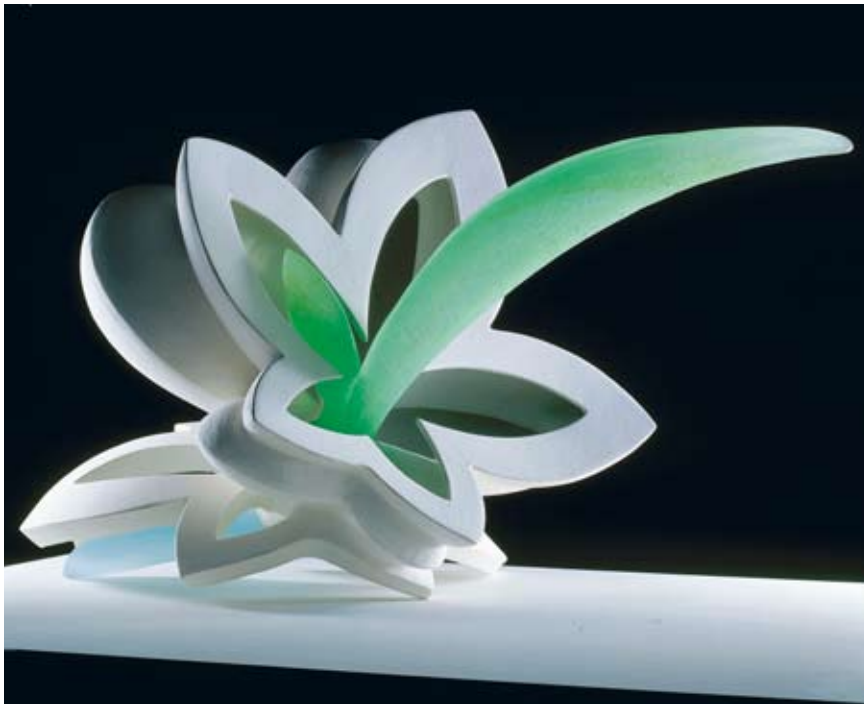


Soaring Voices:

Recent Ceramics by Women from Japan



Etsuko Tashima, *Cornucopia 04-Y'IV*, 2004, Private Collection, Stoneware and glass



Yasuko Sakurai, *White Flower*, 2000, Private Collection, Porcelain

Soaring Voices reflects the rich and innovative ceramic culture of Japan through the presentation of 86 exceptional ceramics by 25 contemporary artists. The artists selected are all women—demonstrating the transition in Japanese society toward individual women artists becoming recognized in this creative realm traditionally held by men.

For thousands of years, women have been highly active in the production of ceramics, however, with few exceptions, their names have been unknown. The ceramics presented in this exhibition provide contemporary interpretations of a traditional

art form through a range of motifs that are inspired from the natural world: plants, shells, mountains, rivers, and the play of light/shadow. Other sources of inspiration pay tribute to Japan, such as the dance movements in the Noh Theater and kimono patterns of the Edo period. A social commentary is put forth throughout the works, whether it is beauty defined or an exploration between East and West.

Soaring Voices is accompanied by an exhibition catalogue produced by the Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art at the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Shiga Prefecture, Japan. It

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Ikuko Ando, *Factory Chimney*, 1996, Kanazawa Utatsuyama Crafts Workshop, Stoneware

features full-color photographs of the ceramics and individual essays by the artists who tell their own stories and influences and explain their diverse techniques and mediums. To reinforce the purpose of this tour, the catalogue also includes a substantial essay section written by Louise Cort of the Smithsonian's Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and other highly recognized curators who explain the evolution of women's roles in ceramic making in Japan and why an exhibition of this nature that recognizes Japanese women ceramicists takes place at this time.

The Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art at the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park organized and debuted the exhibition in collaboration with hus-10, Inc. Tokyo, Japan. The exhibition traveled to the New Otani Art Museum, Tokyo, and Shizuoka Art Gallery, Shizuoka, Japan, in 2008 before traveling to the Musée National de Ceramique in Sevres, France, in 2009 and then embarking on its North American tour.

The exhibition was generously supported in part by the E. Rhodes & Leona B. Carpenter Foundation and the S&R Foundation



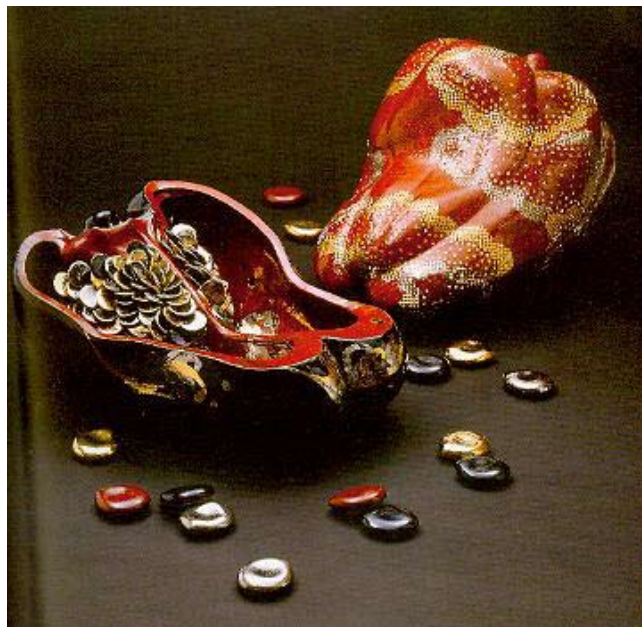
Junko Kitamura, *Vessel* 2006, Collection of Artist, Stoneware

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Takako Araki, *Bible of the White Sand*, 1989, Private Collection, Chamotte and sand



Masuko Emi, *Ornamental Pepper*, 1991, Collection of Artist (left) Katsuyo Takami (right), Stoneware

EXHIBITION SPECIFICATIONS

Contents:

86 ceramic works by 25 women artists

Requirements:

Moderate security, approximately 4,000 square feet

Participation Fee:

\$35,000 plus outgoing shipping

Booking Period:

8 weeks

Organized With:

hus-10, Inc. Tokyo, Japan and The Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art at the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Shiga Prefecture, Japan

Curator:

Miroko Miura, curator, The Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art at the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Center

Shipping:

IA&A makes all arrangements; exhibitors pay outgoing costs within the contiguous U.S.

Publication:

Exhibition Catalogue

Availability:

April 2010 - May 2010
August 2010 - December 2010
January 2012 - September 2012;
possible extension, please inquire

Contact:

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