

Satoru Hoshino & Masaomi Yasunaga

Sea of Mud, Wall of Flame

June 14 – August 9, 2025



Nonaka-Hill Kyoto is pleased to present *Sea of Mud, Wall of Flame*, a two-person exhibition by Satoru Hoshino and Masaomi Yasunaga, on view from June 14, 2025. This marks the first collaborative presentation by the two ceramic artists, initiated by Yasunaga's invitation to Hoshino.

The artists first met at Osaka Sangyo University's Department of Environmental Design, where Hoshino taught and Yasunaga studied. What began as a teacher-student relationship evolved through academic exchange, and, after years of working along separate paths, was renewed in recent years, culminating in this shared exhibition. For Yasunaga, encountering Hoshino's work as a student was a formative moment—one that decisively shaped his artistic trajectory.

The exhibition title, *Sea of Mud, Wall of Flame*, draws on personal experiences that both artists have had with the overwhelming forces of nature. The memory of landslides, fire, and elemental upheaval does not merely inform their choice of material—it is inscribed into the very surfaces of their work.

Hoshino's practice, rooted in his early involvement with the postwar ceramic collective Sōdeisha, spans over five decades. In dialogue with him stands Yasunaga, a younger artist recognized for his radical use of glaze as a primary sculptural medium. Though separated by generation and method, their approaches resonate deeply. United by a deep sensitivity to material and a shared conviction in form-making, the two artists confront earth and flame together, charting a shared language in clay and fire that transcends generation and method.

In this exhibition, we are pleased to present *Sea of Mud, Wall of Flame*, a new collaborative work by the two artists, created using the traditional ceramic technique known as *yobitsugi*.

Satoru Hoshino (b. 1945, Niigata; lives and works in Shiga) was an active member of the Sōdeisha group (founded in Kyoto, 1948), a collective known for radically breaking from traditional postwar Japanese ceramics to pursue non-functional, sculptural expressions. Affiliated with the group from 1974 to 1980, Hoshino is recognized as a key figure in its third generation. After parting ways with Sōdeisha, his practice shifted from object-based ceramics to installation-oriented work, driven by a sustained inquiry into the fundamental question: What is ceramics?

At the heart of Hoshino's practice lies a formative experience: surviving a devastating mudslide. Confronting the overwhelming force of the flowing earth left a profound imprint on his body and psyche, shaping a visceral, mental, and sensory relationship to ceramics—one that continues to guide the deep, contemplative dimension of his work.

This exhibition highlights Hoshino's creative journey spanning half a century, featuring *Metamorphosis* (1988), crafted in black clay; *Surface Strata and Depth* (2016), a revisited early masterpiece that draws viewers into its innermost layers; and recent works such as *Spring Snow* and *Frozen Cloud*.

Masaomi Yasunaga (b. 1982, Osaka; lives and works in Shiga) creates work that pushes beyond conventional notions of ceramics, marked by a singular sculptural approach. Rather than treating glaze as a surface decoration—as is traditional—Yasunaga employs it as the primary material, carefully shaping each form by hand. During firing, his pieces are embedded in sand or earth to prevent collapse, allowing their forms to slowly emerge within the intense heat of the kiln. Once excavated, the resulting objects evoke ancient relics, as if they had been unearthed after centuries underground.

At the core of Yasunaga's practice lies a formative event: a mountain fire he accidentally started years ago. This encounter with the overwhelming force of nature instilled a deep reverence for flame, which he continues to engage with through his work, quietly confronting its dual nature as both destructive and generative.

This exhibition presents new works, including pieces from his *Melting Vessels*, *Empty Creatures*, and wall mosaics, which treat glaze as a structural medium. Yasunaga's ceramics transcend material experimentation, offering a poetic reconsideration of the relationship between humanity and time.

Earlier this year, Yasunaga was honored with a GQ Award, reflecting his growing recognition both in Japan and internationally.

