



Jim Hake

Easier Said Than Done

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This exhibition is a poetic reflection on the personal and social filters that condition the way we present ourselves and communicate. It explores ideas of nostalgia, connectedness, communication, and social relationships.

The two series, "Lost and Found" and "The Friend Project", explore these concepts through images and language. They are composite works that play on some of the fundamental oppositions inherent both to relationships and artistic creativity: identity/anonymity, multiplicity/uniqueness, fragility/strength.

Lost and Found is a series entirely made of found gloves. Inspired by their gestural qualities and the fact they are shells/remnants of a human presence. Hake uses these objects as a metaphor of loss and as opportunities for communication. Modeling gestures that replicate ASL (American Sign Language) letters, Hake composes these gloves into brief, ironic and, at times humorous phrases that are a distillation of ideas of change and adversity.

The Friend Project reflects on the traces and memories that connect us to the people from our past. These meticulously crafted ceramic mosaics are composed with the photographs of past friends that are part of the virtual network of the artist. Using social media pages, Hake collects images of friends and transfers them onto porcelain forms. This series reflects





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I'm happy to meet at

your place or take you out



An aerial photograph of a large residential development, possibly a housing estate or a new town. The image shows a dense grid of houses with dark, pitched roofs. The houses are arranged in neat rows, separated by narrow streets and larger, winding roads. The perspective is from directly above, looking down on the rooftops. The lighting suggests a bright, sunny day, with shadows cast by the buildings. The overall impression is one of a well-planned, modern housing scheme.

you are welcome to my house



From: Jim Hake
Date: January 1, 2013 12:38:57 PM EST
To: you
Subject: catalog

Hi Friends

I am in the process of creating a catalog of my recent exhibition, "Easier Said Than Done".

Since the work in the show was about relationships and social media I have decided to try a different approach to the text of the catalog.

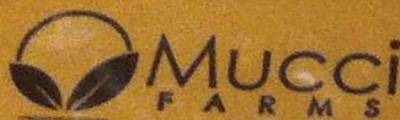
I am asking friends to write about the work. It can be anything you like: a reflection on your favourite piece, an overview of the show, a couple of lines, a paragraph, a critical essay, a haiku, a shopping list - whatever you are inspired to write.

I hope to include a contribution from you in the catalog. If you are interested and have the time, let me know. I will need to have it ready for February 20.

