

*La Forge / Moule à gelée*

for — Competition 1.

# Desvres Design Ceramic Camp

# Concept —

## *La Forge / Moule à gelée*

In the region of Desvres there is a long history of high quality ceramics production. This made me consider how the specialist skills found here can be used to develop work for new environments and possibilities.

I made the observation that classic sanitary ware (washbasins, toilets, fountains etc) are at the scale of domestic furniture. Ergonomic to the scale of humans, easily used and highly functional in their size and shape.

If the Desvres ceramics ateliers can create items of this size and proportion in ceramics to such a high quality, then these techniques can be applied to other areas of domestic life.

From this reflection, I decided to develop a small series of furniture pieces for the home.

Taking inspiration for the form of the pieces from the archetypical wrought iron furniture that can be found in rural country homes and farms, and intricate detailing of classic Desvres wares found on pieces by the Fourmaintraux Frères.

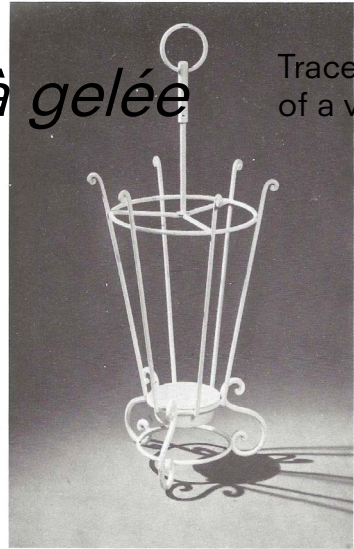
In the references the wrought iron forms outline the furniture and tie them together with ribbons of metal, chasing the spine of the pieces and giving an impression of volume. In the same way the classical vases are geometric and segmented by their own spines, hand painted they create windows into scenes on the surfaces.

The result of this exploration is a series of furniture that are produced in ceramics. Each piece is 24 sided to reference the classic vases by Fourmaintraux Frères, with soft scalloping around the rim like the tops of the ceramic vases. The highlighted spines give the impression of wrapped shapes in metal, as though the ceramics is being wrapped in place but it acts to create these windows.

The result is a series of small furnitures all cast in ceramics and with two possible directions for the type of finishing; either unglazed natural earth tones, or finished with colour glazes that reflect the hand painted detailing on classic pieces.

# Research —

## *La Forge / Moule à gelée*

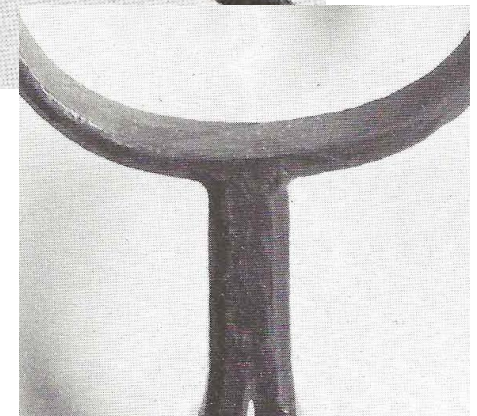
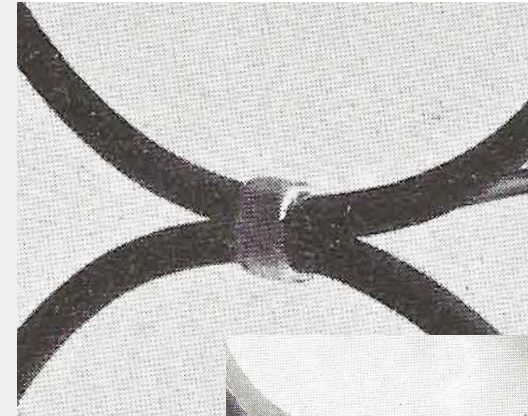


Trace outline  
of a volume

Connection details  
where material overlap



Folding join



Outline following  
spines to legs



Flat forms create  
full volumes

# Research —

## *La Forge / Moule à gelée*



Scalloped lip



Rim around base



Surfaces divided into panels

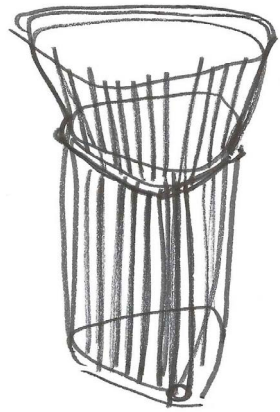


Research —  
*La Forge / Moule à gelée*

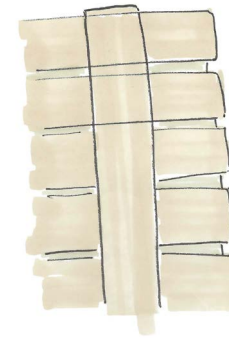


# Sketches —

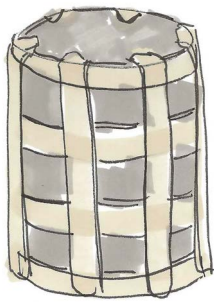
## *La Forge / Moule à gelée*



Outlines wrap the internal volume



'Straps' give illusion of wrapping



Surfaces divided into panels



Form exploration —  
*La Forge / Moule à gelée*



## Info —



Daniel Rous was trained as a product designer at Bath School of Art & Design.

After graduating he moved to Italy, where he became resident designer at Fabbrica Design Research Centre (2014–2017). After his residency, he was invited to stay as senior designer working with the new students.

In 2017 he moved to London, working as designer and consultant for a number of brands and studios including Bethan Laura Wood, Established & Sons, Faye Toogood, DesignStudio and Pentagram.

In addition to the consultation work, Daniel is in the process of developing various pieces and projects with international companies.

Full portfolio available upon request.