星野暁・安永正臣
「泥の海、炎の壁」



会期：2025年6月14日～8月9日

Nonaka-Hill 京都は、6月14日より、星野暁と安永正臣による「泥の海、炎の壁」展を開催いたします。本展は、安永の呼びかけにより実現した二人の陶芸家による初の本格的な共同展示となります。

星野と安永は、大阪産業大学・環境デザイン学科にて出会いました。教える者と学ぶ者という立場で始まった関係は、学内での交流を通して育まれ、卒業後はそれぞれの道で活動を深めるなか、再び交わりを得て本展へと結実しました。とりわけ安永にとっては、学生時代に星野の作品に出会ったことが、創作の出発点ともいえる強い契機となりました。

展覧会タイトル「泥の海、炎の壁」は、ふたりがそれぞれの人生と創作のなかで直面した、自然の脅威に触発されたものです。激しい土石流や炎の現象の記憶は、彼らの作品において、単なる素材としてではなく、作品そのものに深く刻み込まれています。

走泥社での活動を起点に半世紀にわたり探求を続ける星野暁と、釉薬のみを用いて陶芸表現の可能性を拓く気鋭の陶芸家・安永正臣。素材との真摯な対話と、造形へのゆるぎない意志を軸に交差する二人の創作は、世代を超えて響き合いながら新たな表現を生み出しています。本展では、「呼継ぎ」という伝統的手法を用いた二人のコラボレーションによる新作「泥の海、炎の壁」を初公開いたします。

星野暁（1945年新潟生まれ、滋賀県在住）は、1974年から1980年にかけて走泥社（1948年に京都で設立、戦後日本の伝統的陶芸の慣習を離れ、非機能的な彫刻的作品を創造することを決意したグループ）に籍を置き、第三世代を代表するメンバーとしても知られています。走泥社を離れた後、従来のオブジェ志向からインスタレーションを取り入れた表現へと移行し、現在に至るまで「陶芸とは何か」という根源的な問いを深く掘り下げる制作を続けています。

星野の制作の根底には、自らが経験した土砂災害があります。泥流の圧倒的な力を全身で受け止めるという衝撃的な体験が、彼の陶芸に対する肉体的、精神的、そして感覚的な態度を形成し、作品の背後に広がる深遠な思索へと導いています。

本展では、星野が1988年に黒陶で制作した「変成」、2016年に再制作した初期の代表作で鑑賞者を内奥へと誘う「表層・深層」、近年の新作「Spring Snow」や「凍雲」を展示し、半世紀にわたり展開されてきた作家の創造的軌跡を辿ります。

安永正臣（1982年大阪生まれ、滋賀県在住）の作品は、伝統的な陶芸の概念を超え、独自の造形的アプローチによって特徴づけられています。本来は装飾として陶器の表面を彩る釉薬を主素材とし、それを手捻りで丹念に成形しています。焼成時には、作品の崩壊を防ぐために砂や土に慎重に埋め込まれ、灼熱の炎の中でゆっくりとその姿を獲得していきます。最終的に土の中から掘り起こされる様は、まるで長い年月を経て姿を現した古代の遺物を思わせます。

安永の創作の根底には、過去に自身が引き起こした山火事の経験があり、炎という自然の圧倒的な力に対する畏怖と美への静かな対峙を生み出しています。彼はその記憶を抱えつつ、制作を通じて炎の持つ相反する性質に深く向き合っています。

本展では、「溶ける器」シリーズや「空虚な生物」、さらには釉薬を支持体とした壁面モザイク作品を含む新作を紹介します。安永の陶芸は素材の実験を超え、人間と時間の関係性を詩的な視点から問い直します。安永は本年、GQアワードを受賞するなど活躍の場を広げています。

Satoru Hoshino

Biography

- 1945 Born in Niigata Prefecture, Japan
- 1971 Graduated from Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto
- 1971-73 Learned ceramic technique at Fujihira Pottery
- 1974-80 A member of Sōdeisha group
- 1979 The Minister of Education Prize, "Surface Strata and Depth II", The 5th Japan Ceramic Art Exhibition
- Superior Prize, "Surface Strata and Depth IV", The 2nd Japan Enba Art Competition
- 1980 Kyoto Prefecture Procurement Prize, "Surface Strata and Depth", 4th Kyoto Sculpture Selection Exhibition
- 1981 A member of International Ceramic Academy
- 1986 Lost studio in a landslide
- 1998 Saji Encourage Prize, "Ancient Wood-Land VIII", The Suntory Prize 1998- Challenges on Forms

