

SANDRINE HERLIN

SCULPTURES



I invite you on a journey, in the shade of ancient, sturdy trees.

Baobabs have not always been present, I mean specifically in my studio where I model them with patient frenzy... And yet, in fact, they have always been there, buried in my memories, or how Nature and memories of a Guinean childhood combine to resurface years later, in a form that surprises even me...

The desire to explore new horizons in my artistic practice led me to draw dreamlike and poetic trees, delicate and powerful, and then to translate them into sculptures to be displayed, admired and dreamt about.
During my research, I discovered that the baobab is the emblem of Guinea Conakry, a country where I spent part of my early childhood. This personal resonance gave even more meaning to this series, echoing the concept of Lost Paradise...

Reading Beth Moon's book Baobabs, I realise even more the immense impact of these god-like trees. Powerful but weakened by climate change, some of the oldest specimens are collapsing under their own weight. The baobab is a tree of refuge, a tree of resources, imbued with nobility and considered sacred. A source of life, it stands both solid and fragile, vulnerable and welcoming.
This is my way of paying tribute to it...
I mainly work with ribbon and slab modelling. These techniques allow me to retain a spontaneity, a kind of deliberate clumsiness, something sensitive and alive in the material. Made of white, red or black stoneware, their foliage punctuated with gold or porcelain evokes the fruits of this precious tree with their many virtues. From my training as an illustrator, I retain a taste for storytelling, so the trunks, both sculpted and drawn, tell their own stories: the sketch of a ladder, a shelter, a reservoir... The interpretations are personal and multiple.

Recently, I have developed a series of small pieces of furniture — stools, side tables — designed to look like sections of baobab trees, extending this artistic and formal exploration towards new uses. Modelled in white or red stoneware, they retain a largely raw appearance, enlivened by imprints and modelled interventions that punctuate the surface. Areas covered with a satin white glaze illuminate these pieces and offer a subtle play of ecru, beige and white shades.

And it doesn't stop there! The ceramic pots and baskets are part of the new selection to be discovered at Maison & Objet in January 2026.

If my pieces make you dream, if the magic works, it means you are on the right path and so am I...

All creation springs from nostalgia for a lost paradise.





















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EXPOSITIONS

2026
Maison&Objet – janvier

2025
Maison&Objet – janvier
Galerie Écu de France, Viroflay (78)
Marché potiers, Villers Bocage (80)
Haut la main, Obernai (67)

2024
Maison&Objet – janvier et septembre
Ob'Art Plaine commune, Saint-Ouen (95)
Biennale de céramique, Steenwerck (59)
Delft Ceramic Days, (NL)
JEMA chez Fayolle Tapissier, Cassel (59)

2023
Delft Ceramic Days, (NL)
Marché de potiers, St-Rémy-les-Chevreuse (78)
Biennale de céramique contemporaine, La Roche-Guyon (95)

2022
Galerie La voie des Arts Bruxelles, (B)
Marché potiers, Villers Bocage (80)
Parcours artistique, Tourinnes-la-Grosse (B)
Les Tupiniers du Vieux Lyon (69)
De briques et de pots, Allonne (95)
Empreintes, Paris

2021
Maison des Métiers d'Art, Pézenas (34)
Les Tupiniers du Vieux Lyon (69)
Marché Céramistes, Steenwerck (59)
Marché Céramistes, Andenne (B)
Galerie 36 Quai des Arts, Niort (79)

2020
La Sécu, Lille (59)
Galerie Le Totem, La Borne (18)
Galerie Signatures, Combrit - Sainte-Marine (29)

2019
Salon des Créateurs, Enghien-les-Bains (95)
Les Tupiniers du Vieux Lyon (69)
Galerie des créateurs, Touques-Deauville (14)
Biennale Steenwerck (59)
Galerie Talents, Paris
Empreintes, Paris

2018
Village d'Artistes, Rablay-sur-Layon (49)
Marché Céramistes, Andenne, (B)
– *Prix Kiwanis*

2017
Biennale de Steenwerck (59)
Le Grand Bassin, Roubaix (59)

2015
École d'art de Douai (59)
Musée La Piscine, Roubaix (59)

GALERIES PERMANENTES

Les Souliers Rouges – Clisson (44)
Le Pot aux Roses – Bourges (18)



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91, boulevard Faidherbe
F-59400 CAMBRAI
+33 (0)6 30 91 94 62
contact@sandrineherlin.net
sandrineherlin.net

@herlinsandrine

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