# California Comes to New Lynn: Dorothy Thorpe & Crown Lynn

Finn McCahon- Jones Curator, Te Toi Uku Museum



Crown Lynn Dinnerware Centre 246 Queen Street, Auckland



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Dorothy C. Thorpe (American, 1901-1989). Cup and Saucer, ca. 1940. Bisque porcelain, 2 1/4 x 6 x 4 3/4in. (5.7 x 15.2 x 12.1cm). Brooklyn Museum, Gift of Daniel Morris and Denis Gallion, 1990.150a-b. Creative Commons-BY (Photo: Brooklyn Museum, CUR.1990.150a-b.jpg)





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### **Cup and Saucer**

**DECORATIVE ARTS** 

On View: Luce Visible Storage and Study Center, 5th Floor



MANUFACTURER Porcelaine de Paris

MEDIUM Bisque porcelain

**DATES** ca. 1940

**DIMENSIONS** 2 1/4 x 6 x 4 3/4in. (5.7 x 15.2 x 12.1cm) (show scale)

MARKINGS printed on under side of each: in black: PORCELAINE / (crossed wheat sheaves) / DE PARIS; in red: MADE IN FRANCE / EXPRESSLY FOR / Dorothy C. Thorpe

**SIGNATURE** no signature

**INSCRIPTIONS** no inscriptions

**COLLECTIONS** Decorative Arts

MUSEUM LOCATION This item is on view in Luce Visible Storage and Study Center, 5th Floor

ACCESSION NUMBER 1990.150a-b

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Mixing bowl compared to Dorothy Thorpe design salad bowl.







Various designs by Dorothy Thorpe.

Unknown manufacturers, Various dates (images from google)



Dorothy Thorpe (c.1938) photo by Max Munn Autrey

www.thefamilysavvy.com/







Dorothy Thorpe at Crown Lynn Potteries





Pine cup with straight sides



Pine plate and backstamp



Dorothy Thorpe crockery of distinction



Frank Carpay MTG Hawkes Bay



Ernie Shufflebotham



## Museum of Californian Design (MOCAD) From 'CALIFORNIA'S DESIGNING WOMEN: 1896–1986



Contry Therps c. 1966s Control Harouret Bach estrictions on the use of Lucite during World War II temporarily ended **Dorothy Thorpe's** innovative use of that new material, but they did not interfare with her production of etched glass and the introduction of her popular silver-band glassware. Although she sold her controlling interest in Dorothy C. Thorpe Inc. in 1954. Thorpe continued designing for the company until 1974. Among her designs in this period were the Lucite vase/umbrella stand and the Lucite and glass pepper mill included in this exhibition. She also designed table linens and created figural molded-resin sculptures.

Thorpe's work for other companies includes a fanciful ceramic dinnerware service with ball handles that she designed in 1965 for Crown Lynn Potteries of New Zealand.

When Thorpe closed her boutique in the May Company Wilshire building, she salvaged the 7-by-8-foot panels of plate glass etched with eucalyptus and sycamore trees that had formed the shop walls. She subsequently had them installed as picture windows in the home she built in Rancho Santa Fe. Dorothy Thorpe died in Carlsbad, California, in 1989.

