

## **Plastic formulations of pre-fabricated products as a creative medium in the ceramic field**

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### **Summary**

The research is summarized in the study of plastic formulas to transform healthy products into innovative ceramic works, the study of differences, methods and creative solutions between the group of artists participating in the third international ceramics symposium for the year 2017 and documenting this wonderful artistic experience and how the work team with the spirit of mutual love, managed to overcome all the factors and conditions that they faced and created artworks that are speaking many languages, each artist was able to communicate his own vision as well as the research objectives, which are to find plastic solutions for sanitary products to transform them into innovative ceramics and to establish a spirit of teamwork among the young potters. It is important to identify a new type of interaction between the industrial forms and the artistic visions of the participating potters and to identify the difficulties and challenges. The work group faced, whether in raw materials or techniques, as the research assumed the possibility of dealing with ready-made pieces and transforming them into innovative ceramic works, as well as the possibility of overcoming the difficulties of the formation process and benefiting from the general atmosphere of the symposium technically and morally. In terms of gaining practical experiences on the ground, which is evident by answering a set of questions by some of the participants, a delegation of the workplace has been identified, which is the porcelain factory and the Chinese Sheen, as spatial boundaries for the research and also selection of health products as limits to the material and challenges the special abilities of the participating artists and urges them to the process of creation and innovation. The research in the theoretical apartment dealt with the concept of creativity, as well as the concept of innovation and the difference between them, as well as the presentation of the used materials, pigments and colors. The research in the practical section also presented an analysis of the works of the participating artists, as well as a survey was conducted for a group of artists by asking some questions in order to benefit from the experiences and difficulties they faced and how they were able to overcome them during shaping and drying, as well as the success of the experiment and its effectiveness in general.

### **“Introduction**

The movement to experiment in contemporary ceramic art is not new to the artist in his long career in this field. As for the technique of adding fire-resistant materials, it is ancient, dating back to the Egyptians' discovery of glass coatings for more than five thousand years ago. “As a result of intellectual and philosophical developments, the potter had to be familiar with the artistic and scientific abilities of those trends to realize the aesthetic, philosophical and expressive meanings underlying this production.” (Hence, the creative development of ceramics in the modern era has been linked to the creative energy of the artist, the extent of his culture

and experiences, his approach and his ability to experiment in search of renewed horizons, so that very diverse and distinct treatments were distinguished by boldness and depth of vision, and keeping pace with developments. This important point raised the feelings of the artist and all who ever participated in the activities of the Third International Ceramics Symposium, that important artistic event of making art, transforming rigid shapes and sanitary ceramics products, and trying to get them out of a state of complete stillness and from the battlefield of employment to the arena of the absolute beauty of shapes, so all artists were able to overcome the state of stillness, silence and rigidity emanating from pre-manufactured shapes such as basins, sanitary basins, trays, expulsion boxes and other sanitary ceramics products, and it is one of the most difficult products that the artist can deal with in reformulating again with a new creative vision because it is designed and implemented with special mechanisms and raw materials and under standard specifications to resist the personal consumption of individuals and with the solidity and toughness of the product, the work team was able with the spirit of mutual love, they overcame all factors and circumstances that they have encountered, and the work appeared as if it spoke many languages. Each artist was able to communicate his own vision and this is a documentation of the success of the experiment. I hope that I have presented it with what it deserves. The research will review more precisely the details of the experience, the problems and the positive solutions that the working group faced.

#### **Research problem:-**

The research problem is summarized in the study of creative solutions to transform sanitary ceramics products into innovative artistic works among the group of artists participating in the third International Ceramic Symposium for the year 2017.

#### **Research importance :-**

We find the importance of the research in showing and documenting the experience as one of the most important artistic events at the level of Egypt and the world, through identification of:

- A new kind of interaction between the artificial shapes and the artistic visions of the participating potters.
- Identifying the difficulties and challenges that the working group faced, whether in materials or techniques.

#### **Research aims :-**

- Finding plastic solutions for sanitary ceramic products and converting them into innovative ceramics.
- Establishing a spirit of teamwork among the young potters, and linking art to the industry.

#### **Research hypotheses:-**

The current research assumes the possibility of dealing with ready-made pieces and converting them into innovative ceramic works.

#### **Search limits :-**

- Work inside the Chinese porcelain factory "Cheney".
- The use of remnants of cast mud from (Stone Ware).
- The use of scattered pieces of discarded cutting clay manufacturing results.

