



Hibernate's 2008 exhibition at Ornamentum



Hibernate group

(Helena Lehitnen, right in above photo)

The Hibernate group was founded in 1999, in Finland, and includes Helena Lehitnen, Eija Mustonen, and Tarja Tuupanen. Each artist works individually with distinct styles centering around different materials and techniques. The collective works together to show their pieces and creates collaborative installations to accompany their work. Ornamentum has had two solo exhibitions of Hibernate, one in 2008 and one in 2016.

All three of the artists who are featured in the 20 Year Exhibition show a sensitivity and respect for materials. Their work focuses on rediscovering qualities in known materials and playing on the viewers' perception of the pieces. The pieces often examine the relationship between an object and the body through touch by providing a multi sensory experience of materiality.

Helena Lehtinen's contemporary work provides a new meaning and story to antique materials. The carefully selected materials are not deconstructed, but rather highlighted through the use of planned alliances and relationships within the work.

Eija Mustonen, who has recently focused on working with metal, emphasizes and honors the tradition of smithing through her work. Championing the effects on manual labor, her pieces are simple and focus on showcasing the material and technical qualities. She now focuses on folding and bending metal forms and references clothing accessories, home linen, and utensils.

Tarja Tuupanen works with stone and explores the psychology of ornament. Her necklace made of a carved black marble with thin grey threads asserts its presence and weight on the body or escapes the body to be viewed as a sculptural object.

"Jewellery develops culture, because jewellery are objects touching human beings. That is what Hibernata does." -Karen Pontoppidan