

ANTIQUES

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Five Japanese Women Ceramists At Joan B. Mirviss Ltd Gallery

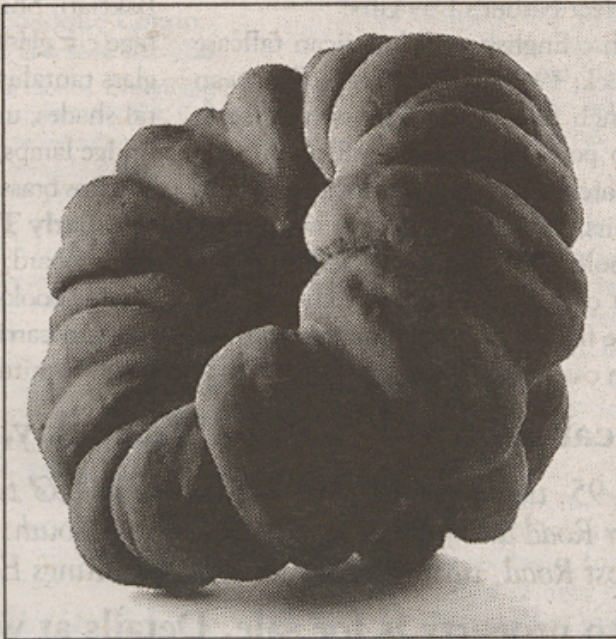
NEW YORK CITY — “The French Connection: Five Japanese Women Ceramists and Their Passion for France” is at Joan B. Mirviss

Ltd through August 3. An exhibition of incredible sculptures by Futamura Yoshimi, Katsumata Chieko, Nagasawa Setsuko, Ogawa Machiko and Sakurai Yasuko seeks to expose the very nature of clay, exploiting its flexibility and suppleness in arresting ways.

Some flaunt the limitation of their medium, as Ogawa who scores and tears her clay or Futamura who collapses her vessels, while others defy the medium altogether, like Sakurai with her fascinating perforated porcelain technique. All five are masters of their medium at the vanguard of the development of Japanese ceramics.

This exhibition explores the dramatically increasing importance of Japanese women artists in the current ascendancy of contemporary Japanese ceramics on a global stage, and focuses on how their relationships to France have influenced, and indeed enabled, the five showcased artists to find their unique voices. Spanning two generations, these five women reflect the changes occurring both in Japan and in the field internationally and are clearly pioneers, especially when viewed from an historical perspective.

Joan B. Mirviss Ltd is at 39 East 78th Street, fourth floor. For additional information, www.mirviss.com or 212-799-4021.



Katsumata Chieko (b 1950), “Biomorphic sculpture in the shape of French akoda pumpkin with black and red glazes,” 2012, glazed stoneware, 14¹/₈ by 16¹/₈ by 17³/₄ inches.