NEW GALLERIES

VIEWS FROM THE PAST, VISIONS OF THE FUTURE: MASTERWORKS OF JAPANESE ART
Joan B. Mirviss, Ltd.
19 September to 15 October
For one whose career in fine Japanese art is replete with accomplishment - connoisseur, author and impresario - what's next? Interestingly, having established over a period of 30 years a highly visible presence, but through a stylishly private dealership, Joan B. Mirviss is going public in a big way! A signal event of this Asia Week will be the launch of her new gallery (designed by the renowned Hut Sachs Studio). Fifty-five works of arts - including antique screens, hanging scrolls, woodblock prints and contemporary ceramics - will comprise her inaugural exhibition.

The exhibition happily marries both contemporary and traditional, in a wabi-sabi sort of way. There are approximately 45 works, comprising roughly 20 contemporary ceramics, 10 ukiyo-e prints and 12 screens and hanging scrolls. The ceramics include works by Kawase Shinobu (b. 1950), Morino Hiroaki Taimei (b. 1933), Kondo Takahiro (b. 1958), Miura Koheiji (1933-2006), Shimoaka Tatsuho (b. 1919) and Sakurai Yasuko (b. 1969.) Taking designs from nature and from the imaginations of their own minds, these ceramic artists have created a broad spectrum of the physical and physical dance that clay can make. A particularly elegant and unobtrusive piece is a deep bowl with fluted lip by Koheiji. Covered with a robin's-egg blue glaze with guanyao (Jp. seiji) crackle, it was formerly in the collection of the late Living National Treasure for lacquer, Taguchi Yoshikuni, and is the sister piece to one in the Tokyo National Museum of Modern Art.

Joan B Mirviss Ltd, 39 East 78th Street (4th Floor), tel. 212 799 4021. Mon-Fri, 10 to 6; Sat, 11 to 5 (during exhibition only).