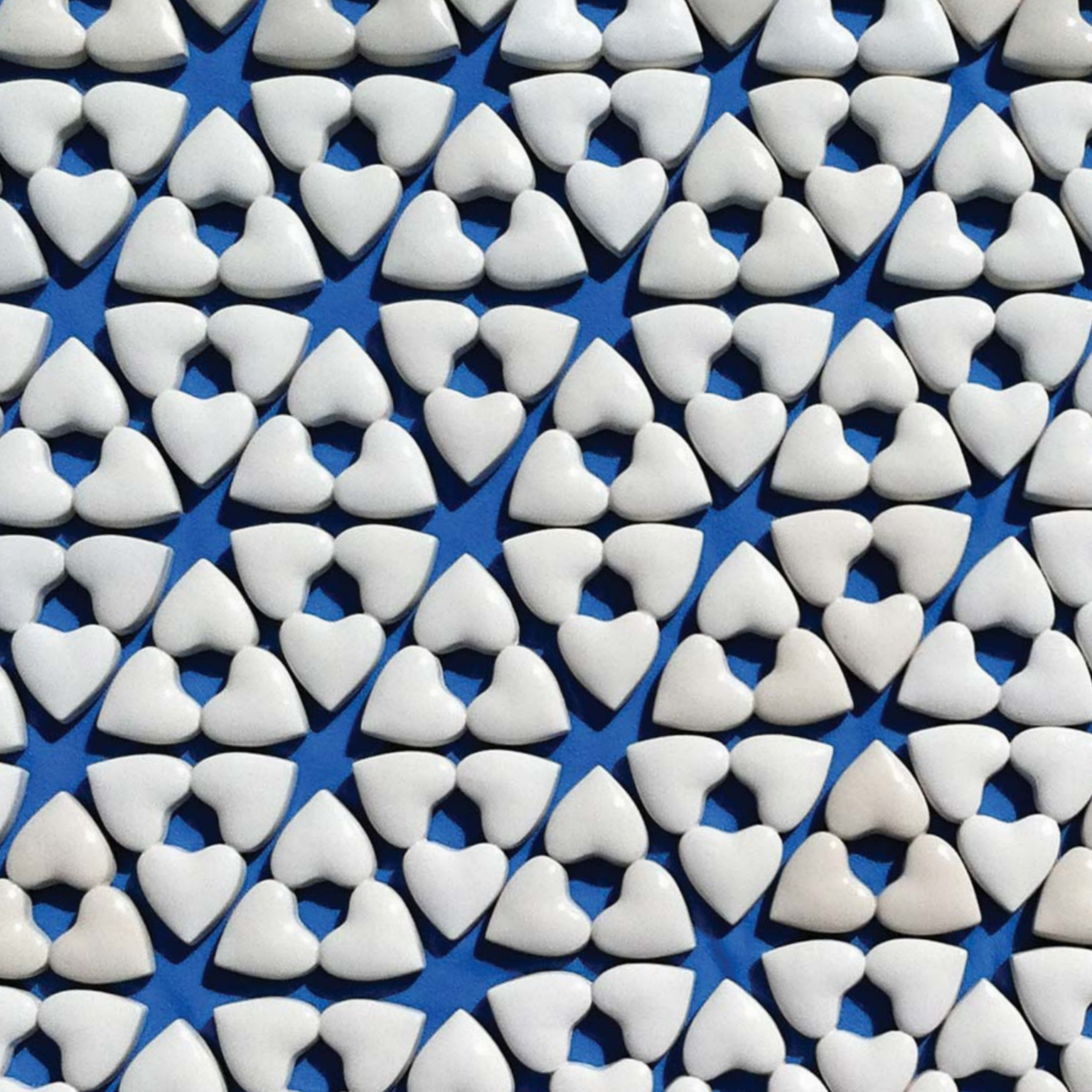
Thanks

Jim

p.s.- no knock-knock jokes

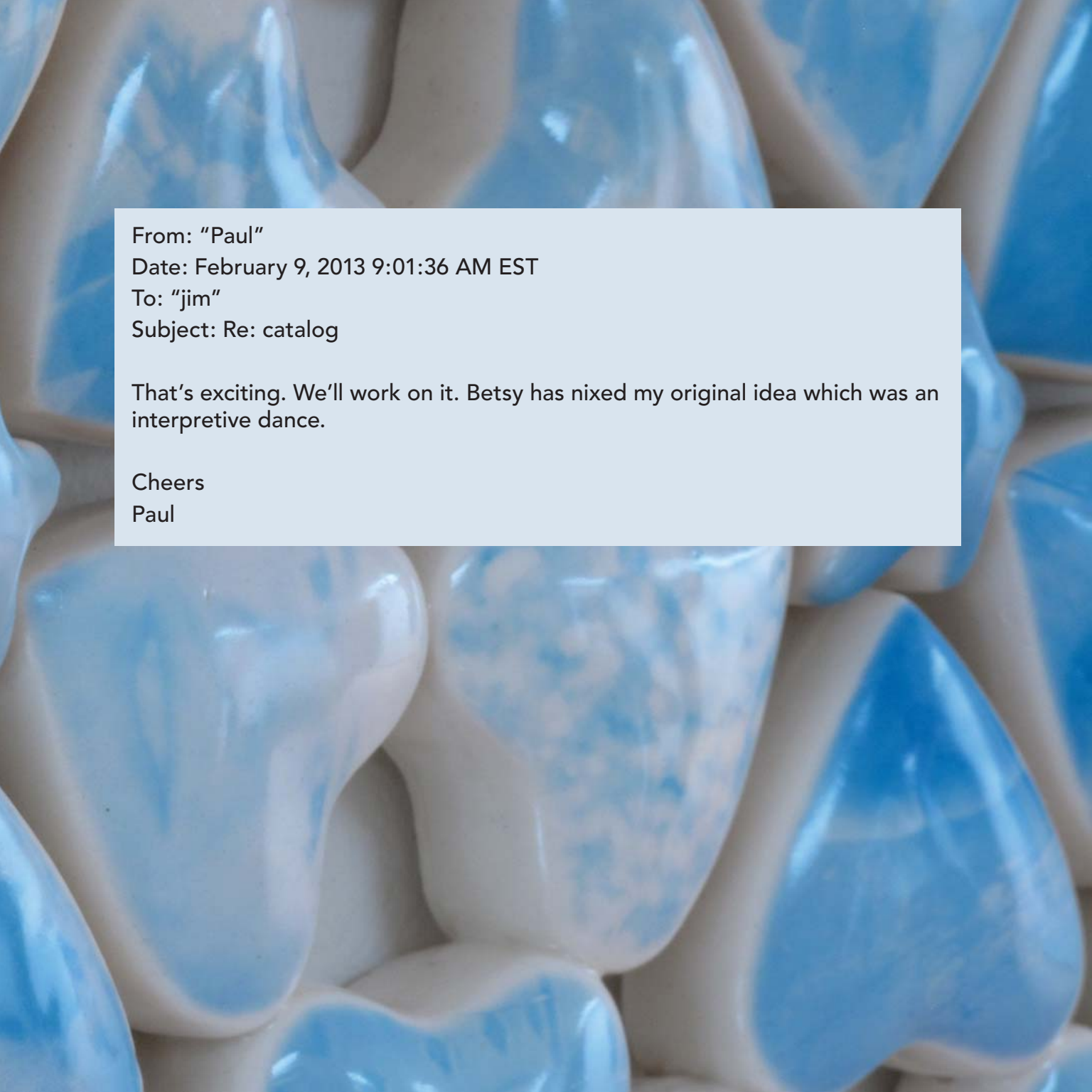






The Friend Project



The background of the entire image is a close-up photograph of several opal stones. The stones are primarily light blue and white, with some showing darker blue or black patterns (play of color). They are arranged in a cluster, with some stones in the foreground being more in focus than others in the background.

From: "Paul"

Date: February 9, 2013 9:01:36 AM EST

To: "jim"

Subject: Re: catalog

That's exciting. We'll work on it. Betsy has nixed my original idea which was an interpretive dance.

Cheers

Paul

The background of the entire image is a close-up, top-down view of numerous cookies. Most of the cookies are heart-shaped and have a vibrant blue icing. There are also a few star-shaped cookies with blue icing. The cookies are arranged in a somewhat random pattern, filling the entire frame.

