

There are 23 contemporary artists to discover. The Chinese ceramicist Liu Jianhua fills a room with almost a thousand tumbling porcelain pieces. These are poignant ghosts of objects, glossy but fragile, made in response to a series of plane crashes in China in 2001. One of the passengers was a young boy whose toys were found floating in the ocean. The teddy bears, made uncuddly by clay, will break your heart.

Contrast this serene installation with Margate-based Lindsey Mendick's bizarre and verminous house. In Till Death Do Us Part, clay slugs and ceramic mice battle it out. An octopus erupts from a bathroom lavatory. Imagine Staffordshire spaniels and Dresden shepherdesses recast as rats and caterpillar pairs.

The American Brie Ruais worked with twice her bodyweight in clay to give us two stunning star-shaped ceramic masses. They are like volcanic craters seen from a vulture's eye view. Less successful are Ken Price's nearby clay splats with as many as 70 layers of acrylic surfboard paint. They look like dinosaur droppings.

The Japanese artist Takuro Kuwata got the wow with his glorious Willy Wonka-style walnut whips and croquembouches of clay. David Zink Yi's wall of flint and feather shapes, each with its own beetle-back, tortoise-shell or cowrie glaze, might be natural curiosities from some mission to a distant planet. In the next room, his giant ceramic squid sprawls in a pool of its own glossy ink. Rachel Kneebone is represented by two restrained porcelain twists. I've seen her be weirder elsewhere. Where are her intricate, tangled tributes to Gericault's Raft of the Medusa?

ADVERTISEMENT

tears when she could not seduce Odysseus. Each tear becomes a bead on a necklace, some like urchins, others like gourds, pomegranates, jellyfish or swollen, gilded melons. Amid this madcappery, Edmund de Waal's *atmosphere* is muted and almost lost. Perfect in other settings, it is the odd one out here, like a monk in a bleached linen tunic amid the Notting Hill Carnival floats.

The exhibition runs to Jan 8 (southbankcentre.co.uk)

Follow @timesculture on Twitter to read the latest reviews

Today's Times 2

TELEVISION

House of the Dragon episode 10 — still waiting for the action

October 24 2022, 10.10pm

Ben Dowell

EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEWS | TELEVISION

How women won the Game of Thrones

October 25 2022, 12.01am

Jonathan Dean

FIRST NIGHT | THEATRE

A Single Man — Isherwood's tale impresses on stage

October 24 2022, 12.00am

Clive Davis





Trending news on Gold Markets.

MarketViews



Essential
Guide to
Inheritance
Tax - Free 7
page Guide

Buckingham Gate FP



What is the latest on ETFs?

Market Views



The latest trends on responsible investing

MarketViews





The latest news on commodity markets from leading experts

MarketViews

Comments

Comments are subject to our community guidelines, which can be viewed here.

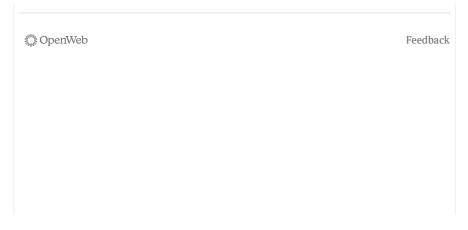
Heather Clark-Charrington





✓ PREVIOUS ARTICLE

NEXT ARTICLE >



▲ BACK TO TOP

THE REST OF STATE OF

GET IN TOUCH	
About us	Contact us
Help	The Times Editor
The Sunday Times Editorial Complaints	Place an announce
Classified advertising	Display advertisin
The Times corrections	The Sunday Time:
Careers	
MORE FROM THE TIMES AND THE SUNDAY TIMES	

The Times e-paper

Times Currency Services

Times Print Gallery

Times Crossword Club

Times+

Times Expert Traveller

Schools Guide

Best Places to Live

Times Appointments

Times Money Mentor

Sportswomen of the Year Awards

© Times Newspapers Limited 2022.

Registered in England No. 894646.

Registered office: I London Bridge Street, SEI 9GF.

Privacy & cookie policy

Licensing

Горісѕ	Authors

Commissioning terms Terms and conditions