

Announcement

Smithsonian's Freer and Sackler Galleries Select Yukie Osumi as First Recipient of Residency in Japanese Metalwork Design



The Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, the Smithsonian's museums of Asian Art, Washington, D.C., announce the establishment of a residency in Japanese metalwork, to be awarded to a Japanese artist whose work is distinguished by its accomplished design and technical skill.

The first recipient is Ms. Yukie Osumi of Tokyo, who will be resident at the museums in the autumn of 2015. This residency is intended to enable the artist to share her work and expertise with art students, artists, museum staff and the public through teaching and a range of public events.



Ms. Osumi is known for her specialization in hand-raised silver vessels decorated with the inlay technique known as *nunome zōgan*, similar to damascene. Her designs address themes of clouds or water and waves. Ms. Osumi's vase "Sound of Wind" has just received the prestigious Nihon Kōgeikai Hojisha prize for the sixty-first annual Japanese Traditional Art Crafts exhibition, which will open in Tokyo on September 17 and then tour major cities throughout Japan.



Ms. Osumi exhibits her work in the annual exhibitions of Japanese Traditional Art Crafts and has held frequent solo exhibitions in galleries and museums in Japan. Her work has appeared in major exhibitions of contemporary Japanese craft at the Victoria & Albert Museum and the British Museum, London; the Royal Museum of Fine Arts, Copenhagen; the Galleria Palatina di Palazzo Pitti, Firenze; and the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul.

Office of Public Affairs and Marketing
Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery



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Ms. Osumi graduated from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music in 1969. She was taught by two metalwork artists designated Living National Treasures by the government of Japan, Shiro Sekiya (hammering) and Ikkoku Kashima (*nunome zōgan*). She also studied with Moriyuki Katsura, a highly regarded specialist in inlay and chasing.

Ms. Osumi has been selected for numerous awards and honors. Her work is in the permanent collections of the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; the Agency for Cultural Affairs (Bunkachō); the MOA Museum, Japan; the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh; and the Victoria & Albert Museum, London. She is professor emerita of Tokyo Kasei University, where she taught techniques and history of metalwork.



The Residency in Japanese Metalwork Design at the Freer and Sackler galleries was created in honor of Mr. Mamoru Nakagawa, who was designated a Living National Treasure at the age of 57 for his mastery of the technique of flat inlay, popularly known as *Kaga zōgan*. His activities have contributed to reviving and expanding the *Kaga zōgan* technique. Mr. Nakagawa visited the United States in 2008 on a cultural exchange fellowship from the Agency for Cultural Affairs. While in Washington, D.C., he taught a master class in *Kaga zōgan* at the Corcoran College of Art and Design. Mr. Nakagawa is a graduate, and professor emeritus, of the Kanazawa College of Art. His works are owned by the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and the British Museum, among others.

The Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, the Smithsonian's museums of Asian art, are located on the National Mall in the heart of Washington, D.C., adjacent to the nation's capital. For more information about the museums' collections of Japanese art and their exhibitions, programs and other public events, visit asia.si.edu.

IMAGE CREDITS: Ms. Osumi; Yukie Osumi, "Sound of Wind," 2014, 27.5 x 30.0 cm, image courtesy of the artist; Yukie Osumi, "Strait," 2013, 30.3 x 36.2 x 24.5 cm, image courtesy of the artist; Yukie Osumi, "Huge Waves; Thunderous Shouts," 2012, 20 x 30 x 23 cm, image courtesy of the artist; Mr. Nakagawa teaching at the Corcoran College of Art and Design, 2008, image by Denny Henry.