

An abstract sculpture made of white ceramic, featuring smooth, flowing, and overlapping curved surfaces that create a sense of movement and depth. The lighting highlights the texture and contours of the material against a dark background.

# *Liquid Porcelain*

*the ceramic art of*

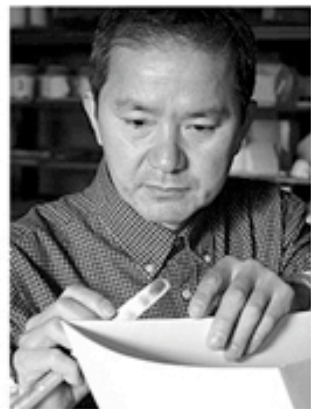
**Nagae Shigekazu**

JOAN B MIRVISS LTD



*Forms in Succession #5*

15  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 20 x 17  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches



In celebration of Asia Week 2010, we are delighted to present over twenty new porcelain sculptures by the celebrated artist **NAGAE SHIGEKAZU** (b. 1953) in his first solo exhibition outside of Japan. After decades of experimentation, Nagae has transformed the traditional method for slip-casting porcelain to enable him to create dramatic, elegant and sensuous white-glazed forms – thereby elevating a common functional process into the realm of the avant-garde.

There is a remarkable balance between artistry and technical brilliance within Nagae's work. 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. This natural movement leads to elegant shapes and lyrical curves, one form mirroring the other.

Nagae has won many prestigious awards including the Grand Prix at the Chunichi International in 1979 and again in 1986. More recently, he was awarded the Grand Prix both at the 1998 Triennale de la Porcelaine in Nyon and the Mino Ceramic Festival, as well as the Grand Prix at the important Nihon togei-ten. His work graces the collections of museums worldwide, most notably at the Victoria & Albert Museum; Musée nationale de céramique, Sèvres; National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; Musée Asiana, Geneva; among many others.

FRONT *Forms in Succession #4* 14  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 19  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 20 inches  
 BACK *Forms in Succession #2* 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 10 x 12 inches



*Forms in Succession #8* 12  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 14  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 17  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches

Photography by Studio ESSA

Please visit [www.mirviss.com](http://www.mirviss.com) to see the entire exhibit on-line.



MARCH 20 - APRIL 20, 2010  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 11 - 5 PM

RECEPTION  
SATURDAY, MARCH 20  
2 - 7 PM

ASIA WEEK  
OPEN HOUSE  
MARCH 20 - 21  
11 - 6 PM

AND BY APPOINTMENT



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