From: Deborah

Date: February 6, 2013 5:33:25 PM EST

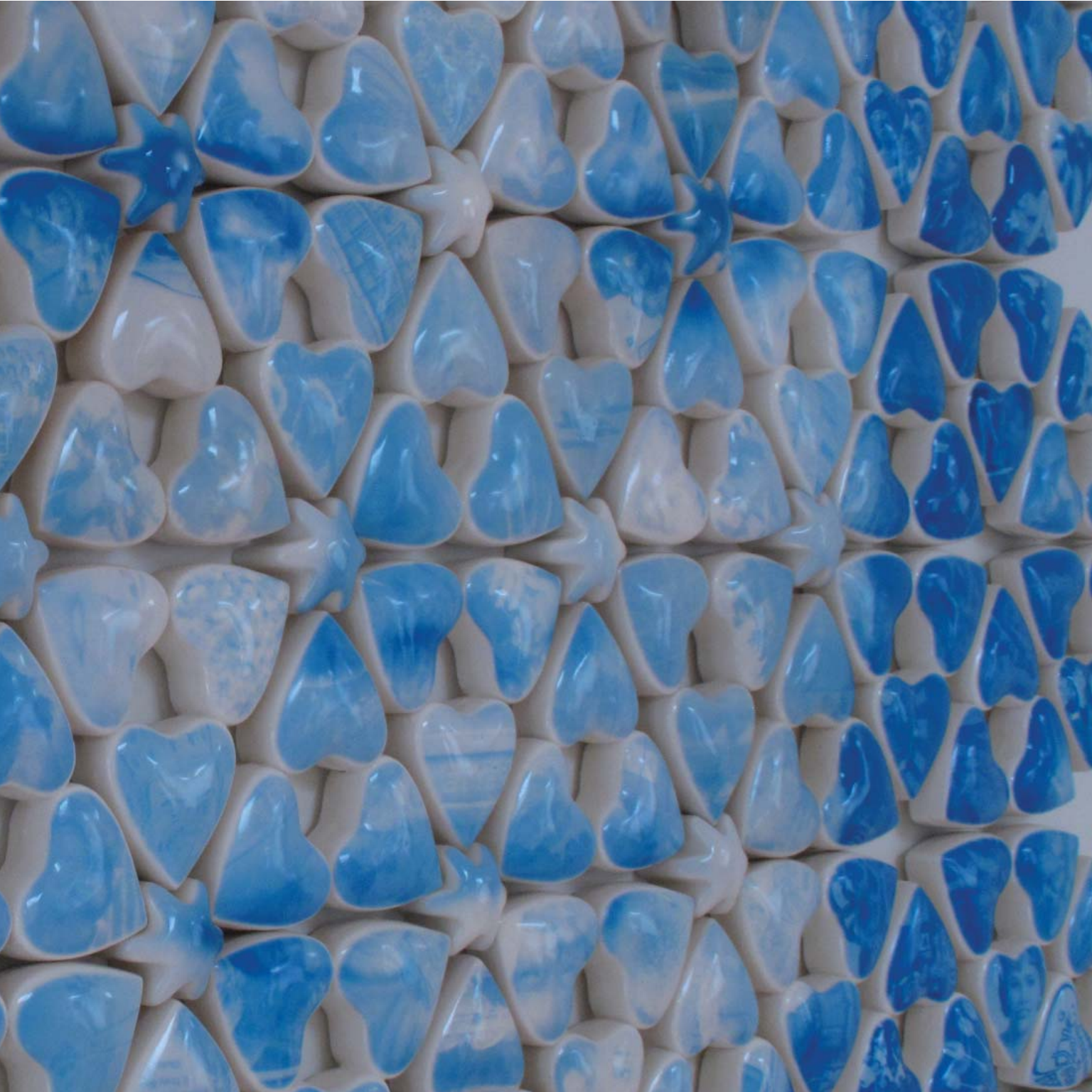
To: jim hake

Subject: Re: catalog

okay, great motivation, I have a short piece that I really want to finish, plus I took pictures of your show too, you probably have lots but I could show you what I have.

I'll finish it this weekend. I really thought the show was brilliant, especially the porcelain gloves.

D



From: Christian

Date: February 6, 2013 9:42:46 PM EST

To: jim hake

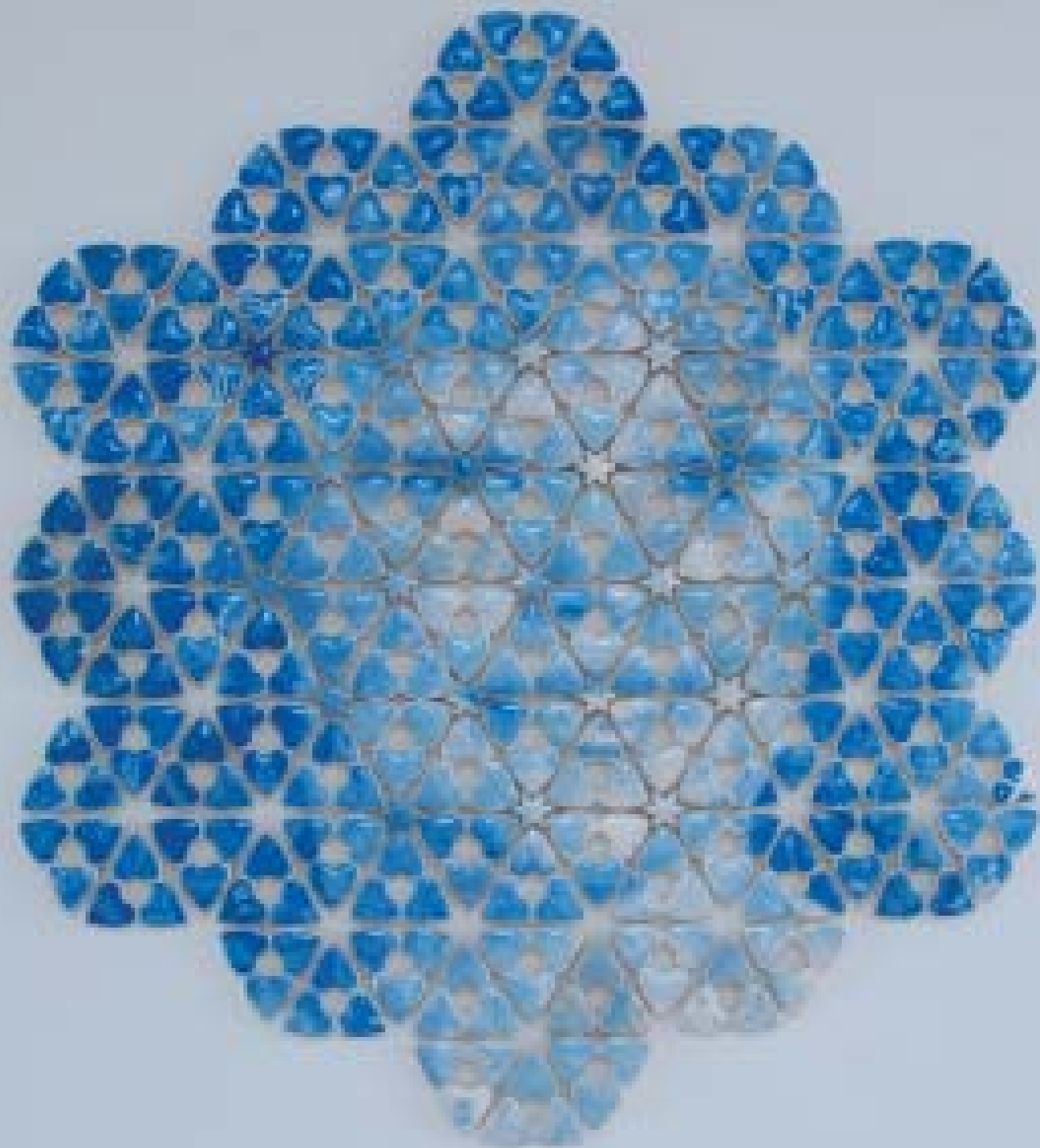
Subject: RE: catalog

That a great idea:

