

Stavangerflint's Artistic Directors 1946 – 1979

Jan Gjerde © 2008

THORBJØRN FEYLING
(1907 – 1985)



Biography

Feyling was born in Egersund and died in Stavanger, Norway. He was trained as a ceramist before World War II and was employed at A/S Egersunds Fayancefabriks Co until 1946, when he was recruited to the position of Design Manager at Stavanger Fajansefabrikk, Stavanger, from 1952 Stavangerflint AS. He created their design program from scratch, and when the company started ordinary production in September 1949, he became a member of its management team. From 1955 Feyling was replaced by Eystein Sandnes as head of design, but he continued working as a designer for the factory until retirement in 1977.

The ceramic artist

Feyling's designs were adopted to meet the taste of different consumer groups. His most well known forms are those named "Glatt", "Standard", "Skaugum" and "Bygdøy". They were produced for many years with a variety of designs, created by himself or other artists. The designs were either sprayed, hand painted or made from ready-made transfer pictures. Finer objects may have been applied with strokes of gold painting. He created many series of exclusive objects for gifts and

decoration, as well as a large range of souvenirs for cities and tourist sites in Norway and abroad.

Sources

Stavangerflint's archives at Figgjo, promotional booklet for Stavangerflint 1954, Jan Gjerde: "Fra Kvaleberg til cyberspace", ISBN 978-82-303-0998-8, media coverage from 1950ies.

EYSTEIN SANDNES
(1927 – 2006)



Biography

Sandes was born in the municipality of Røros in the county of Sør-Trøndelag, Norway and died in Porsgrunn in the county of Telemark, Norway. He was educated both as a ceramist and as a glass designer with The Norwegian College of Applied Arts in Oslo (1934 – 1938). From 1951 he was a glass designer at AS Norsk Glassverk, Magnor where he gained recognition for his artistic talent. He received the Government's scholarship for applied arts in 1954/1955.

From 1955 to 1957 he held the position of Design Director at the earthenware company Stavangerflint AS, Stavanger, Norway. In 1958, Sandnes moved to AS Porsgrunds Porselænsfabrik, Porsgrunn, Norway, where he became head of the Design Department in 1959. He held this position to 1990 when he resigned.

Artist and artistic manager

At Stavangerflint Sandnes developed new designs for production, creating his most well-known models as "Utstein" and

”Ledaal”. They were produced for several years with different basic single tone colours which allowed for many combinations, but also with designs by various other artists at the company. Inger Waage, Anne Lofthus and Kari Nyquist made many of their most recognised designs for models created by Eystein Sandnes. A tea set modelled by Eystein Sandnes and with a design by Kari Nyquist was obtained by the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. It was Sandnes who introduced the principles of Scandinavian Design at Stavangerflint AS.

Awards and recognitions

At Porsgrund Sandnes received awards for Good Design by the Norwegian Design Council in 1965, 1969 and in 1971. In 1960 he was awarded a silver medal at the 12th Triennale for Design in Milano. Sandnes has been represented at several exhibitions in Norway and abroad and his works are included in many collections, among them the The National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo and the Victoria and Albert Museum, London.

Sources

Norsk Designråd; Andersen/Olsen: Moderne antikviteter II, Lunde 2002 [ISBN 82-520-3560-4](#), Jan Gjerde: ”Fra Kvaleberg til cyberspace”, [ISBN 978-82-303-0998-8](#), media coverage from 1954.

KÅRE BERVEN FJELDSAA
(1918 – 1991)



Biography

He was born in Sandnes in the county of Rogaland, Norway. He was educated as a

ceramist at The Norwegian College of Applied Arts in Oslo from 1937 – 1942 and trained in the workshop of Jens von der Lippe from 1936 to 1946. He received a scholarship in 1956 for study at The Royal Copenhagen Porcelain Manufactory (Den Kgl. Porcellainsfabrik in Copenhagen). From 1947 to 1957 he had his own workshop as a ceramist in the municipality of Bærum in Oslo. From 1958 Fjeldsaa became head of design at the earthenware factory Stavangerflint AS in Stavanger, Norway. After the merging of Stavangerflint AS and Figgjo Fajanse AS in 1968 to Figgjo Fajanse Stavangerflint AS, he continued as head of design and product development from 1973 to 1985.

The artist and artistic manager

As a ceramic artist Fjeldsaa was a pioneer in the use of stoneware. His objects from this period were highly appreciated and he was awarded a gold medal at The Triennial in Milano in 1954 and at the International Exhibition of Ceramics in Cannes in 1957. As artistic manager and designer at Stavangerflint he made his designs both in “flintware” (fine earthenware), ovenproof models, vitroporcelain and stoneware. His most well-known creations are the model “Kongsstein”, the flintware service “Brunette” and the stoneware service “Finse”. In addition to his work as a designer of tableware for households and the professional market, he created a series of vases, small objects of decorative art and reliefs in coloured stoneware for wall decoration.

Sources

Store norske leksikon, 33 Brukskunstnere, published by Bonytt ca 1960, Olsen/Andersen: Moderne Antikviteter, Lunde 2000, [ISBN 82-520-3279-6](#), Figgjo AS: Figgjo: Formet av entusiasme gjennom 60 år, Figgjo AS 2001, Jan Gjerde: ”Fra Kvaleberg til cyberspace”, [ISBN 978-82-303-0998-8](#), a selection from media coverage.

All photos are from Stavangerflints archives at Figgjo AS.