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2020 *Satoru Hoshino: Between Body and Nature*, SOKYO, Kyoto
- 2017 Satoru Hoshino, gallery MITSUKE, Niigata
- HOSHINO Satoru: Beginning Form - Spiral '17*, LIXIL Gallery, Tokyo
- 2016 *Satoru Hoshino: Surface Strata and Depth 1978-80*, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
- Hoshino Satoru Exhibition, Gallery Keifu, Kyoto
- 2015 *Black Horse in the Dark*, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
- Between Clay and Hand*, GALLERY SOKYO, Kyoto
- 2012 *Beginning Form-Spiral with Green 11*, National Academy of ART, ACADEMIA Gallery, Sofia, Bulgaria
- 2011 *Spiral with Spring Snow 11*, Art Amsterdam by G. De Witte Voet, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Spiral with Spring Snow*, Museion No.1, Budapest, Hungary
- 2010 *Spiral with Spring Snow*, Fuguei Tauyuan, New Taipei, Taiwan
- 2009 *Spring Snow 09*, G. De witte Voet, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2008 *Beginning Form-met Spiral 08*, Yingge Ceramics Museum, New Taipei, Taiwan
- Spring Snow*, Frank Lloyd Gallery, California, USA
- 2007 *Beginning Form-Spiral 07*, Gatov Gallery CSU-Long Beach, California, USA
- 2006 *Beginning Form-Spiral*, The Museum of Ceramic Art. Alfred University, New York, USA
- Beginning Form-met Spiral II*, nancy margolis gallery, New York, USA
- 2002 *Satoru Hoshino Retrospective Black Ware-Appared Figure*, The Museum of Modern Art, Shiga, Shiga
- 2001 *Rain in Ancient Wood-Land and Performance*, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK

- Selected Solo Exhibitions 2000 *Rain in Ancient Wood-Land and Performance*, Victoria & Albert Museum, London, UK
 1999 *Reincarnate/Pre-Copernican Mud II*, Ariana Museum, Geneva, Switzerland
- Selected Group Exhibitions 2025 *Sea of Mud, Wall of Flame:Satoru Hoshino and Masaomi Yasunaga*, Nonaka-Hill, Kyoto
 2022 *White and Black, Light and Shadow*, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Nihombashi / Kyoto / Osaka / Nagoya
 2019 *SODEISHA: connected to Australia*, Newcastle Art Gallery
 2018 *Indian Ceramics Triennale: Breaking Ground*, JKK, Jaipur, India
Taiwan Ceramics Biennale, Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taiwan
Water and Land Niigata Art Festival, Anjo Kaze no Takata / Saito Family summer Villa / Niigata City Art Museum, Niigata
CERAMICS NOW: THE FAENZA PRIZE IS 80 YEARS OLD, MIC, Faenza, Italy
Double Spiral, Joan B. Mirviss LTD, New York, USA
 2015 *Body and Matter Kazuo Shiraga, Satoru Hoshino*, Dominique Lévy, New York, USA
 2013 *Kayoko & Satoru Hoshino in Canberra*, Watson Art Center. Canberra, Canberra, Australia
 2012 *Moon & Sun by Kyoko & Satoru Hoshino*, Joan B. Mirviss LTD., New York, USA
 2011 *Terra-Cotta, Primitive Future*, ClayArch Gimhae Museum, Gimhae, Korea
 2010 *Taiwan Ceramics Biennale*, Yingge Ceramics Museum, New Taipei, Taiwan
21st International Biennale of Vallauris, Museum of the Ceramic, Vallauris, France
 2009 *Material & Image*, Witte Zaal, Sint Lucas Visual Art, Ghent, Belgium
OAP Sculpture Path 2009 'Brackish waters' / 'Opacities on the water surface', OAP Sculpture Path / ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
 2008 *Satoru & Kayoko Hoshino Ceramic Art Exhibition*, The Museum of Arts and Crafts, Itami, Hyogo
 2007 *Far East meet West*, Galerie Marianne Heller, Heidelberg, Germany
 2006 *TOJI – Avant-garde et tradition du Japon*, Musée Sevres, Paris, France
Internationale Architectural Ceramic Exhibition, ClayArch Gimhae Museum, Gimhae, Korea
 2003 *The Art of Earth – Clay Works of the New Century*, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Osaka
- Permanent Installations,
 Museum and Public Collections Aichi Prefectural Ceramic Museum – Japan
 Ariana Museum (Musée Ariana) – Switzerland
 Bertrand Museum (Musée Bertrand) – France
 Everson Museum of Art – USA
 Hamilton Gallery – Australia
 International Ceramic Studio – Hungary
 Iwaki City Art Museum – Japan
 Keramiekmuseum Princessehof (Princessehof National Museum of Ceramics) – Netherlands
 Kyoto City KYOCERA Museum of Art – Japan

