

Peter Hoogeboom,

born Leiden, 3 March 1961, lives and works in Amsterdam, Netherlands

Hoogeboom attended the Gerrit Rietveld Academie, a fine arts school in Amsterdam, where he planned to study graphic design. Feeling unsure about his choice and inspired by a fellow student's lecture on contemporary jewelry, Hoogeboom was prompted to look into the Academie's jewelry department. He recognized jewelry's versatility and the artists' use of many materials, which led him to think of it as "the most free and autonomous area of all the design fields." Clay is Hoogeboom's chosen medium, however he only started toying with it in 1994, two years post-graduation. "I like the way metal looks, but I dislike the rigidity. . . . Metal is hard, not pliable. I have always loved the look of ceramics, too: dishes, plates, cups, and sculptures made of clay. During my jewelry education, I had plans to try to turn ceramics into jewelry. It took me a few years

after graduation to execute these plans. A work grant I received after leaving the art academy enabled me to buy my own kiln, tools, and other equipment to explore the world of clay. I took courses and fell in love with clay, its pliability and its plasticity, in complete contrast with working in metals." With each new body of work, clay has remained the primary material throughout

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