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## **Gio Ponti: Fascination for Ceramics**

**Dario Matteoni, Pietro Petraroia, Giacinta Cavagna di Gualdana : Gio Ponti: Fascination for Ceramics** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Gio Ponti: Fascination for Ceramics:

One of the last centurys leading architects and industrial designers, Gio Ponti (18911979) was at the helm of Italys massive design renaissance in the years following World War Two, becoming particularly celebrated for his incredibly lightweight Superleggera (Superlight) chairs of the late 1950s. Ponti initially studied architecture but abandoned it upon graduation to take up a position as art director at the Milanese ceramics manufacturer, Richard-Ginori. He remained at the company for the rest of the decade, designing ceramic, porcelain and majolica vases, bowls, figurines

and trays that infused a Wiener Werksttte elegance with his own love of visual storytelling. Ponti embellished his works with images of shapely women enveloped by tufts of clouds or resting upon classical architecture, animals in flight, and boats sailing upon rough, wave-filled seas. This volume appraises Pontis ceramic oeuvre for the first time.