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## Conversations in Clay: West Meets East: A Collector's Perspective at Joan B. Mirviss Ltd.



Hans Coper (1920-1981), Large composite form with disk top (Digswell), 1958. Stoneware, 10 3/4 x 10 inches. Photo: Courtesy of Joan B Mirviss LTD, NY; Photography by Richard Goodbody.

### Flights from New York



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**NEW YORK, N.Y.-** For the first time since [Joan B. Mirviss Ltd.](#) began representing Japanese ceramics in the mid '80s, Western artists will be presented together with their Japanese counterparts in this intimate exhibit entitled *Conversations in Clay – West Meets East: A Collector's Perspective*. The show, curated by Steven Korff in collaboration with Joan Mirviss, finds its inspiration in Korff's integrated collection of ceramic art that includes important artists from both backgrounds, from Hamada Shōji to Hans Coper, Carlo Zauli to Akiyama Yō.

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Korff's interest in ceramic art started when as a young man, he began acquiring the work of Western ceramist, particularly those in the abstract expressionist tradition. As his exposure to ceramic art expanded, he became intrigued by the simplicity, duality and spirit of Japanese ceramics. The work of Kamoda Shōji in particular drew his eye more than a decade ago, and it was this interest that led him to Joan B. Mirviss and her expertise in Japanese modern and contemporary ceramic art. Brought together by their mutual passion for the clay medium, Korff and Mirviss combine their

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extensive understanding of ceramic art in the West and the East to present this unique perspective on the relationship between the two traditions. The Western examples come entirely from Mr. Korff's collection, the Japanese works are from Joan B. Mirviss LTD and all are available for purchase.

Setting it apart from other exhibitions with this theme, Conversations in Clay will explore the connections by pairing Western and Japanese modern and contemporary ceramic artists, creating visual dialogues. In this exhibit, Korff teams more than forty ceramists based on his curatorial eye and personal aesthetic. Comparing white-glazed work by Carlo Zauli with those sculptures covered in the celadon blue by Fukami Sueharu points to Zauli's influence on Fukami, with the forms appearing as brothers from distant worlds. Hans Coper's form and simplicity match the Zen-like purity of Mihara Ken in the pairing of a large early Coper vase from 1952 and a recent Mihara sculpture. Peter Voukos's large gas-fired plate from 1975 evokes a sundered tree relating to current work by Ogawa Machiko. The other pairings similarly reveal the commonalities between aesthetic expressions of modern Western and Eastern ceramic art.

Many of the Western artists studied in Japan, and others make use of Japanese techniques or glazing. All of the artists represented in the exhibit have achieved worldwide renown, with pieces in major museums as well as important public and private collections.

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### Last Week News

November 16, 2011

[Berthe Morisot: An Impressionist woman at the Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid](#)

[The Game of Kings: Medieval Ivory Chessmen from the Isle of Lewis at the Metropolitan's branch The Cloisters](#)

[Sotheby's Geneva sets world record for the largest fancy vivid yellow diamond at auction](#)

[Exhibition of masterpieces from the Musée National Picasso, Paris on view in Sydney](#)

[Crusader inscription in Arabic bearing the name of Frederick II, "King of Jerusalem" found](#)

[Medieval to Modern: Sotheby's sale of European sculpture and works of art spans 800 years](#)

[Sotheby's announces upcoming African & Oceanic art auction in Paris this December](#)

[21er Haus: Museum of the 21st century opens in Vienna with Great Prospects! exhibition](#)

[Sotheby's London announces sale of rare and important musical manuscripts](#)

[Important pieces from The BillyBoy\\* Collection leads Christie's fashion auction](#)

[Museum quality pieces and royal connections in Bonhams Russian sale in London](#)

[Thomas Jefferson's drafting tools lead Heritage Auctions' Political & Americana event](#)

[Pop artist Romero Britto releases Royal Portrait series at Imitate Modern Gallery in London](#)

[Remembering William B. Travis & The Alamo in Texas & Western Autograph & Artifact auction](#)

[New video work by Oliver Michaels at the Cole Gallery in London](#)

[Expo Chicago: Top international dealers to participate in new art fair](#)

[Iliit Azoulay and Liat Elbling winners of the 2011 Constantiner Photography Award](#)

### Most Popular Last Seven Days

1.- Jackson Pollock work "Number 19, 1948" sells for record \$58.4 million at Christie's

2.- Exhibition of nude photography around 1900 on view at Berlin's Photography Museum

3.- Belize City officials say ancient thirty-meter high Mayan pyramid razed for road fill

4.- Hidden drawings from Nazi concentration camp on display at Jewish Museum in Berlin

5.- Records fall at Sotheby's contemporary art auction; Barnett Newman painting sells for \$43.84M

6.- Death mask of Napoleon to be auctioned at Bonhams' Book, Map and Manuscript sale

7.- New Yorkers unnerved by neighbor's voyeuristic photos on view at Julie Saul Gallery

8.- Rare Vincent Van Gogh sketchbook copies up for unprecedented sale at museum store and online

9.- Leonardo DiCaprio environmental art auction at Christie's New York tops \$38 million

10.- Hong Kong cries fowl as giant rubber duck by Dutch artist Florentijn Hofman deflates

[Neon Museum In Vegas Now Glows At Night](#)

[Why Everybody Loves Matthew Barney](#)

[The Duck Returns!](#)

[Psychedelic Furs Frontman Does Art](#)

[A Frustrating Conversation About Women In The Arts](#)

[Celebrating Female Artists](#)

[If You Like David Shrigley You'll Love These Guys](#)