KIDDO: Heyday™
by CEAN IRMINGER
FROM THE ARTIST
Heyday is a love letter to the enduring delights of childhood. The worldwide shutdown that began in the spring of 2020 was a time fraught with anxiety and stress, but along with these heavy hurdles there was an unexpected nugget of joy: the time spent with my family that I would not have had otherwise. Quite suddenly, my husband and I became our daughters’ sole teachers, playmates, and confidantes, and we scrambled to find ways to teach and engage with our girls. We spent our newfound quality time going back to the basics. We wandered into nature to find inspiration, read comics together, tie-dyed whatever white bits of cloth we could find, and played simple games that never go out of style. It was amazing to see that these same activities that I loved decades ago and that brought me such a wonderful dose of nostalgic comfort were just as important and special to my daughters, and it made me think about the things we never grow too old to appreciate. Together we discovered beautiful sights in nature like the dances of fireflies or the phases of the moon, we worked together to keep a balloon from touching the ground, and we set up dominoes just to knock them down. This collection captures those innocent moments of play and awe, providing a portal out of the mundane, stressful duties of adulthood and creating a connection back to the simple magic of childhood.

- Cean Irminger, Creative Director, New Ravenna
“No matter how old my girls get, if there is a balloon in the room, it must not hit the ground. Every child I know is obsessed. At my daughter’s birthday party we had extra partiers show up and I didn’t have enough punch balloons, so I offered stuffed animals and candy and anything I could in place, but nothing could take the place of the balloons. I had to steal my 2 girl’s balloons and promise to give them double balloons later for their sacrifice.” - Cean Irminger
“While stuck at home in 2020, we came upon the amazing world of backyard tie-dyeing. We grabbed anything white and dyed until our hands were stained blue and our clothes were rainbow. There is nothing like the unwrapping and unveiling of a tie dye. No matter what, it is delightful to see (even if it’s hideous). My first job was as a tie dye instructor for a summer camp and I can say with confidence that I have lost my skills, but I still love the surprise.” - Cean Irminger
“Dottie reminds me of a high bounce ball casting a shadow. It could also be a polka dot party or a dot-to-dot puzzle, waiting to be solved. But my original inspiration was from my love of comics. I adore the Ben Day Dot 3-color printing process where secondary colors would be made by putting dots of contrasting or complimentary colors side by side or overlapping. There is a vibe so graphic and mid-century about the process. It instantly brings you back. It’s my homage to one of my most enduring obsessions (did I forget to mention I’m a nerd?).” - Cean Irminger
"I was inspired to do something with dominoes at a New Ravenna 4th of July picnic. I noticed a huddle of folks in the back corner of the park, and when I went to investigate I came upon the most rip-roaring game of dominoes I had ever seen! Tiles were slapped down so fast and loud, people were shouting and laughing. This pattern is for my coworkers, who started this journey of finding the things from childhood that still delight the adults we have become. Or the kids we still are at heart."

- Cean Irminger
“Granny Squares is an homage to all the beloved crocheted or knitted baby blankets in the world, often made by loving and talented relations. Whether it is called a blankie or a woobie, these cherished rags bring a special type of comfort that nothing can emulate. But I still tried.”

- Cean Irminger
PHASE TO PHASE
Nero Marquina, Cavern, Aurum, Moonflower

PHASE TO PHASE
Orchid, Tiger Lily, Magnolia

NIGHT LIGHTS
Nero Marquina, Indigo, Orchid, Fern, Aurum, Sweetgrass, Thassos
"The most enduring memories of the shutdown will be of my girls and I exploring the woods around our home. We discovered amazing moths and tried to classify them all. We chased, caught, and released fireflies at dusk, and we watched the moon track across the months and learned the names of all of the phases. With all the electronic distractions available, nature’s lessons reign supreme when it comes to inspiring awe." - Cean Irminger
CREWEL WORLD
Thassos, Olive, Fern, Sweetgrass,
Zinnia, Tiger Lily, Orchid,
Hydrangea, Cornflower,
Goldenrod, Carrara, Iris

BOHEMOTH
Orpheus Black, Ming Green, Kay's Green,
Cornflower, Orchid, Periwinkle, Travertine
Noce, Red Travertine, Tiger Lily, Goldenrod,
Botticino, Giallo Reale, Thassos, Afyon
White, Carrara, Saint Laurent
"Crewel World is named after the woolen embroidery of the Jacobian era. As a child I had a crewelwork comforter and I never tired of looking through the vines and leaves, trying to discover new animals. It might’ve been my love for Narnia books that made me think that one day I could find a secret passage to that embroidered world and explore it all. It still hasn’t happened, but I haven’t given up hope just yet.”  - Cean Irminger
“These little borders were inspired by the game Snakes and Ladders. I wanted to capture the feeling of snakes turning into ladders, which led me to geometric patterns like the classic Greek key. Of course, I can’t resist a bit of word play, so here we are.”

- Cean Irminger
ST GARTER SNAKEY
Thassos, Nero Marquina, Orchid
New Ravenna®
GLAZED BASALTO...

MANGROVE
VL3
BMN
GRPS

MERCUry
VL3
BME
GRPP

MOONFLOWER
VL3
BMO
GRPP

OLEANDER
VL3
BOL
GRPS

ORCHID
VL3
BOR
GRPP

PERNINKLE
VL3
BPE
GRPP

PRIMROSE
VL3
BPR
GRPS

OLIVE
VL3
BOV
GRPS

SNAPDRAGON
VL3
BSP
GRPP

SWEETGRASS
VL3
BSW
GRPS

TULIP
VL3
BTV
GRPP

TIGER LILY
VL3
BTI
GRPS

VIOLET
VL3
BVN
GRPP

ZINNIA
VL3
BZI
GRPP

NewRavenna.com
Cean Irminger is an artist, designer, Eastern Shore-native, mother of two girls, pun aficionado, and New Ravenna’s beloved Creative Director. She began creating mosaics for New Ravenna over 20 years ago, and today she leads the company’s design by finding new materials and guest designers to work with, uncovering new techniques, and designing unique mosaic patterns, many of which have been featured in magazines and installed in luxury buildings and homes around the world.

Irminger’s personal design aesthetic injects a spirit of fun and innocence into the sophisticated world of mosaics. In 2016, she launched the first edition of “KIDDO,” her own collection of mosaics in collaboration with New Ravenna. The whimsical, joyous designs in the collection combine elegant patterns with elements of child’s play. Irminger says, “like a mosaic dust-covered Pied Piper, I want to lead the design community to a playful world full of whimsy, bold color, and joyful surprises.”