

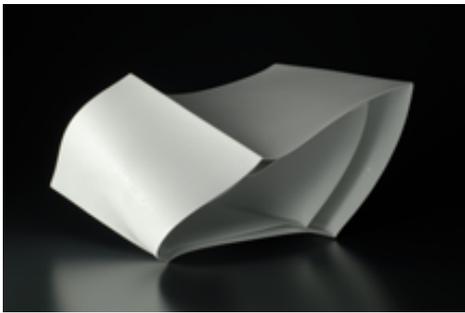
JOAN B MIRVISS LTD

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LIQUID PORCELAIN: THE SCULPTURAL ART OF NAGAE SHIGEKAZU

at JOAN B MIRVISS LTD
March 20 – April 20, 2010



NEW YORK - As one of the world's leading sculptors working in porcelain, **NAGAE Shigekazu** (b. 1953) has literally recast the commercial concept of slip-casting into an art form. After decades of experimentation, Nagae has mastered his unique adaptation of this traditional method for mass-producing porcelain wares and creates elegant, sensuous white sculptures, transforming a plebian functional process into the realm of the avant-garde.

There is a remarkable balance between artistry and technical brilliance within Nagae's work; natural movement in the act of creation leads to seemingly whimsical shapes and curves, one form mirroring the other. Starting with two slightly different *ikomi* molds created according to the traditions of his native Seto, Nagae casts them with liquid porcelain. Following the drying and bisque-firing procedures, the two eggshell-thin forms are suspended inside one another within the kiln. The intense heat of the final firing causes them to fuse where glazed, and to further distend, bend, and drape around each other in the process. Here nature and extensive experience go hand in hand.

Nagae has won many prestigious awards, such as the Grand Prix at the Chunichi International as early as 1979 and again in '86, and more recently, the Grand Prix at the

JAPANESE ART *By Appointment*

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1998 Triennial de la Porcelain in Nyon, the Mino Ceramic Festival that same year, as well as the Grand Prix at the 1997 Nihon togei-ten Japan Ceramics Exhibition. His work graces the collections of museums world-wide, perhaps most notably at the Victoria & Albert Museum, London, Musée nationale de céramiques, Sèvres, National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Musée Asiana, Geneva, among many others.



EXHIBITION

March 20 – April 20, 2010

Monday – Friday 11 – 5 pm

Saturday by appointment

ASIA WEEK MARCH 20-26

Monday through Friday 11-6 pm

Saturday 11-7 pm

Sunday 11-6 pm

About JOAN B MIRVISS LTD

Joan B. Mirviss has been a renowned expert in Japanese art, specializing in prints, paintings, screens and contemporary ceramics for more than thirty 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 many of the top Japanese clay artists. As a distinguished, widely published, and highly respected specialist in her field, Mirviss has advised and built collections for many museums, major private collectors, and corporations.

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