Design, Hands, Thinking, Beautiful, Mother, Novelty, Designer, People, Mean, Clay, Woods, Be Kind, Creative, Men, Aesthetic, Doe, Support, Knows, Artist, Airports

The playful search for beauty.

~Eva Zeisel

I don't call myself an 'industrial designer,' because I'm other things. Industrial designers want to make novel things. Novelty is a concept of commerce, not an aesthetic concept.

~Eva Zeisel

When I met my designs in the market of a remote village in the West Indies, or in the airport restaurant in Zurich, I felt like the mother of many well-behaved children.

~Eva Zeisel

Everything I do is a direct creation of my hands, whether it is made in wood, plaster or clay.

~Eva Zeisel

I never wanted to do something grotesque. I never wanted to shock. I wanted my audience to be happy, to be kind.

~Eva Zeisel

Beautiful things make people happy.

~Eva Zeisel

If I hadn't been a designer, I'd have been a painter. I began as a painter and learned the craft of pottery in order to support myself.

~Eva Zeisel

Men have no concept of how to design things for the home. Women should design the things they use.

~Eva Zeisel

My designs are meant to attract the hand as well as the eye.

~Eva Zeisel

I think with my hands. I design things to be touched-not for a museum. A piece is ready when it has the shape of something to cherish.

~Eva Zeisel

If you think of beautiful things, you're not sad.

~Eva Zeisel

When you have clay in your hands, it's hard to avoid making birds.

~Eva Zeisel

When you begin your work, nothing exists. When it is finished it looks as if it just happened, spontaneously, effortlessly, convincingly. It looks as though it had been there all along.

~Eva Zeisel

I am a maker of useful things.

~Eva Zeisel

When I design something, I think of it as a gift to somebody else.

~Eva Zeisel

I don't know the difference between working and not working.

~Eva Zeisel

Novelty is a concept of commerce, not an aesthetic concept.

~Eva Zeisel

I made the things particularly because I wanted them to see the world.

~Eva Zeisel

Art has more ego to it than what I do.

~Eva Zeisel

My work is very bodily. It's not a shell, but a body.



My time in Weimar Berlin was the most elegant in my life. I would have parties for a hundred people - writers, scientists, artists.

~Eva Zeisel

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