

# 4.

## *Sublime Ceramics*



**Willy Guhl Planters**  
ANTIQUE

*The influence of this Swiss designer is as mighty as his designs. These indoor-outdoor planters are instant game changers for any room or patio and only get better with the patina of time.*

—  
\$975–\$1,200  
Elizabeth Pash  
Antiques and  
Decoration via  
1stdibs.com

**Architectural Pottery**  
SAN DIEGO

*Made by hand in the U.S. since 1950, these strikingly simple geometric planters were favorites among midcentury architects and have been exhibited at MoMA.*

—  
\$270–\$1,150  
architectural  
pottery.com

- Thanks to a culture that's skewed a little too digital and a little too corporate, there's a much needed arts-and-crafts revival under way. And it's created a boom in pottery. Ceramicists are finding new ways to make practical objects like mugs, pitchers, and planters into gallery-level sculpture. Here, we kick things off with two vintage pieces by the late, legendary Willy Guhl—before giving it over to our favorite contemporary makers from around the globe.



**1. Settlewell**  
LONG BEACH, CA  
*Tie-dyed concrete, anyone? Laura Cornman uses handmade molds and pigment blends to ensure that each piece transcends the ordinary.*  
—  
\$50–\$70  
settlewell.com

**2. Shino Takeda**  
BROOKLYN  
*Originally from Kyushu in southern Japan, an area known for its pottery, Takeda playfully blends traditional Japanese forms with the vibrant energy of her new home in New York.*  
—  
\$280  
shinotakeda.com

**3. K&R**  
LOS ANGELES  
*Husband-and-wife artists Kat Hutter and Roger Lee make high-fired stoneware that looks good enough to display, but is meant to be used on the daily.*  
—  
\$60–\$250  
katandroger.com



**4. Akio Nukaga**

KASAMA, JAPAN

*The Japanese master potter throws clay pots that look like they could be from ancient times. They've been sold and exhibited around the world at places like Heath Ceramics in San Francisco and Merci in Paris.*

—

\$130–\$580

[akio-nukaga.com](http://akio-nukaga.com)

**5. Suzanne Sullivan**

BROOKLYN

*Sullivan's hand-built porcelain pieces truly blur the line between art and craft—let her gilded, wonky teacups take your morning breakfast routine to a whole other dimension.*

—

\$60–\$70

[suzannesullivanceramics.com](http://suzannesullivanceramics.com)



**6. Derek Wilson  
Ceramics**

BELFAST

*Made on his wheel or hand-slabbed, Wilson's celadon-glazed porcelain and stoneware designs are deceptively simple, with inventive color and geometry that upends expected shapes.*

—  
\$182–\$468  
derekwilson.com

**7. Clam Lab**

CATSKILL, NY

*By using unique glaze and re-firing pieces several times, ceramicist Clair Catillaz creates primitive designs that look like ancient unearthed artifacts.*

—  
\$60–\$350  
clamlab.com





**8. Robert Hessler**  
 KINGSTON, NY  
*The freaky shapes of Hessler's hand-thrown pieces are striking enough, but it's the special glazing technique he uses to crystallize the surface that really makes them come alive.*  
 -  
 \$275-\$695  
 roberthessler.com

**9. Heath Ceramics**  
 SAUSALITO, CA  
*One of California's original potteries and still in the game, Heath makes simple, modern pieces that serve as an ideal entry point for any burgeoning ceramics-head.*  
 -  
 \$26-\$122  
 heathceramics.com