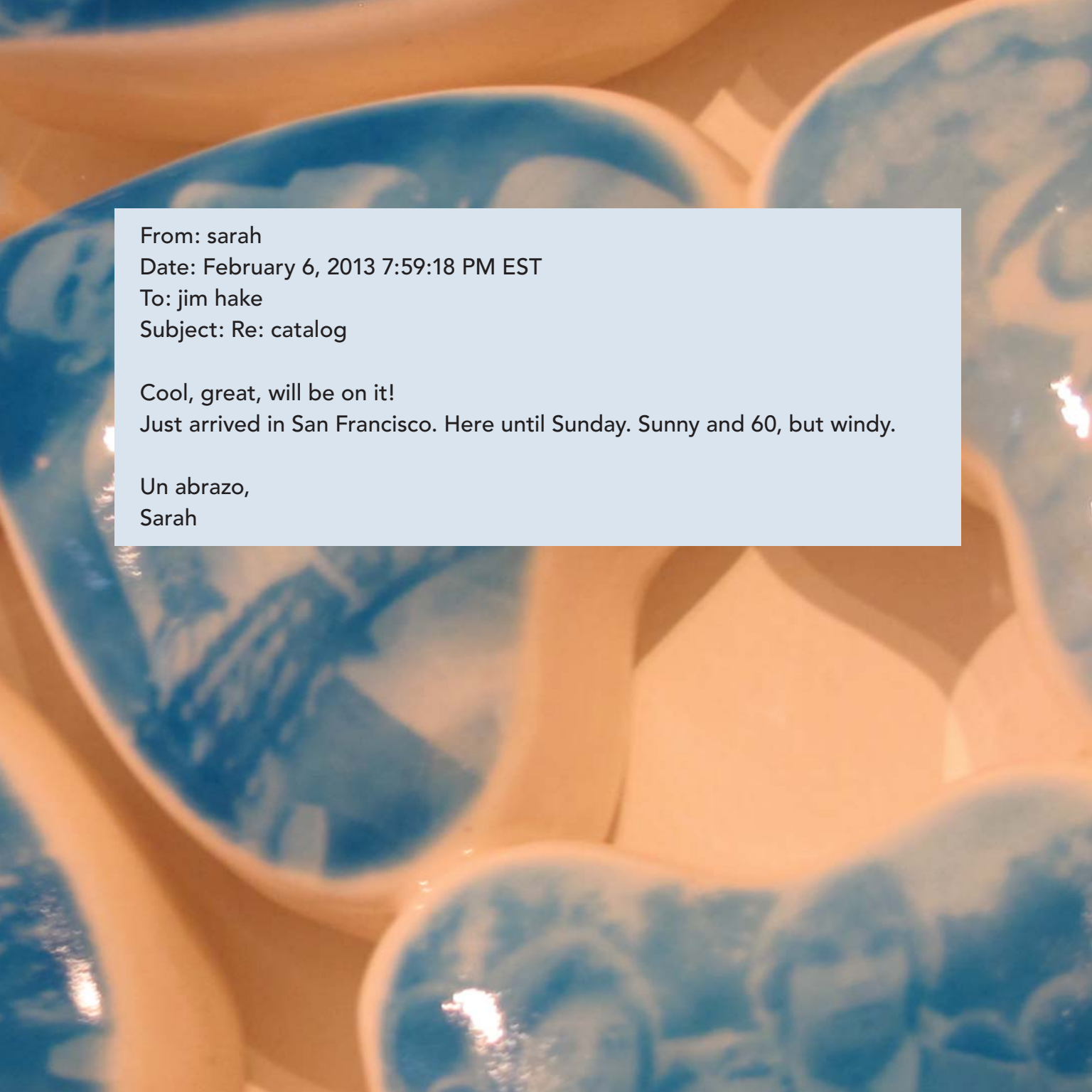
Here is my quote for Alicia (Friend Project Series), porcelain, mixed media, 50 x 45 inches, 2012:

"Je la dévorerais comme des petits gâteaux"

