

Ucki Kossdorff

Austrian artist **Ucki Kossdorff** sculpts exploratory pieces of the human form, essentially highlighting the confrontation of the self with its three dimensional existence. In each of her sculptures there exists an innate tension between the bodies themselves and the spaces they occupy, where the natural shape of the body is compressed into geometrical forms.

These striking works are centered on a strong use of light and shadow found within the stone, lending an expressionistic bent that invites the viewer to respond to the emotionality of the figure before them. Visually, there is a deep focus on the core essence of the body, where she applies "various forms of strong reduction (up to abstraction)... by compressing to the essentials."

In terms of medium, Kossdorff works primarily in stoneware and bronze. In comparison to the strength and beauty of these materials, her colors tend to be minimal, although sometimes she explores color through the Japanese raku or smoke-fired techniques. She masterfully manipulates these materials to trace the beauty of the male and female bodies, while juxtaposing those figures against their socio-political contexts, as well as placing them within the framework of human relationship.

Kossdorff is known for working in cycles, so that the relationship between her groups of work are often blurred. Her basic works include a series called "Figured Out," which focuses on tectonic figuring with considerations of volume, space, and light. In "Back to Stone," she searches for the essence of the figure, condensing the human form into limitable spaces, where lines and shapes are pressed and reduced to blocks, cubes, and other geometric forms. In a way, she reverses traditional sculptural processes, and as she says, "I give my characters back to the stone."

Ucki Kossdorff has studied with master sculptors and artists in Austria, Germany, Italy, the UK, Hungary and New York. Her work has appeared in exhibits and publications throughout Europe and the United States.



Ucki in her Studio

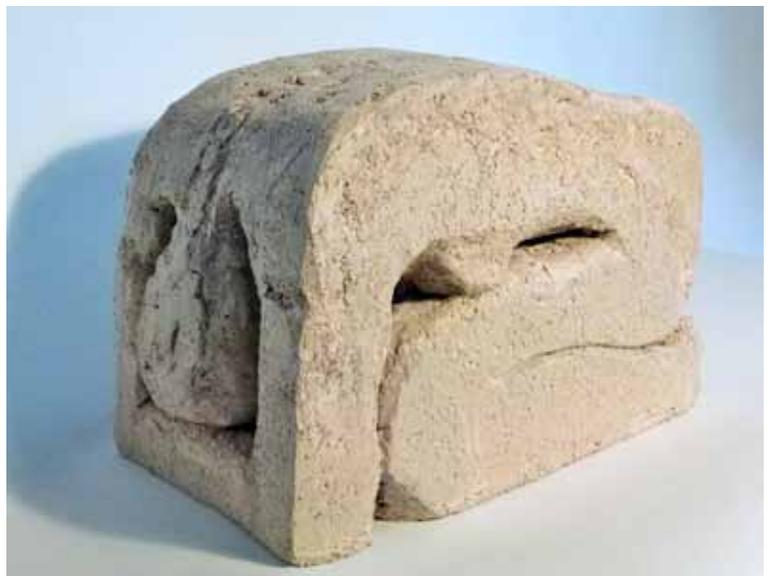


www.ucki.net

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3 Graces Stoneware 25" x 10" x 5"



Huddling Stoneware 8.5" x 14.5" x 7"