

Antiques Trade GAZETTE

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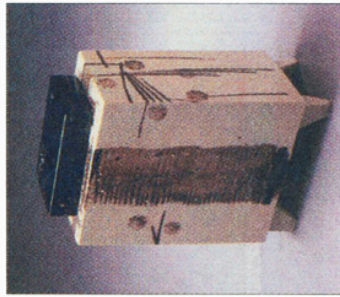
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Joan bucks trend with a gallery, but not its contents

Right: two c.1764-70 hanging scrolls of *Tiger and Dragon* by Maruyama Okyo (1733-1795), in ink and light colour on paper, each 3ft 8in x 18 7/16in (1.12m x 46cm), which very much represents the traditional at the inaugural exhibition at **Joan B. Mirviss's** new gallery, where the scrolls are offered at \$87,000.

Left: the new gallery unashamedly will be a showcase for contemporary Japanese ceramics like this porcelain work made this year by **Kondo Taskahiro** (b.1958) with glass lid and silver mist glaze, entitled *Black and White Mist*, 7in (18cm) high and costing \$4850.



Until now, Ms Mirviss and her staff, three women all with museum experience, worked out of an apartment overlooking Central Park. There has built up a distinguished international clientele largely through exhibitions in other galleries around the country and at major fairs. These clients include some 50 of the world's top museums.

Although Ms Mirviss started her dealing career as a print and paintings specialist, and she continues to deal extensively in antiques, as far back as 1983 she was turning more and more to contemporary ceramics, now a very hot field indeed.

So, Joan Mirviss may be bucking one trend by turning from private dealer to gallery owner.

But in the respect of turning increasingly to the contemporary she is following the trend apparent in almost every other field of collecting.