Christian







From: sarah

Date: February 6, 2013 7:59:18 PM EST

To: jim hake

Subject: Re: catalog

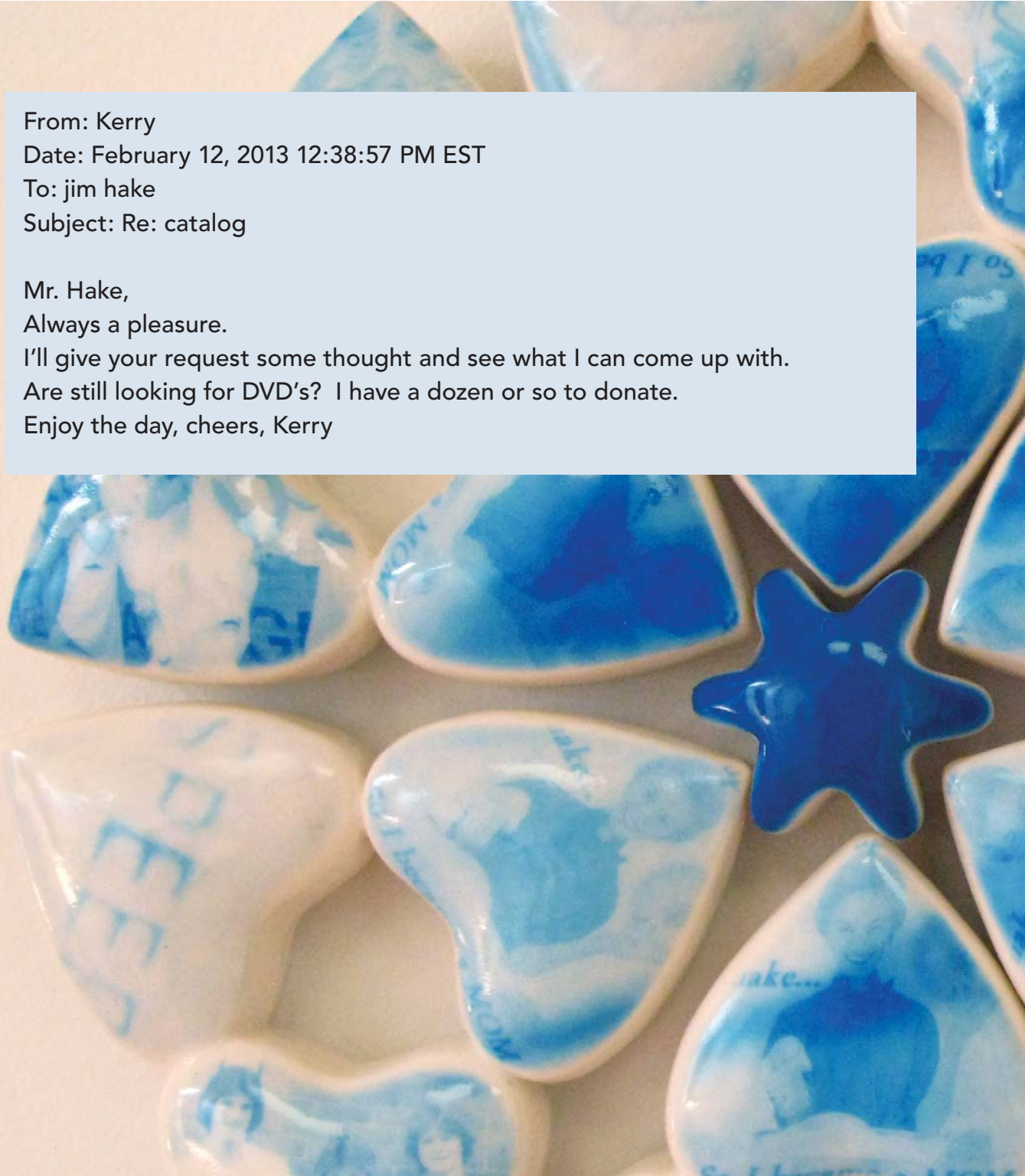
Cool, great, will be on it!

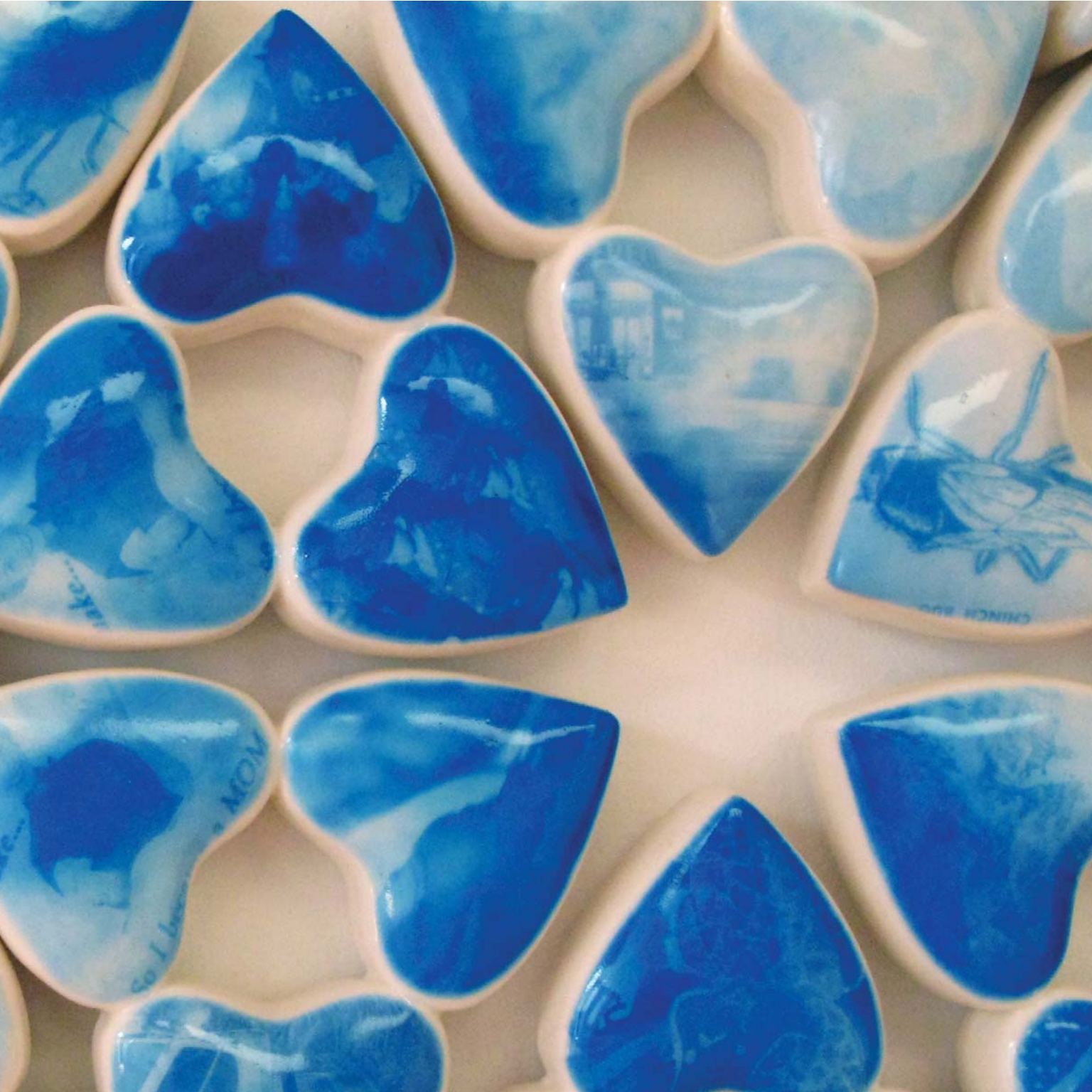
Just arrived in San Francisco. Here until Sunday. Sunny and 60, but windy.

