

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**3 September 2018**

## **800-1998: Ceramic Treasures of Oise** **Extracts from the MUDO-Musée de l'Oise** **collection**

**15 September 2018 – 15 March 2019**

**MUDO-Musée de l'Oise presents the *Ceramic Treasures of Oise* in the magnificent 16<sup>th</sup>-century exhibition room located below the rafters. This event constitutes a preview ahead of the permanent ceramics exhibition that will be launched alongside the presentation of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century collection, due to open in late 2020. By exhibiting the museum's major treasures, dating from the ninth century all the way to 1998, a veritable platform to showcase Oise's artistic heritage, *Ceramic Treasures* clearly shows the important place occupied by Oise in the history of ceramics in France.**

Auguste DELAHERCHE, *dish*, 1894-1895 © RMN - Grand Palais (MUDO - Musée de l'Oise) / Adrien



Blessed with one of the finest collections of ceramics in France, MUDO-Musée de l'Oise presents, from 15 September, *Ceramic Treasures of Oise*, a unique set of more than three hundred ceramic pieces, presented in the exhibition space below the rafters, the jewel in the architectural crown of the museum, dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Having been in storage since 1993, MUDO-Musée de l'Oise's ceramics have formed the foundation of the museum's reputation, as has its collection of Art Nouveau works.

This exhibition constitutes a preview of the permanent ceramics exhibition that will be launched alongside the presentation of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century collection, due to open in 2020. By exhibiting the museums major pieces, *Ceramic Treasures of Oise* shows the important place Oise occupies in the history of ceramics in France.

### **Oise, a historical area for ceramics**

Since the Middle Ages, le Beauvaisis area and the Pays de Bray area enjoy an international reputation for the quality of their clay and the excellence of their production, which continued up to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. This presentation represents an opportunity to discover, over a timespan of more than a thousand years and thanks to an exhibition arranged chronologically and thematically, the development of this activity in Oise via the ranges of techniques developed, the decors employed or the diversity of its uses from the utilitarian terracotta of the 9<sup>th</sup> century all the



*Pitcher*, IX<sup>e</sup> siècle © MUDO - Musée de l'Oise / Jean-Louis Bouché

way to the architectural ceramics produced at the Tileries in Beauvais, via the porcelain of Chantilly and the faience of Creil.

The Oise area is recognised as an unrivalled centre of innovation and production for the art of ceramics. The pieces produced in the department have met with great success and have benefitted from an unimpeachable reputation for centuries. Le Beauvaisis became one of the rare European centres for ceramics where, in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, a veritable technical revolution took hold, giving birth to a new material, "earthenware", which until the 18<sup>th</sup> century was known as "Terre de Beauvais" ("Beauvais earth").



*Plat de la Passion*, 16<sup>e</sup> siècle © RMN-Grand Palais (MUDO - Musée de l'Oise) / Adrien Didierjean

The glazed pottery and the Beauvaisis earthenware from the "Beautiful 16<sup>th</sup>" thus spread throughout France as well as abroad, all the way to the most prestigious residences and royal courts.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century appeared as a century of change and renewal, with the spread of fine faience from Creil, the creation of the first workshop producing terracotta tiles and the attraction of first-class potters to the area. Jules Ziegler set up in Voisinlieu in 1839 and restored the important place of earthenware in France. Peter Greber set up in Beauvais, giving rise to a dynasty of artists over nearly a century of creation.

### Nearly 100 pieces by Auguste Delaherche on display



Auguste DELAHERCHE, *Six-sided vase*, 1892 © RMN-Grand Palais (MUDO - Musée de l'Oise) / Adrien Didierjean

A leading figure in French ceramics across the world, Auguste Delaherche transcends ceramics and is responsible for turning it into a major art form. He was born in Beauvais in 1857 and this master potter spent most of his life as an artist in Oise, in the heart of the Pays de Bray area.

MUDO-Musée de l'Oise owns the largest public collection of pieces by the artist, part of it bequeathed by his wife Jeanne with donations and acquisitions added to it since 1959.

*Ceramic Treasures, MUDO-Musée de l'Oise Collection from the 9<sup>th</sup> century to our times* will present nearly 100 pieces by Delaherche as part of the total of 300 pieces overall.

**FREE ENTRY**

**GENERAL CURATOR:** Gilles BAUD-BERTHIER, director of MUDO-Musée de l'Oise, Chief Heritage Curator.

**SCIENTIFIC CURATORS:** Jean CARTIER, Chair of Le Beauvaisis Ceramic Research and Study Group and Sylvain PINTA, Conservation Officer with responsibility for ceramic collections at MUDO - Musée de l'Oise.



Le Cavalier de Sarcus, 18th-19th-century finial © RMN-Grand Palais (MUDO - Musée de l'Oise) / Adrien Didierjean



Jules ZIEGLER, *Alhambra Vase*, 1839-44 © RMN-Grand Palais (MUDO - Musée de l'Oise) / Adrien Didierjean

## EXHIBITION SPECIAL EVENTS

### Guided visits around the collection:

#### -Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September

at 11am, 3pm and 5pm as part of French Heritage Weekend.

- **Sundays** from 3.30pm to 5pm:

7 October 2018, 2 December 2018, 3 February 2019 and 5 May 2019.

### Show for children

*Chübichaï* by the "Le Vent des Forges" company, performance using clay

**Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 September** at 2.30pm and 4.30pm as part of French Heritage Weekend.

### Lunchtime talks/from 12.30pm to 1.15pm

by Sylvain Pinta, Conservation Officer with responsibility for ceramic collections at MUDO - Musée de l'Oise

- **Friday 28 September 2018:** *Auguste Delaherche, Ceramics as Art*

- **Friday 16 November 2018:** *Pierrefonds, the art of crystallised enamel*

- **Friday 8 February 2019:** *Jules Ziegler and the renewal of stoneware in the 19<sup>th</sup> century*

- **Friday 5 April 2019:** *The Splendid 16<sup>th</sup> century in Le Beauvaisis*

### Thursday conferences/from 6.30pm to 8.00pm

-**Thursday 18 October 2018,** *Le Beauvaisis from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, an innovative pottery hub* by Jean Cartier, Chair of Le Beauvaisis Ceramic Research and Study Group.

-**Thursday 13 December 2018,** *Chantilly or royal porcelain* by Mathieu Deldicque, Heritage Curator at Musée Condé in Chantilly, Doctor of Art History.

-**Thursday 24 January 2019,** *The Creil faience factory during the age of industrial ceramics in the 19<sup>th</sup> century* by Marion Kalt, Director of Musée Gallé-Juillet in Creil.

### General Assembly of Le Beauvaisis Ceramic Research and Studies Group/

Saturday 23 March 2019

-Conference from 2.30pm to 4.00pm, *The Gréber Dynasty* by Sylvain Pinta, Conservation Officer with responsibility for ceramic collections at MUDO - Musée de l'Oise.

Information at [mudo.oise.fr](http://mudo.oise.fr)

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MUDO-Musée de l'Oise is open every day from 11am to 6pm (except Tuesdays).

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