KONRAD KOPPOLD



Konrad Koppold, image courtesy of KALPA

In his works, Konrad Koppold reunites voluminous asymmetry with powerful yet understated colours and materials. His thin-walled oak vessels embody a poetic interplay of form, colour and texture. They reveal the natural beauty of the material and reflect the artist's inquisitive, experimental approach to reinventing centuries-old woodturning and carving techniques.

A selection of these works is currently on display at the Molteni&C Flagship Store in New York, as part of a curated art project by the Italian gallery KALPA. The sculptures blend seamlessly into Molteni&C's refined interiors, engaging in a silent dialogue with the space. In this sophisticated setting, the works gain an additional layer of meaning. The objects transform the commercial environment into a cultural landscape, where design and art converge. The soft sheen of the oak, the shifting shadows and the rhythm of the forms invite visitors to pause, observe and feel. The vessels transcend their material presence: they communicate emotion, thought and energy. Within the architectural clarity of the showroom, they function as quiet totems that elevate the everyday moment into a sensory experience.



Konrad Koppold at Molteni&C New York, photography by Daniel Ciofalo, image courtesy of KALPA

THE GRAIN, KNOTS AND GROWTH RINGS OF LOCALLY SOURCED OAK FROM THE RHINELAND FORM A VISIBLE ARCHIVE OF TIME

Konrad Koppold's creative process begins with an idea, translated into sketches or clay models, after which the wood is turned on offset axes to create tension and movement. Cracks or distortions caused by natural shrinkage are not concealed but rather integrated as part of the design, turning imperfections into bearers of beauty.

Wood, a living and ever-changing material, offers endless possibilities for this approach. The grain, knots and growth rings of locally sourced oak from the Rhineland form a visible archive of time. By treating the wood with natural pigments, chalk, soap and iron – and by making use of the tannins inherent to oak – unique tones and textures emerge.

His vessels, which he regards as metaphysical objects, symbolise the human soul: soft within, rougher without. In this duality lies the essence of his work – a quiet quest for harmony between nature, form and emotion.

(Text: Carolien Depamelaere)



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