



# Johannes Nagel

## Trial and Error

Jorg Johnen

Marcel Rene Marburger

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Happenstance and gesture play a central role in the creative work of the ceramicist Johannes Nagel (b. 1979). His objects, which are orientated towards traditional ideas of vessels but are also freely composed, examine the associations between form and idea. Using work techniques such as burrowing into sand to form negative figurations for casting, he successfully performs his work directly and manually, lending the process of searching a tangible presence.

The publication focuses on Nagel's oeuvre from the last four years. Earlier work groups are also presented as highlights. The collector Jörg Johnen and the philosopher Marcel René Marburger set Nagel's work in relation to artistic tendencies of the twentieth century and shine a light on the intellectual-historical background of the gestural as an intermediary between the power of imagination and its manifestation in an object.

Text in English and German.

**Prof. Dr. phil. Marcel René Marburger** M.A., studied art history, German studies and philosophy at the University of Cologne and received his doctorate for his thesis on the relevance of Vlém Flusser's works. He is a lecturer, curator and publicist. Currently he is teaching at the universities of Berlin and Dortmund (DE).

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