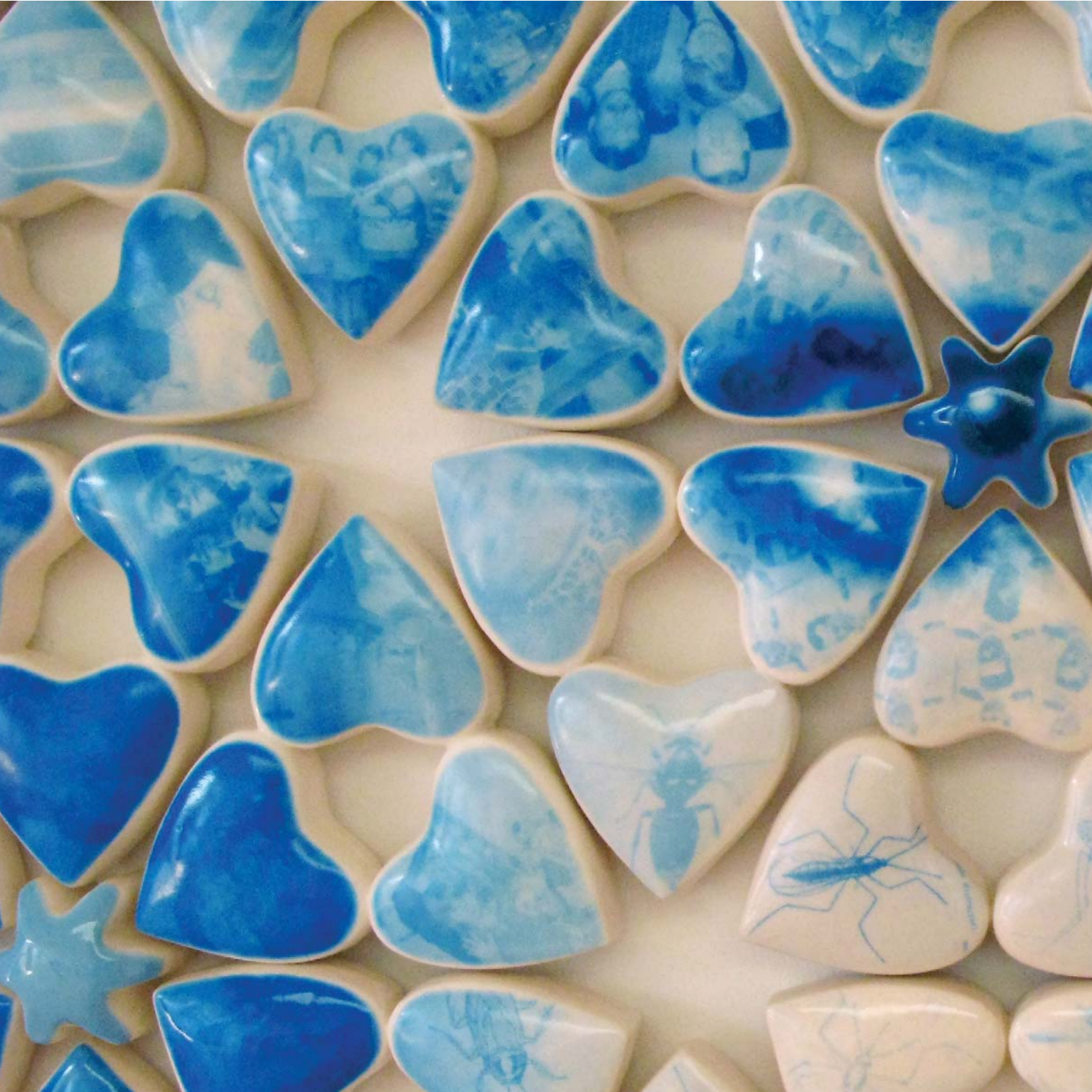
Un abrazo,
Sarah

From: Kerry
Date: February 12, 2013 12:38:57 PM EST
To: jim hake
Subject: Re: catalog

Mr. Hake,
Always a pleasure.
I'll give your request some thought and see what I can come up with.
Are still looking for DVD's? I have a dozen or so to donate.
Enjoy the day, cheers, Kerry









From: "Consuelo"

Date: February 6, 2013 3:15:57 PM EST

To: "jim hake"

Subject: RE: catalog

oh my god... i would have never imagined!!!

of course i'll contribute with my esl english... you'll have to fix it
though....)

patty smith?????

From: Melanie
Date: February 10, 2013 11:07:49 AM EST
To: jim hake
Subject: Re: catalog

Hi Jim

I will attempt to do this although I do not consider myself a writer I will try to do you and your work justice...

