SALON: ART + DESIGN

November 12 - 16, 2015 Park Avenue Armory at 66th St.

JOAN B MIRVISS LTD

November 23 - December 18, 2015 Monday - Friday 11:00am - 6:00pm



JOAN B MIRVISS LTD

JAPANESE ART Antique - Contemporary

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Lanascapes in Clay New Works by Kaneta Masanao





Scooped-out Vessel, 2013 14 x 15 1/2 x 11 1/4 inches Hagi-glazed stoneware



Scooped-out Sculptural Vessel, 2014 14 7/8 x 17 x 13 1/2 inches Hagi *kohiki-*glazed stoneware



Scooped-out Vessel, 2014 12 1/4 x 10 5/8 x 8 5/8 inches Hagi and ash-glazed stoneware



Mizusashi (water jar), 2014 8 x 8 x 8 inches Hagi-glazed stoneware



Scooped-out Sculptural Vessel, 2013 16 7/8 x 18 x 11 1/8 inches Hagi *kohiki-*glazed stoneware



Split-footed Teabowl, 2013 $4\,3/4\times5\,3/8\times5\,1/4$ inches Hagi-glazed stoneware

An eighth-generation Hagi ceramist, Kaneta Masanao (b. 1953) has reached beyond his extended patrimony to create a sculptural oeuvre grounded in functionality. Kaneta's forms have a strong, organic presence that sets his art apart from the work of other Hagi artists. Using centuries-old glazes, he creates visually exceptional, instantly recognizeable forms - both functional and non-functional. Through kuri-nuki, Kaneta's signature technique in which he scoops out the core of sculpted clay, he tests the boundaries of conventions long established by Hagi tradition. By introducing his kinetic energy to the clay, he regards the final form as a result of a dialogue, or even a confrontation, between his consciousness and the natural spirit of the clay itself.



A master of the *noborigama*, or multi-chambered climbing kiln, Kaneta controls and effectuates a remarkable range of coloration and kiln effects in his work. Utilizing the unctuous, creamy white-pink glazes that have defined Hagi-ware for centuries, Kaneta achieves a balanced conflict between form and surface. The classical glaze accentuates the rugged, mountainous features of his ceramic sculptures. The resulting artwork evokes dramatic landscapes, full of sweeping curves, subtle striations, sharp peaks and sudden plunges reminiscent of those found in Hagi.

Among the prominent United States museums featuring Kaneta's work in their permanent collections are the Asian Art Museum, San Francisco; Brooklyn Museum; Metropolitan Museum of Art; Philadelphia Museum of Art; as well as the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo in Japan. Kaneta Masanao currently serves as a professor of ceramics at Tsukuba University, outside of Tokyo. He has been lauded both as a ceramist and a contemporary artist, awarded several important prizes and featured in numerous solo exhibitions around the world. This will be his second solo exhibition with our gallery.