

LUKE CALDER

Press Release

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Global Design in New Zealand

The stunning series of globes created by Dunedin artist and designer Luke Calder are strikingly modern, technically slick and beautifully capture our Earth as a world unimpeded by the distraction of man-made borders and labels.

Following his range of geographic hemispheres, Calder has created a series of sculptural world globes. These black or white spheres spin effortlessly, while their sinuous lines and intricate gilded detail offer something new with each turn.

Calder's works have been inspired by his childhood fascination with maps and globes and exotic locations, far removed from his upbringing in Auckland, New Zealand. He spent many hours looking at old National Geographic magazines and hunting down vintage tin globes, each unique and full of inspiration.

The globes Calder creates are partly in response these early treasures of his, and partly as a response to his struggle to find a sleek, modern globe. "I wanted a globe that celebrated the form and shape Earth, without words, borders or definition of countries, leaving the form of land and water. I wanted to trigger an appreciation of the world as a whole."

"This planet Earth is a special and unique place. It is clear that humans are having a significant influence on the health of this planet. My hope is that my work will motivate people to consider these issues."

Calder's globes are all hand-made from spun aluminium, painted meticulously and gilded in Calder's studio. The process is slow and painstaking; the detailed coastlines and tiny islands are incredibly precise and the copper gilding that forms the land masses needs constant supervision as Calder coaxes the patina finish into life. These elegant shapes change over time as the copper continues to react, creating an organic and unique piece of art.

lukecalder.co.nz.

