborowski

Michał Zaborowski’s triptych is a remarkable work that combines collage techniques with inspirations drawn from nature. The artist used a variety of papers – ranging from delicate Japanese paper to raw recycled paper – to create a dynamic composition featuring running deer. The scene evokes the untamed beauty of Poland’s mountainous wilderness, depicted in motion and full of primal elegance. The use of contrasting textures and shades of paper enhances the organic character of the piece, while the natural color palette and precise details capture the spirit of the mountain landscape. This work is a perfect blend of traditional craftsmanship and modern artistic sensibility. It reflects the artist’s deep respect for nature and his passion for experimenting with materials.

Date	2024
Size	260 H x 350 W cm
Technique	Japanese paper, recycled paper, ink, charcoal, precious metal flakes
Signature	Signed by artist

Cyryl Zakrzewski

Award-winning sculptor and designer based in Poland, his works are the outcome of simultaneous fascination with nature and technology, allowing the creator to embody even the most fantastic visions. His furniture are contemporary sculptures in which art follows nature, and the author combines digital design and processing with craftsmanship. Thanks to them futuristic visions turn into utilitarian equipment. Elegant in sublime simplicity, and at the same time fancifully exclusive and decorative.

Cyryl Zakrzewski

Linkana Cellule

by Cyryl Zakrzewski

The Linkana console was designed in 2023, with its design being the result of a quest for an extraordinarily organic and sophisticated yet lightweight and minimalist form for a console. The shape was loosely inspired by hanging vines.The version presented is a prototype that combines a birch plywood leg with an experimental concept for the tabletop. The tabletop consists of several smaller, independent elements that together form a unified surface but with clearly defined boundaries. Each of these resulting “cells” is also made of hand-carved plywood, with a central element crafted in an innovative manner from specially milled aluminum, serving as the focal point of each cell.

Date	2023 / 2024
Size	88 H x 33 W x 124 W cm
Technique	Hand-carved, birch plywood, clear varnish finish
Signature	Signed by artist

Maciej Gąsienica - Giewont

Maciej Gąsienica Giewont (b. 1974) is an artist and craftsman who creates unique functional objects using the technique of woodturning. His style combines traditional woodworking methods, minimalist aesthetics, and harmony with nature. He works exclusively with green wood, highlighting its natural “imperfections”—knots, cracks, discolorations, or traces of insect activity. In his work, the material and natural processes play a key role, making each project a unique surprise, where the ultimate shape is determined by the unpredictable power of nature.

Maciej Gąsienica - Giewont

Wooden Objects

by Maciej Gąsienica - Giewont

A wooden vase of exceptional character, embodying the fusion of craftsmanship and the forces of nature, captures attention with its symbolic form. The vessel features a hollowed-out center, directing all focus to the outer surface. Its thick walls are adorned with precise, evenly spaced, and deep grooves that form flat, concentric rings. The natural drying of the wood introduces an element of unpredictability, giving the shape a unique and dynamic appearance. The creation process is a harmonious dialogue between craftsmanship and nature, where the natural distortions ultimately define the object’s final form.

Date	2022 / 2024
Size object big	22,4 H x 46,5 W cm
Technique	Oak
Signature	Signed by artist

Date	2023 / 2024
Size object small	15 H x 16 W cm
Technique	Oak
Signature	Signed by artist

Anna Milczanowska

Anna Milczanowska (b. 1985) is a ceramic artist and founder of the brand NULA. Her first series of pit-fired ceramic objects was created in 2022. A distinctive feature of her work is the use of natural materials and her personal involvement in every stage of the creative process. Milczanowska's art is strongly tied to nature, crafted in the spirit of zero waste (she uses only wood by-products for firing) and environmental consciousness. It is also a kind of ritual—an acceptance of the impossibility of controlling the elements and a surrender of the final outcome to nature.

Anna Milczanowska

Amphora II

by Anna Milczanowska

A vase handcrafted using the ancient coil-building technique, Amphora II was pit-fired with wood, echoing traditional ceramic methods. Anna Milczanowska avoids glaze, instead using natural dyes like herbs and fruit peels, creating unique, organic patterns influenced by fire and smoke. Her labor-intensive process, requiring hours of tending the fire, reflects a deep connection to femininity, nature, and the elemental forces. Each piece is a one-of-a-kind fusion of sculpture and functional art, shaped by both the artist and the earth.

Date	2024
Size	50 H x 36 W x 36 D cm
Technique	Fireclay, unglazed, pit fired
Signature	Signed by artists

Anna Woźniak - Starak

A collector, philanthropist, ambassador of new crafts

Anna Wozniak-Starak is one of Poland's leading philanthropists and art collectors, owner of Craftica gallery and ambassador of the Homo Faber Michelangelo Foundation program. She has been promoting modern crafts and Polish art internationally for years.

Together with her husband, Jerzy Starak, she founded the Starak Family Foundation, which supports culture, young artists, and designers. They have created an esteemed collection of 20th and 21st century Polish art, which includes works for example by Magdalena Abakanowicz, Wojciech Fangor, Tadeusz Kantor, Ewa Kuryluk, and Andrzej Wróblewski.

The Foundation carries out cultural patronage programs, including the Kunszt competition, which supports creators of applied and decorative objects. The winning designs win recognition at prestigious events such as the Homo Faber craft biennial and the Nomad fair.

In 2024, Anna Wozniak-Starak opened Craftica Gallery. Its mission is to promote Polish arts and crafts around the world.

Anna and Jerzy Starak were awarded the Gold Medal "Meritorious to Culture Gloria Artis" for their contributions to culture.

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Thank you.

Craftica Gallery

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