

# Merkel Mall

**FREE COPY — TAKE IT.  
WE'LL REPLACE IT!**  
www.MerkelHess.net 626-394-3963

**From everyday to oeuvreday**

## Square Porcelain Milk Crate

Our most popular product is now available in porcelain.

Page 3

Spring 2012



**SPECIAL OFFER**  
INSIDE  
SEE PAGE 8

See more cool stuff at [www.merkelhess.net](http://www.merkelhess.net)

We're adding new products every so often.



**Welcome** to MerkelMall. We represent many brands\* and specialize in bucketry, wheelthrown and handmade pottery, self-portraits and public spectacles. The next few pages are a sampling of the many products you can find at merkelhess.net. We hope you will log on and order one of our many keepsakes and mementos. At MerkelMall, we also love feedback on our products, so be sure to let us know what you think. Have a great spring and happy shopping!

Matthias Merkel-Hess, president

\* Please see "Art or Brend" by Henry Flynt, 1968

Arm-Length Self Portrait taken at a distance of one merkel.



## CONTENTS

Self Portraits.....2  
Bucketry.....3  
Public Spectacles.....4  
MerkelWare.....4

## MerkelMall Quick Guide

NAME	Matt Merkel-Hess	Matthias Merkel Hess	Merkel
OCCUPATION	potter	artist	persona
BRENDS	MerkelWare	Matthias Merkel Hess Studio	One Merkel Industries

## NEW SHAPES FOR 2012!



## Knee Bowls: Indexical and functional

The original earthenware Kneebowls from MerkelWare made quite a splash when we lauched them last year at the Paul Clay exhibition at Salon 94 in NYC, landing on the pages of *Pin-Up Magazine* and in a *NYTimes* review, where Roberta Smith called them "gaudy, bent bricks." Now in a more refined stoneware palette, we've added new forms including a shin bowl, thigh bowl and double knee bowl. Perfect for sushi, appetizers or even as a change dish, these knee and leg "portraits" just scream Bruce Nauman crossed with a Zen begging bowl. When ordering, specify earthen- or stoneware.

**Knee, Shin, Thigh or Double Knee bowls** \$200 – \$250

## Welcome Matts

These watercolor, ink and footprints on paper drawings are sure to draw a comment in the home or office. Each *Welcome Matt* comes unused—allowing you to walk on the sturdy paper drawing until it is complete. Don't just meet the artist halfway—welcome him into your collection! Described as "punningly irreverent" in the *LA Times*, each drawing is custom made to fit your door. Also available pre-walked on for our busy customers.

**Welcome Matt** \$750



Special 25% sized One Merkel Ruler Bookmark

Clip 'n' Save!



ONE MERKEL

# Bucketry

Plastic vessels in earthenware, stoneware and porcelain by Matthias Merkel Hess



## Laundry Hampers

Like the ubiquitous milk crate, plastic laundry hampers come in a few specific shapes but with endless variations of holes and patterns. Celebrating this diversity, each stoneware hamper comes in a different glaze and hole pattern.

**Laundry Hampers** \$2,500



## Brutes

Our stoneware trash cans are always a favorite. You can't go wrong with one of these vessels modeled after the famous Rubbermaid Brute.

**Brutes** \$4,000



## Porcelain Milk Crates

NEW FOR 2012!

These crates have that solid feel you only find in porcelain. Made with the same care and attention as our regular crates, these sit right side up and come in a variety of glazes that complement the porcelain clay body underneath. These one-of-a-kind creations are what makes Matthias Merkel Hess known as the "second best art potter in L.A."

**Porcelain Crates (square only)** \$3,000

## Earthenware Milk Crates

The Bucketry standard—these crates are made with a highly-grogged earthenware clay that allows for adventurous forms. Standing upside down to better display the bottom pattern, these crates come in square, rectangular, a tall square "water jug" crate, and the only-in-clay triangle crate.

**Triangle Crate** \$2,200

**Square Crate** \$2,400

**Rectangle Crate** \$2,800

**Water Jug Crate** \$2,800



## Gas Cans and Water Carriers

Ignite your collection with these classic, vintage American plastic cans made in slip-cast porcelain. Originally designed for water or gasoline, these pieces give you the best of the garage while leaving the smells and gases behind.

**Gas Cans and Water Carriers, various styles 1 gallon to 5 gallon, \$900–\$1,500**



# Public Spectacles



At MerkelMall, one of our speciality divisions is devoted to producing public spectacles in your home, gallery or public exhibition space. Recent examples include the *Devils Tower—LA* show (and its touring version, *Devils Tower—LA, Amarillo*), the *Fine Art 626-394-3963* public signage, and the moldy drywall installation in the *Haunted JMOCA* show at the JMOCA House Museum in the Silverlake neighborhood of Los Angeles. Our team has been busy planning future shows including such ideas as labyrinths and bison-men, breadheads, fish sculpture parks, and the invention of a new pretzel form (hint, it's named after a last name that rhymes with pretzel!).

Contact us today to inquire about an installation or project that best suits your space.

**Public Spectacle** \$contact us



Top left: *Haunted JMOCA*

Left: *Devils Tower—LA*



# MERKELWARE

Rebuilding the wall between pottery and life since its launch in 2009, MerkelWare has been making a name for itself in Los Angeles and beyond. Perfect for everyday meals as well as those special times when only handmade, artisanal pottery will do. The line began as stoneware whiskey jugs, but has since expanded to bowls, vases, large jugs, knee bowls, bookshelf sculptures, tabletop rocks, coffee drippers and more. Look for new additions in 2012!

**Whiskey Jug** \$95

**Small Flasks** \$50

**Triangle Sculptures** \$250

**Bowls** \$50–\$250

**Stoneware Rocks** \$300

**Coffee Drippers** \$50



# Merkel Mall

## F A Q

### Are you German?

No, I was born in Iowa. My ancestors have been in the United States since about 1850; on my mom's side I'm a seventh-generation Iowan. My heritage is 1/4 Bavarian, 1/4 Dutch, and 1/2 Luxembourgian.

### How much does a Brute weigh?

About 70 lbs, give or take. They can be easily lifted by two people.

### Do they make kilns big enough to fit the Brutes?

Yes, the Brutes fit easily into most kilns. The pieces are relatively small compared to most current ceramic sculpture.

### Do you cast the crates?

No, they are made individually from slabs.

### Is that thing you made for sale?

Yes, everything is for sale.

### Can I use your kilns and studio to make this project of mine?

No.

### What's the Merkel to Inches conversion?

One Merkel is the length of my right arm from arm pit to fingertip, or approximately 31.5 inches. That's about 3.17 centimerkels per inch.

## N A Q

(never asked questions)

### Were you named after the German Renaissance painter Matthias Grunewald?

Yes.