

PRESS RELEASE

Baur Foundation, Museum of Far Eastern Art



YOSHIKAWA MASAMICHI **ARCHITECTURES**

6 September–15 October 2017

“Through my art, I strive to describe the eternal becoming of life in clear and transparent forms”

In the context of the 15th *Parcours céramique carougeois*, the Baur Foundation, Museum of Far Eastern Art, is pleased to welcome the ceramist Yoshikawa Masamichi, the winner of many prizes. A graduate of the Research Institute at the Japanese Design Academy, Masamichi initially considered becoming an interior decorator or architect. Having settled in Tokoname, one of the six oldest pottery centres in Japan, Masamichi wanted to become physically involved with matter and its transformation, and chose to work with ceramic with a view to developing a different form of creative expression. Working exclusively with porcelain, Masamichi develops sometimes imposing works that engage space, colour and texture and emanate a fusion of both quietude and tension. Fascinated by the relationship between volume and emptiness, he is known throughout the world for his often architectural forms covered with a transparent *seihakuji* celadon glaze whose fluidity on the matter occasionally results in frozen drips or pooling. Yoshikawa also likes to create designs of fine abstract lines in cobalt blue or copper red on or beneath his works which he then covers with his preferred glaze. The forms of his pieces and compositions are not arrived at by chance: they and their significations are conceived after long reflection. For Yoshikawa Masamichi the act of creation is like that of prayer. His ceramic works are imbued with the spirituality that presides over their execution and are more than pieces of architecture or containers. In the words of the artist, they need to “be a place of welcome and favourable to the kami, or spirit, that inhabits it”.

In order to respect the artist’s wishes to make the works presented available to art lovers, the Baur Foundation is being partnered by the *Galerie du Don*, located in the countryside of the Aveyron in France. Directed by Nigel and Kélian Atkins, this gallery will take over the entire exhibition at the end of the Foundation’s event and present it in 2018.

Exhibition curator: Monique Crick

Design: Nicole Gérard

YOSHIKAWA MASAMICHI

- 1946 Born in Chigasaki, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan
- 1968 Graduated from The Japanese Design Academy
Moved to Tokoname. Studied under Sugie Junpei
- 1975 Established own kiln
- 1984 Member of The International Academy of Ceramics, Geneva, Switzerland
- 2007 Professor in Ceramics, Nagoya University of Arts
- 2009 Associate Professor in Technology, Universiti Teknologi MARA, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaisie

AWARDS

- 2006 Aichi Prefectural Art and Culture Prize, Japan
- 2004 Grand Prize, 2nd Taiwan International Ceramics Biennale, Taiwan
- 2003 Judge's Prize, *World Ceramic Biennale*, Corée
- 2002 Gold Medal, *Vallauris International Biennale of Contemporary Ceramics*, France
- 2001 Bronze Medal, *World Ceramic Biennale*, Corée
- 2000 Grand Prize, *Izushi Porcelain Triennale Competition*, Hyōgo, Japon
- 1999 Grand Prize, *Sapporo Art Park Craft Competition*, Hokkaido, Japon
- 1998 Gold Medal, *Munich International Art and Craft Exhibition*, Munich, Allemagne
- 1992 Second Prize, *Triennale de la Porcelaine*, Nyon, Suisse
- 1983 Grand Prize, *First Asahi Contemporary Craft Competition*, Osaka, Japon
- 1981 Grand Prize, *Asahi Contemporary Ceramics Competition*, Nagoya
- 1972 Grand Prize, *Troisième Festival international de céramiques*, Vallauris
The Chōza Prize, *The Chōza Ceramic Exhibition*, Chōza, Japon
- 1971 Fine Art Award, *Asahi Ceramics Competition*, Nagoya

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

USA

American Craft Museum, New York
Brooklyn Museum, New York
Contemporary Arts Museum, Houston, Texas
Harn Museum of Art - University of Florida, Gainesville, Floride
Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York
Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Museum of Arts and Design, New York
Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts

Germany

Keramikmuseum Westerwald, Höhr-Grenzhausen
Kestner Museum, Hanovre
Grassi Museum, Leipzig
Die Neue Sammlung München (The International Design Museum Munich), Munich

Neue Pinakothek, Munich
Schleswig-Holsteinische Landesmuseem, Schleswig

Japan

Chigasaki City Museum of Art, Kanagawa
Chubu International Airport, Nagoya
International Technical Research and Training Center of Toyota Monument, Toyota City
Ito Memorial Museum, Izu
Japan Foundation, Tokyo
Lobby of the Tokyo Branch of Sugie Duck Ltd., Tokyo
Tokoname City Museum, Aichi

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, Australia
Incheon World Ceramic Center, Incheon, Korea
Porvoo City Art Museum, Porvoo, Finland
Musée National de Céramiques, Sèvres, France
Musée Magnelli - musée de la Céramique, Vallauris, France
Prague Museum of Arts and Crafts, Prague, Czech Republic
Victoria & Albert Museum, London, United Kingdom
Musée Ariana, Geneva, Switzerland
Musée de la porcelaine, Nyon, Switzerland
Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taipei, Taiwan

THE GALERIE DU DON
PARTNER OF THE BAUR FOUNDATION

Internationally renowned for the quality of its exhibitions, the Galerie du Don, which specializes in contemporary ceramics far from the major cities, is something of a cultural phenomenon. Originally conceived as a natural extension of the activities of the Poterie du Don, founded in 1977, the Galerie du Don entered a period of spectacular development in 2007 when it integrated the brand-new *European Centre for Contemporary Ceramics* created ex nihilo by Nigel and Suzy Atkins on the highlands above Le Fel, an enchanting village between Aurillac and Rodez, where the Massif Central meets l'Occitanie. Set in a stunning site, it boasts an astounding building, renowned collections and an annual program of exhibitions that attracts some fifty thousand visitors. In the context of the current European cultural landscape, Le Don du Fel is one of the most dynamic and innovative centres for the promotion of ceramic art.



USEFUL INFORMATION

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YOSHIKAWA MASAMICHI
ARCHITECTURES

Exhibition in partnership with the Galerie du Don in France

Dates	September 6 to October 15, 2017
Address	Fondation Baur, musée des arts d'Extrême-Orient 8 rue Munier-Romilly 1206 Genève – Switzerland Tel. : +41 22 704 32 82 Fax : +41 22 704 32 88 website : www.fondationbaur.ch e-mail : musee@fondationbaur.ch
Opening times	Open from Tuesday to Sunday from 2 pm to 6 pm (closed Monday), Open until 8 pm on Wednesday, September 20, 2017
Tickets	Full : CHF 15.00 Unemployed, handicapped and students : CHF 10.00
Organizer	Monique Crick, Curator
Design	Nicole Gérard
Press contact	Fondation Baur, musée des arts d'Extrême-Orient Administration Tel : +41 22 704 32 82 e-mail : musee@fondationbaur.ch
Catalogue	<i>Yoshikawa Masamichi - Architectures</i> by Bernard Bachelier and Yoshikawa Masamichi Photographs : Shigeru Murai Price CHF 6.00