



Sgrafo vs Fat Lava

Program
Hapax Series

Edited by
Nicolas Trembley

Authors
Ronan Bouroullec
Horst Makus
Nicolas Trembley

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The art of ceramics

Whether it is a question of Sgrafo vases, of Raymond Loewy's "Form 2000" for Rosenthal (1954), or of the improbable "Fat Lava" glaciés of the 1970s, postwar German ceramics attest to a surprising stylistic inventiveness and diversity.

Through these creations, both well-known and anonymous designers knew how to capture the impulses of a society in the middle of reconstruction and desirous of looking to the future. Mixing references to Op art, the geometry of a Verner Panton, or the vegetal style of the hippie wave, these objects follow a path of exaggerated shape unique in the history of forms.

In this sense they simultaneously incarnate the inevitable bombasticity that menaces design, and its aspirations to autonomy as a quasi-artistic practice. It is this crossing of intentions and this body of supposedly ordinary objects that this publication explores, with a text by the specialist Horst Markus, and an interview with the designer Ronan Bouroullec.

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