- Basins and other sanitary ceramic products.
- Documentation of the works of the Third International Ceramics Symposium 2017

### Search terms: -

**A. Creation:** It is the complementary unit of the group of subjective and objective factors that lead to the achievement of new and original production of value from the individual and the group. Creativity in its broad sense means finding new solutions to ideas, problems and approaches (definition by Alexander Rocha)

**B. Plastic solutions:** These are the methods of forming and the technical treatments used to adapt a specific plastic material to create an innovative artistic work.

**C. Sanitary porcelain products:** They are utilitarian products suitable for human use in homes and other places of human presence in general, as they make it easier for people to live better, and their types are as follows; Face wash basins, toilets, basins, bathtubs, as well as ceramic floor tiles, including many sizes and shapes, they are manufactured in porcelain and Chinese factories in Egypt and around the world.

**D. Innovation:** It is the process of creating and developing a new product that aims to improve the old efficiency and change the visual concept of works of art for reformulating and transforming them from the first ordinary state to another innovative creative state.

**Research methodology:** - The research follows the descriptive and analytical approach in the theoretical and practical part by analyzing the works of the artists participating in the Third International Ceramic Symposium for the year 2017

#### A. Theoretical framework:-

Definition of the creative process and innovation.

- The used Raw materials.

#### B. Practical framework: -



- Analysis of the work of the participants in the third International Ceramic Symposium.
- Polling the opinion of a group of participating artists about the extent of benefiting from the experience and the resulting interaction between the cohesion of generations in one artistic arena, by asking a set of questions related to the experiment.

**The first topic:** - Identifying the concept of creativity and the creative process, the difference between creativity and innovation, and the extent of the link between the cultural diversity of arts and artistic creativity.

**The second topic:** - Clay ores used in the Chinese ceramic factory, Health Department.

**The third topic:** - Plastic solutions used in the works of the artists participating in the Third International Ceramic Symposium at the China Porcelain Factory 2017.

**The fourth topic:** - Analysis of the works of some artists participating in the International Ceramic Symposium.

	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Work No. (12) (clay houses)</b>  <b>Artist Dr. / Walaa Imam Ahmed</b>  <b>Faculty of Specific Education, Ain Shams</b>  <b>University</b></p> <p>Subject teacher at Ain Shams University  The work is a semi-circular shape, and the artist took advantage of the shape of the previously prepared piece without interference, as some parts were deleted, the semi-circular shape was preserved, and the edges of the piece were dealt with in embodiment of houses. The color is made of liners, thermal dyes, and metallic oxides, to create an earthy matte color.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Work No. (13) linear harmony</b>  <b>Researcher's work</b></p> <p>The work is an ejection box and the adjacent piece is the column of the basin stand for daily use. The artist used the method of drilling and emptying the Arabic calligraphy letters to achieve the function of light transmittance to create another function for those pieces to become lighting units. The drilling and discharging process is one of the difficult techniques to implement on this very solid material. The artist used glazes in two degrees, light and dark, to take advantage of this to achieve the linear depth of the letters.</p>

### Results:

The work is considered a group of very important matters as it gave the participating artists positive energy to develop themselves and work to find artistic solutions to bring the artistic work to a satisfactory level. Likewise, the spirit of fruitful cooperation between the group of participating artists inspires hope, optimism, and a love of art, work and production, which made everyone ask for the repetition of artistic participations that carry the same beautiful spirit, which resulted in the following:

- All results were achieved for all the research hypotheses.
- All artworks are of a modern character and enjoy a high degree of creativity and innovation.
- With the difficulty of forming on sanitary products, all the artists produced distinctive and innovative ceramic works.
- There is a communication link between young potters and major creators, and the exchange of experiences in the field of ceramics.

- All artists were able to express the healthy raw material and product to an artistic level characterized by innovation.
- The artworks won the admiration of all the visitors of the exhibition, including artists and other audiences, which indicates the success of the experience and the proof that the truly creative artist is the one who challenges all difficulties in reaching artistic goals.

### **Recommendations:**

Opening new horizons of creativity for young potters.

- Provide full support and provide a good climate for work and production.
- Repeating the distinguished technical experience at the level of the Arab Republic of Egypt.
- Extending work periods throughout the year to suit the study and leisure time for art.
- Providing financial support to small projects by employing ceramic factory wastes and converting them into artistic works
- Transforming sanitary products into innovative ceramics is a topic worthy of attention and study.
- Repeating experience in all different fields, while giving more support to young artists.

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- 5- The works were photographed through my attendance at the International Ceramic Symposium, which is held in Adam Hanin Hall, Al Hanager Center, in the Egyptian Obra House
- 6- Peter Dormer: The New Ceramic. Thames and Hudson L td. London