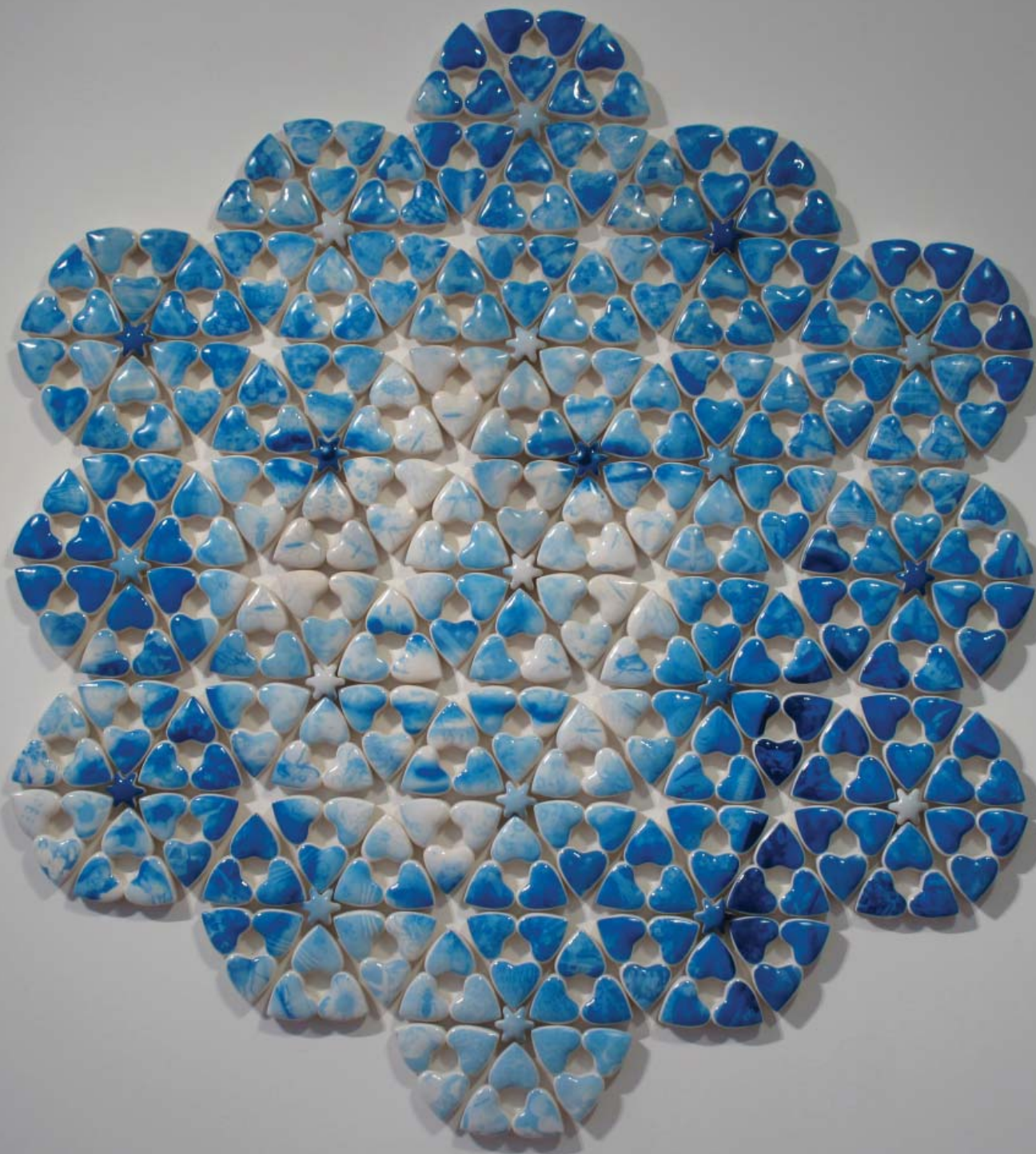
Melanie's take on Jim Hake:


At first glance, Jim Hake's work struck a cord in me with its playful decorative use of patterns, colours and repetition of forms. However, on closer inspection, his worked surprised me by revealing within their compositions much more than what it was that initially delighted my eye. His inventiveness with materials and techniques, combined with a wry sense of humour, communicates his message, which is intriguingly subtle. With a deft hand and a lively imagination, Jim's artistry transcends the merely decorative to bare an inner truth.

(word count – 86)

Melanie

Sent from my iPod





From: "Valentina"

Date: February 7, 2013 9:04:48 AM EST

To: jim hake

Subject: Re: catalog

Hello Jim,

Would be delighted too, will send you a paragraph shortly - I promise! I think your work is really amazing...

Take care,

Valentina



From: Valentina

Date: February 10, 2013 9:22:35 PM EST

To: jim hake

Subject: Re: catalog

Hello Jim,

This what comes to me when I saw your work. Please feel free to edit it, if this is not what you were looking for. Again i wish I could take creative classes with you!

