

JOAN B MIRVISS LTD

**COMPOSITE MEMORIES:
THE CLAY ART OF KISHI EIKO**

SEPTEMBER 10 – OCTOBER 25, 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

It is with great pride that Joan B Mirviss LTD presents our fourth solo exhibition with clay sculptor, Kishi Eiko (b.1948), reflecting a close relationship of over two decades. During our time working together, her art has become part of the permanent collections of over two dozen international museums. Perhaps most notable is the Metropolitan Museum of Art where a major work is featured in the current exhibition, *Kyoto, Capital of Artistic Imagination*. On September 10, we open her exhibition in which 95% of the sculptures are already sold to eager collectors, many of whom have been waiting several years for a piece. *Composite Memories: The Clay Art of Kishi Eiko* will run through October 25, 2019.

Dynamic multiple planes are magically balanced with tilted axes, creating what writer, Jeffrey Hantover calls “the lovechild of Cubism and Futurism.” Her inimitable mosaic-like surfaces (*saiseki zogan*) are always front and center with more than ten colors of *chamotte* mixed into her clay. Then through a painstakingly slow process, Kishi uses a needle to delicately carve out minute patterns on the entire surface of her clay forms, which when fired, reveals those hidden colored pebbles, like gems embedded in stone. A single, highly textured sculpture, with its multicolored mesmerizing surfaces, requires many months to complete.

These latest sculptures resemble – not merely the walls and materials of specific structures – but on a grander scale, actual cityscapes. These works conjure up the bracketed roofs, sloping eaves, rhythmic patterns and stone or tile floors of the temples, shrines and buildings in her historic home of Kyoto or reference the iconic scenery and costumes of the *Noh* theater.



Compilation of Recollected Images
2017
Shigaraki stoneware with colored-clay
chamotte inlays
24 3/8 x 26 3/4 x 8 1/4 in.



Compilation of Recollected Images
2017
Shigaraki stoneware with colored-clay
chamotte inlays
26 3/4 x 25 1/8 x 5 1/8 in.



JAPANESE ART *Antique – Contemporary*
39 East 78th Street, 4th floor | New York NY 10075
Telephone 212 799 4021 | www.mirviss.com

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Kishi Eiko first studied at Kyoto Seika University where she explored archeology, anthropology, art history and textile dying before focusing on ceramics. Unburdened by formal ties to a ceramic tradition, she forged her own path in the Japanese clay world. Since that time, she has exhibited extensively, including receiving the rare honor of a one-person exhibition at Minneapolis Institute of Art. Most recently, Kishi participated in a major exhibition at Tsinghua University Art Museum in Beijing, China where she also lectured.

Composite Memories: The Clay Art of Kishi Eiko will be her sixth solo exhibition with Joan B Mirviss LTD and will run from September 10 – October 25, 2019 during regular gallery hours, Monday – Friday from 11 am – 6 pm.

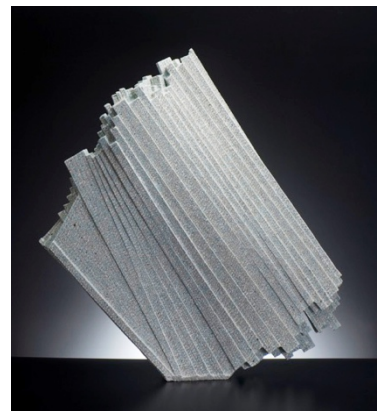
About Joan B. Mirviss LTD

Joan B. Mirviss has been a distinguished expert in Japanese art, specializing in fine art and ceramics for more than forty years. She is the leading Western dealer in the field of modern and contemporary Japanese ceramics, and from her New York gallery on Madison Avenue, JOAN B MIRVISS LTD exclusively represents the top Japanese clay artists. As a widely published and highly respected specialist in her field, Mirviss has advised and built collections for many museums, major private collectors, and corporations.

For further information and high-resolution images, please contact the gallery director, Tracy Causey-Jeffery, at 212-799-4021 or via director@mirviss.com.



Compilation of Recollected Images
2017
Shigaraki stoneware with colored-clay
chamotte inlays
22 x 18 7/8 x 6 3/4 in.



Compilation of Recollected Images
2017
Shigaraki stoneware with colored-clay
chamotte inlays
31 1/2 x 28 3/4 x 6 5/8 in.



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