



Earth memory

An encounter between
the ceramicist and master potter
Steen Kepp and the clay



Earth memory – poetic documentary film

This is a story about an encounter between man and earth.

The last firing of the kiln 'Ko No Yama'.

Two years of dialogue with the clay

Nine days of fire

Nine days of rest in the whispers of the wind.

Poetic documentary about the encounter between ceramicist and master potter Steen Kepp and the clay. With the project 'Terre mémoire' ('Earth memory') he executes the last firing in his tunnel kiln 'Ko No Yama', in the internationally known pottery village La Borne in France. The film features selected verses from Lao Tzu's 'Tao Te Ching', read by Harald Leander.

The work of the artist Steen Kepp is influenced by traditional Japanese methods, acquired during several periods of study with

masters in Japan and Korea. The tunnel kiln Ko No Yama was built for 'Yakishime' firing, in particular the Nanban method. Steen Kepp is one of very few European ceramicists to master this technique.

"I do not know whether it's the clay or the fire that tells the story.

When there will be no more clay I will stop

When there will be no more fire I will stop"

Steen Kepp

About master potter Steen Kepp

The artist Steen Kepp (born 1949) grew up in Denmark and was educated in France and Japan. He is at present based in Sweden and France, working and exhibiting internationally. His technique and style are developed during several periods of studying with master potters in Japan, and a residence in Korea. In the 1970's Steen Kepp constructed his tunnel kiln called 'Ko No Yama' ('The Child's Mountain') in La Borne, France. The kiln is built according to the traditional firing technique Yakishime, with a particular focus on the Nanban method, which has been developed and is still employed in Japan.



About director Peggy Eklöf

Peggy Eklöf (born 1971) is a Swedish filmmaker and creative designer. She specializes in films on artists and their creative processes. Peggy Eklöf has portrayed a number of Swedish visual artists and ceramicist in documentary films run in connection with their exhibitions.

Terre mémoire - Earth memory

Documentary about art, ceramic art

58 minutes

A film by Peggy Eklöf

Produced by 29 media, Sweden

Subtitles French, English, Spanish and Swedish

*Selected texts from Lao Tzu's Tao Te Ching, read by
Harald Leander*



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