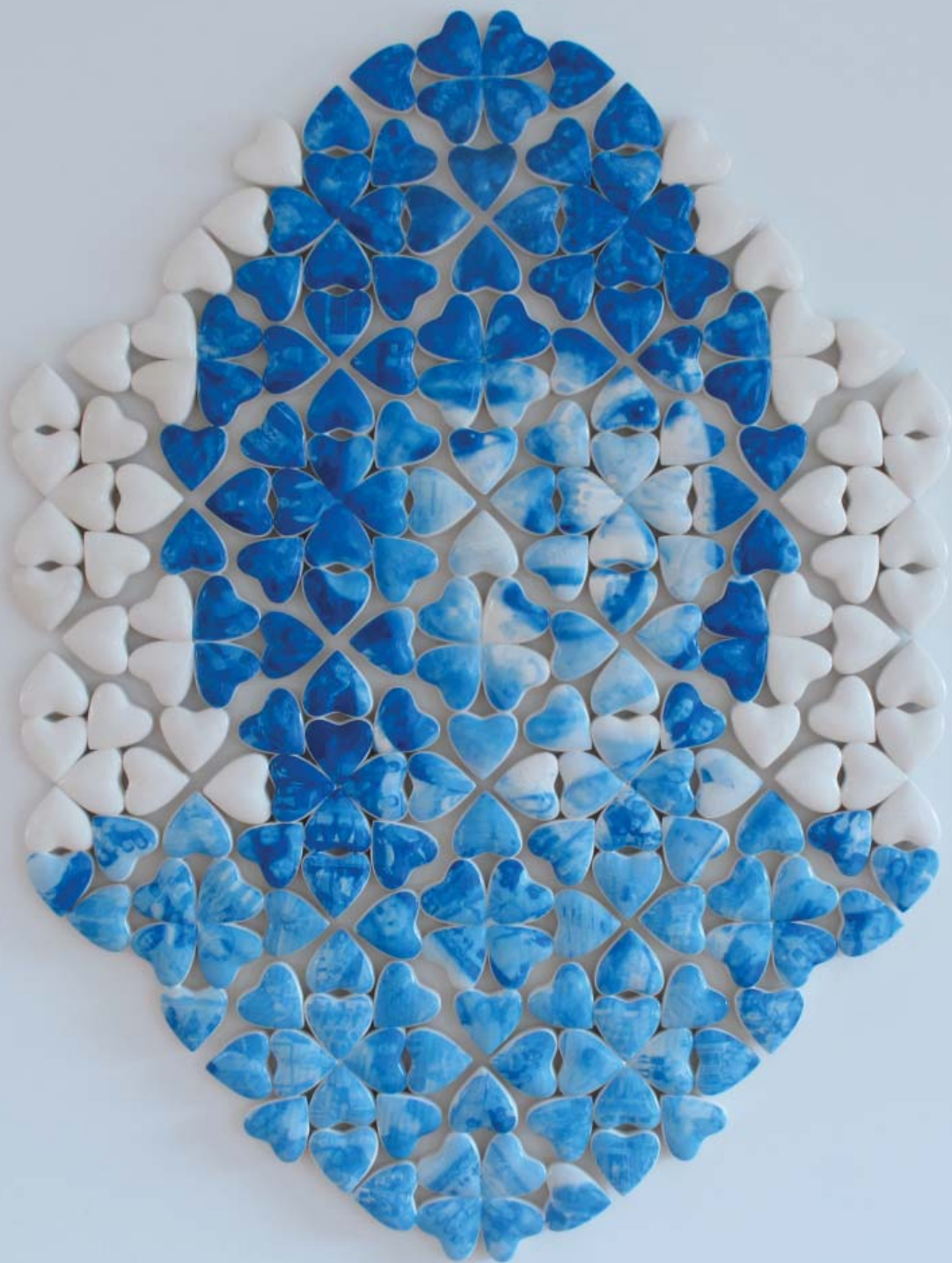
Take care

Valentina

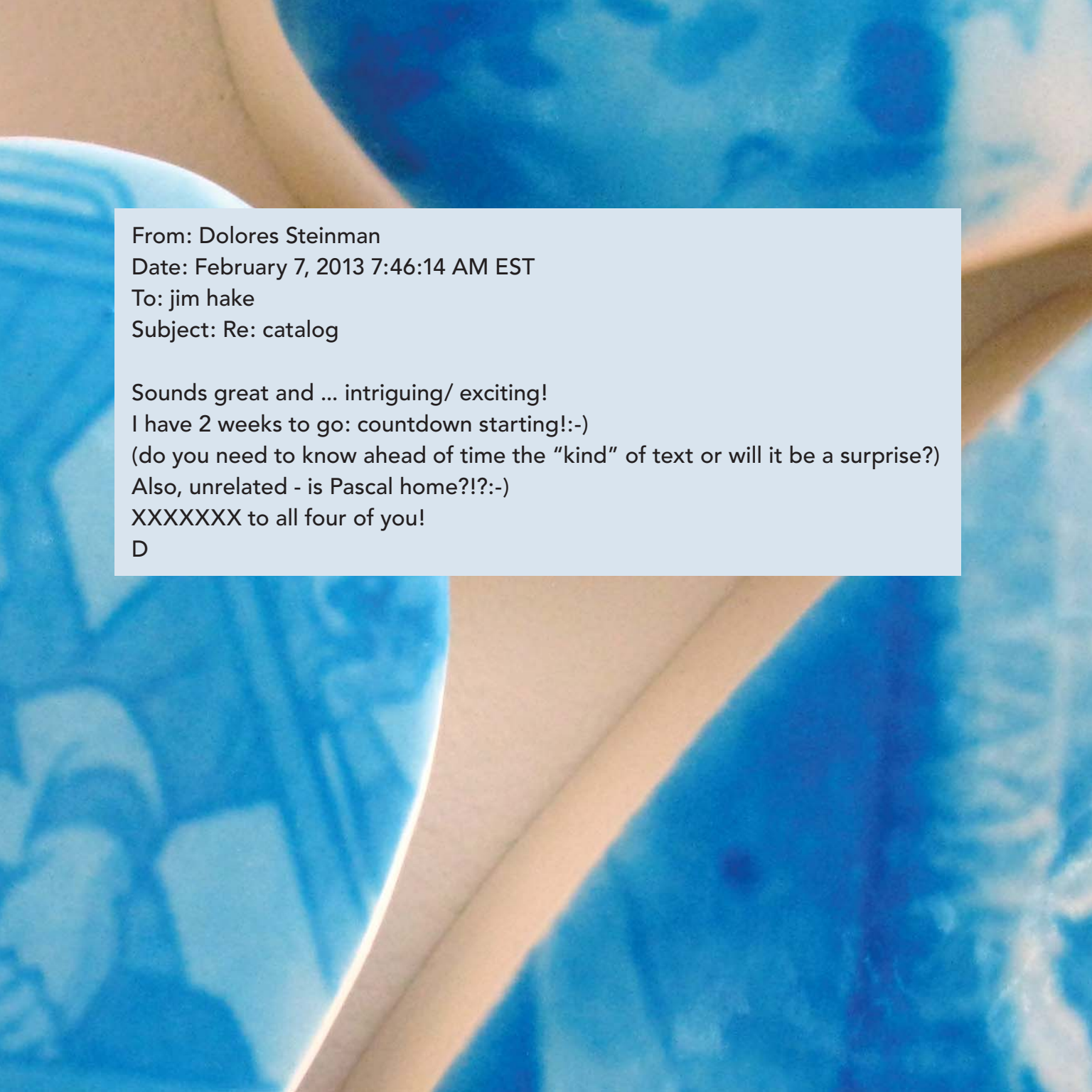
Jim Hake's work has the power of magical tales and Holbein's mirrors. Set in a tradition of profoundly moving and witty memory work, Jim's production shows a mastery of execution, a cleverness of ideas and an insight into the weight of the heart in the everyday life that compares to the contemporary work of Agnes Martin and Michelangelo Pistoletto.

Beautifully crafted, Jim's work signals a care for the form that constantly reminds of the unsettling beauties of life and the uncunningness of its returns.

Sent from my iPad








From: Dolores Steinman
Date: February 7, 2013 7:46:14 AM EST
To: jim hake
Subject: Re: catalog

Sounds great and ... intriguing/ exciting!
I have 2 weeks to go: countdown starting!:-)
(do you need to know ahead of time the "kind" of text or will it be a surprise?)
Also, unrelated - is Pascal home?!?:-)
XXXXXXX to all four of you!
D



From: pascal

Date: February 6, 2013 3:21:27 PM EST

To: jim hake

Subject: Re: catalog

No problem Jim;

I'll try my best, but if it's too bad - or not good enough - I'll not be hurt if you don't select it for your catalog.

Writing, specially in english, is not really my strength, but with Cynthia beside me, it should be easier.

Otherwise, I hope you are doing fine. Here it's quite "dead"; wrong location, I guess, but too late to change.

I wait until spring to see how things will turn out. Talk you soon.

Pascal



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(word count – 86)

Melanie

Sent from my iPod



There is magic all around us.







Hopefully we will

always have someone to show it to us.





Lost and Found

