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5 minutes with... Little White Dish

Ceramicist Deb Taylor of Little White Dish
creates witty yet delicate objects of desire

Why did you choose ceramics design as a career?

"During the space of a week, three friends – none of whom knew each other – announced that they had signed up for pottery classes. Not wanting to miss out, I jumped on the bandwagon and found myself totally absorbed with clay, the wheel and the firing process. Two years ago, I made the leap into being an independent artist. I get up every morning loving that I'll be spending my day in the studio, making pots and teaching others how to use the wheel."

What's the story behind the dimples, grooves and words that are a hallmark of your work?

"The dimples and grooves create a gentle interruption to the simple forms of my vessels. I guess they're contemporary alternatives to handles; a way to keep things simple while also introducing points of difference. They invite you to pick them up, handle and engage with them. The words are a great source of fun – they're straight to the point and, when given as a gift, are a permanent reminder of what somebody thinks or once thought about you."

What's the appeal of working with Limoges porcelain?

"Limoges porcelain is the finest, smoothest material and allows me to create beautifully defined lines. Most of the exteriors are free of glaze – the porcelain is far too tactile to cover up. The translucency is gorgeous and I find the way the light plays with the surface captivating. Often, when I'm walking past a piece and catch sight of the light behind it, I have to go back for a second look."

What's next for Little White Dish? "I've been busy making pieces that have a lovely relationship with food, featuring phrases such as 'butter me up', 'secret ingredient', and 'sugar and spice and all things nice'... So much fun with words!"

Visit www.littlewhitedish.com.au for more details.