

Working with chocolate a piece of cake for artist Gerhard Petzl

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Chocolate art ambassador Gerhard Petzl of Blaxland / Pic: Matthew Sullivan Source: The Daily Telegraph

FOR most of us, a block of chocolate is a mouthwatering temptation.

But for Gerhard Petzl, of Blaxland, it is a blank canvas.

Mr Petzl is a world-renowned chocolate artist whose incredible creations are shipped across the globe.

His art is limited only by his imagination - and his will power in resisting the urge to eat the fruits of his labour.

"You hear of some chocolatiers licking their brushes, but my working material is sacred and holy for me. It is my medium so it is spiritual for me," he told the Penrith Press.

"I am a bit like a builder. Some people build houses, I build artwork out of chocolate."

Chocolate shoes, torsos and castles are all part of his repertoire.

His most recent project was creating a 5m Baroque-style table made entirely of chocolate.

The table is on display in a luxury Hong Kong shopping mall and contains around 2500 single pieces.

It was prepared mostly in Mr Petzl's kitchen - taking 14 weeks to complete - but transportation of the pieces to Hong Kong was delayed because of January's heatwave.

High temperatures are the enemy of the chocolate sculptor.

Mr Petzl, a self-confessed perfectionist, works 12 to 18 hour days and says he lost 6kg during the Hong Kong project due to the physical demands of the task.

