

## MIWA KAZUHIKO (b. 1951)

Born to the most celebrated ceramics family in Hagi, Miwa Kazuhiko is the son of National Living Treasure Kyusetsu and brother of Ryosaku. Despite this lofty artistic heritage and environment, it was the powerful ceramics of the American clay artist Peter Voulkos that directed him to the artistic freedom in the United States. There he studied at the San Francisco Art Institute from 1975-1981. In his recent bold, angular and sculptural forms, the rich, creamy white Hagi glaze beads up revealing the red clay that sometimes fires to black. In addition to his bold sculptural work, Miwa also creates elegant and refined tea ware.

1951 Born in Hagi City, Yamaguchi as the third son of Miwa Kyusetsu  
1975-81 Studied at San Francisco Art Institute

### Solo exhibitions:

1987 *Ever Dusting Destruction*, Gallery Ueda, Tokyo (also '89)  
1988 Seibu Gallery, Shibuya, Tokyo  
1991 *Dreams in White*, Mitsukoshi Art Gallery, Tokyo (also in '92, '96, '03, '08, '11)  
1992 *Clay-Metamorphosis in White*, Takanawa Seibu Gallery, Tokyo  
1996 *Shining Circle*, Mitsukoshi Art Gallery, Nihonbashi, Tokyo  
1997 *The Dead End of Dean End*, Saitôan Loft Gallery, Hagi (also in '06)  
1999 Takashimaya Art Gallery, Tokyo and Kyoto (also '01, '05, '06)  
2000 *Dance in White*, Shibuya Kurodatôen, Tokyo  
*Tea Room of Miwa Kazuhiko: REI*, Urugami Memorial Hall, Hagi Museum, Hagi, Yamaguchi  
2002 Nihonbashi Matsuzakaya Art Gallery, Tokyo  
2007 Matsuzakaya Art Gallery, Nagoya (also in '12)  
2009 Sogo Art Gallery, Hiroshima  
2013 Tenmaya Art Gallery, Okayama and Fukuyama

### Group exhibitions:

1984 *What One Sees in Large Earthenware; Modern Ceramic Art II*, Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum of Art, Yamaguchi  
1987 *Object in Imaginary Space*, Seibu Art Gallery, Shibuya, Tokyo  
1988 *Objects for On & Around the Desk*, Seibu Art Gallery, Shibuya, Tokyo  
*Eastern & Western Modern Ceramic Art*, Art Center, Seoul, Korea  
*Fire which Transforms*, joint exhibition with Nakagawa Yukio, Gallery Saitôan, Hagi  
1989 *Art Exciting '89*, Saitama Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Urawa, Saitama  
Exhibited at Queensland Museum of Art in Queensland, Australia  
1990 *'Primitivism' in the Contemporary Ceramics*, Museum of Contemporary Ceramic Art, the Shigaraki Ceramic Culture Park, Shiga  
*Nishi-Seto Contemporary Arts*, the Ehime Prefectural Museum of Art, Matsuyama  
1991 *Various Solid Expressions*, Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum of Art, Yamaguchi  
1992 *58 Contemporary Ceramic Artists in Japan*, Mitsukoshi Étoile, Paris, France and Mitsukoshi Art Gallery, Nihonbashi, Tokyo  
*The Vision of Japanese Ceramic Arts*, Seibu Art Galleries, Ikebukuro, Tokyo and Kobe  
1993 *A Hunch of Materia*, Masuda Studio, Tokyo (also in '96, '97)



- 1996 *Artworks in Imaginary Space*, Contemporary Art NIKI, Tokyo  
*Tradition and Innovation in Miwa kiln*, Matsuzakaya Art Gallery, Nagoya, Aichi  
*Contemporary Ceramics from Sanyo and San'in Region III*, Higashi-Hiroshima Municipal Museum, Hiroshima
- 2000 *Tea Room – REI*, Uragami Memorial Hall, Yamaguchi Prefectural Hagi Museum, Yamaguchi  
*400 Years of Hagi Ware*, Paris, France  
*Contemporary Ceramics from Sanyo and San'in Region IV*, Higashi-Hiroshima Municipal Museum, Hiroshima
- 2002 *Charaku san'in ten; Three Tea Pots Masters*, with Suzuki Gorô and Kakurezaki Ryûichi, Seigetsudô Gallery, Tokyo  
*Artists from Hometown*, Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum, Yamaguchi  
*Asia Pacific Contemporary Ceramics*, Taipei Contemporary Ceramic Art Museum, Taiwan
- 2003 *Contemporary Master Ceramists of Western Japan*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki
- 2005 *NHK Heart Exhibition*, NHK Tokyo  
*Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale 2005*, Icheon, South Korea
- 2006 *Inaugural Special Exhibition III*, Museum of Ceramic Art, Hyogo  
*Ceramic Art Grand Prize Exhibition*, Paramita Museum
- 2009 *Tô: Gendai no kyôsho7* (Ceramics: Modern Masters), Mitsukoshi Art Gallery, Tokyo
- 2010 *Color*, Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu
- 2011 *Pioneers of Contemporary Ceramics: from Tomimoto Kenichi to Yagi Kazuo*, Museum of Ceramic Art, Hyogo  
*Objet*, Uragami Memorial Hall, Hagi Museum, Hagi, Yamaguchi  
*Gold Award Winners from Japan Ceramic Society*, Wako Hall, Tokyo
- 2013 *Breaking the Mold*, The Salon: Art and Design Fair with Joan B. Mirviss Ltd., NY
- 2014 *Japan in Black and White: Ink and Clay* (Asia Week New York), Joan B. Mirviss Ltd., NY

#### References:

*Toh; Miwa Kazuhiko*, vol. 90, Kyoto: Kyoto Shoin, 1993.

"Miwa Kazuhiko; Dead End," *Toward a 21<sup>st</sup> Century Renaissance in Ceramics*, vol. 2, Dôhōsha, pp. 265- 291.

*Wege zur Japanischen Keramik: Tradition in der Gegenwart*, Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst zu Berlin, 2005.

*Nihon Tōgei-ten (Japan Ceramic Art Exhibition 2009)*, Tokyo: Mainichi Shimbun, 2009: p. 50.

"Hagi - Miwagama no kakushin (Hagi-yaki & Miwa Kiln Innovations): Miwa Kazuhiko", *Honoho*, No. 113, Tokyo: Abe Shuppan, 2013, pp.50-61, English Summary p. 3/6.