Permanent Installations,
Museum and Public Collections

Kyoto Prefectural Government – Japan
MIC Faenza (Museo Internazionale delle Ceramiche in Faenza) – Italy
Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia) – USA
Mu.ZEE (Kunstmuseum aan Zee, formerly Provinciaal Museum voor Moderne Kunst, Oostende) – Belgium
Museum of Modern Art, Shiga – Japan
Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama – Japan
Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu – Japan
National Gallery of Australia – Australia
Newcastle Art Gallery – Australia
Powerhouse Museum – Australia
Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park – Japan
Takamatsu Art Museum – Japan
The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto (MOMAK) – Japan
The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (MOMAT) – Japan
Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A Museum) – United Kingdom
Yamaguchi Prefectural Art Museum – Japan
Yingge Ceramics Museum – Taiwan

Masaomi Yasunaga

Biography

Born in Osaka Prefecture in 1982.

Lives & works in Iga-shi, Mie Prefecture

While at University, Yasunaga established his creative direction at the laboratory of Satoru Hoshino, a coterie of the avant-garde ceramic group “*Sodeisha*”. While pottery is often made of clay and baked in a kiln, Yasunaga takes the form of pottery using glaze for his creations instead. Yasunaga masters creativity by combining unique raw materials such as feldspars, glass and metal powders, with his own methods such as creating glazed vessels with increased viscosity which are then pit fired in sand.

- 1982 Born in Osaka
- 1988 Moves to Nabari, Mie Prefecture
- 2000 Admission to the Osaka Sangyo University Department of Environmental Design
- 2003 Start a pottery to enter the Satoru Hoshino laboratory
- 2006 Receives Masters Degree in Environmental Design from Osaka Sangyo University
- 2007 Establishes a pottery studio in Iga
- 2010 Becomes a creative resident at The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park 2020
- 2011 Newly builds a firewood kiln
- 2013 Becomes a creative resident at ARCTICLAY 3rd SYMPOSIUM in Posio, Finland
- 2014 Becomes a creative resident at National Tainan University of the Arts
- 2020 Artist-in-residence at the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 Masaomi Yasunaga: Treading the Earth
- 2024 Masaomi Yasunaga, Pierre Marie Giraud, Brussels
Masaomi Yasunaga: Empty Vessel, Gallery 85.4, Tokyo
- 2023 *Masaomi Yasunaga: Clouds in the Distance*, Lisson Gallery, London
石拾いからの発見 / discoveries from picking up stones, Nonaka-Hill, Los Angeles
Masaomi Yasunaga: In Holding Close, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art, Auburn, Alabama
- 2022 *Intersection of Dreams*, Palomar, Pognana Lario
Looking Afar, Lisson Gallery, New York
- 2021 *Masaomi Yasunaga*, Lisson Gallery, East Hampton
Masaomi Yasunaga, Piao Piao Gallery, Tiwan

