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Functional Pots With Decorative Expression

By MARIA NEWMAN

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Adam Silverman's latest pots, which will be on view in Los Angeles beginning this weekend, seem to have emerged from a volcano: they are intensely colored, craggily textured and in some cases evoke the flow of lava. Mr. Silverman, a ceramics artist who lives in Los Angeles, was trained as an architect at the Rhode Island School of Design. A few years ago, he decided to devote himself full time to making pottery. From 2010 to 2012, he created pieces for the Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth, using only materials unearthed at the site of the Renzo Piano-designed pavilion that will complement the existing Louis Kahn building. Those works are smooth, large and monotone, the colors reminiscent of hard soil, arid greenery and excavated concrete.

His latest pieces deviate from the Kimbell works in colors and texture. "They literally are fired several times," Mr. Silverman said. "I grind them down and then reglaze them and fire them again. There's never decoration, per se. There's no imagery. Maybe it's in the tradition of abstract expressionism. I make my pots to be functional, but some people who purchase them use them, some don't."

"Adam Silverman: New Pots and Sculptures" will open Saturday and run through Dec. 29 at Edward Cella Art + Architecture, 6018 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, (323) 525-0053, edwardcella.com.