

# Antique Art

## MODERN TECHNIQUES

The sculptures thought of and created by the artist from Iceland, Haukur Hardarson, are somewhat magical; they recall northern myths of a world characterized by daylight for one half of the year, and by darkness for the other half. Griffins, unicorns, centaurs, chimeras, a series of fantastic creatures that are part of every population's culture, continue to live in tales and legends. These objects created by Hardarson recall this universe of mythological animals. They seem as if they were created in hidden places, and they bring to mind ancient stories and artisan care obtained through accurate hand work. Amphoras, vases, and sculptures amaze the observer for the care and time spent by the artist in creating each single piece. The technique used is apparently simple: the objects are made using a paintbrush by gradually spreading numerous layers of grout mixed with different colors on a clay model. The grout is then grinded patiently to reveal the layers of color below the surface.

A procedure that's similar to the erosion due to time, and that gives the sculpture an antique look. At a glance, the objects seem to be cast in metal, but at a closer observation they appear in all their complexity, and seem as if they were made of metal, wood, or stone. To create his works of art though, Hardarson uses tested and advanced Mapei products that he mixes to obtain the final desired result: NIVORAPID with ULTRAPLAN, or with IDROSILEX PRONTO, or all three together. Or still, NIVORAPID with GRANIRAPID and ULTRAPLAN, or the last two only; or GRANIRAPID with MAPEGROUT FAST-SET or with MAPEGROUT THIXOTROPIC or NIVORAPID. Lately, he has been experimenting new combinations: NIVORAPID with MAPEGROUT FAST-SET and NIVORAPID with MAPEGROUT THIXOTROPIC.

The methods and the products used allow the sculptures to look like fossils or ancient urns accidentally discovered by an archeologist. Considering the care and time the artist puts in each single work, his production is composed only of a few sculptures per year; they are one-of-a-kind works of art with a final surprise for the observer, since a fantastic animal 'is hidden' inside each creation.

For whoever would like to contact the artist directly: [haukur@haukur.is](mailto:haukur@haukur.is)