- Selected Solo Exhibitions
- 2020 *Empty Parade*, wad Cafe, Osaka
SODA, ocoge, Okayama
To things that exist, to things that don't exist, gallery YDS, Kyoto
Yasunaga Masaomi: Contemporary Artifacts, Utsuwa Note, Saitama
Empty Landscape, Libby Leshgold Gallery, Vancouver
- 2019 *Empty Things*, complete Works, Geneva
Masaomi Yasunaga: A Shadow of the Eternity, Utsuwakan, Kyoto
Masaomi Yasunaga, Nonaka-Hill, Los Angeles
- 2018 *Memory of Orient*, Gallery Utsuwa Note, Kawagoe, Saitama
- 2017 *Masaomi Yasunaga Exhibition*, Garb Domingo, Okinawa
arid landscapes, pragmata, Tokyo
- 2017 *Ceramics of Masaomi Yasunaga*, Utsuwa Kyoto Yamahon, Kyoto
Masaomi Yasunaga Exhibition, Gallery uchiumi, Tokyo
- 2016 *Ceramics of Masaomi Yasunaga*, Utsuwa Kyoto Yamahon, Kyoto
Masaomi Yasunaga: Ceramics, Art Salon Yamagi, Osaka
- 2015 *Ceramics of Masaomi Yasunaga*, Utsuwa Kyoto Yamahon, Kyoto
Masaomi Yasunaga: Ceramics, Art Salon Yamagi, Osaka
- 2015 *Masaomi Yasunaga Exhibition: Production at Yaso and Daily Work*”, wad, Osaka
Masaomi Yasunaga Exhibition, Gallery Uchiumi, Tokyo
- 2014 *Masaomi Yasunaga Exhibition*, Gallery Utsuwakan, Kyoto
Masaomi Yasunaga: Pottery Trilogy, Gallery Yamahon, Mie Prefecture
Masaomi Yasunaga: Ceramics, Art Salon Yamagi, Osaka
sand dunes, pragmata, Tokyo
Hollow, Piao Piao Gallery, Taipei, Taiwan
The corpse, National Tainan University of the Arts, Tainan, Taiwan
- 2013 *Ceramics of Masaomi Yasunaga*, Utsuwa Kyoto Yamahon, Kyoto
Masaomi Yasunaga: Pottery Exhibition – Yakimono Biyori, TRI Gallery Ochanomizu, Tokyo
Masaomi Yasunaga: Ceramics, Art Salon Yamagi, Osaka
Masaomi Yasunaga Pottery Exhibition – Work by sand mold, and then”, Gallery uchiumi, Tokyo
- Selected Group Exhibitions
- 2025 *Sea of Mud, Wall of Flame: Satoru Hoshino & Masaomi Yasunaga*, Nonaka-Hill, Los Angeles
- 2023 *CHAOS curated by Alex May*, Carpenters Workshop Gallery, Los Angeles
Enamel & Body / Ceramics, Ginza Maison Hermès Le Forum, Tokyo
Keramik – Seyni Awa Camara, Tony Cragg, Richard Deacon, Martin Disler, Bettina Pousttchi, Rosemarie Trockel, Masaomi Yasunaga, Buchmann Galerie, Belrin
Nobuya Hoki and Masaomi Yasunaga, Ratio 3, San Francisco
- 2022 *A Matter of Life and Death*, Thomas Dane, Naples
Romantic Progress, Museum of Moden Ceramic Art Gifu, Tajimi
not titled (not “Untitled”), Nonaka-Hill, Los Angeles
- 2021 *SIZED*, Los Angeles
Sea Change, Ratio 3, San Francisco
- 2020 *OBJECT&THINGS at The Noyes House*, Connecticut
Sterling Ruby and Masaomi Yasunaga, Nonaka-Hill, Los Angeles

Permanent Installations,
Museum and Public Collections

Ariana Museum (Musée Ariana) – Switzerland
Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art – USA
Museum of Fine Arts, Houston – USA
Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu – Japan