

ADRIAN SASSOON

Hajime Nakatomi

Curriculum Vitae



Born 1974, Osaka, Japan

1995-1999	Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, BA Commercial Science
2000-2001	Oita Prefectural Technical Institute, Maki, Japan, Bamboo Arts
2001-2002	Beppu Advanced Industrial Arts and Technology Institute, Bamboo Arts
2002-2005	Apprenticed to Honda Syoryu, Beppu, Kyushu, Japan

Working in Japan

Hajime Nakatomi is a contemporary bamboo artist from Japan. He graduated with a degree in Business from Waseda University in 1999. Whilst at university, he was a member of the ceramics club, and it was later, upon seeing the work of celebrated bamboo artist, Shōunsai Shōno, that Nakatomi was inspired to change direction. He studied bamboo craftsmanship at the Ōita Prefectural Technical Institute and the Beppu Advanced Industrial Arts and Technology Institute. Nakatomi was then an apprentice to the renowned bamboo artist, Honda Syoryu, before establishing his own practice in 2005.

When working with bamboo, Nakatomi seeks to translate the material's mysterious quality and vitality into dynamic forms. He has exhibited his works internationally and is held by major public collections in Japan and the USA.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2021	<i>The Beauty of Geometry, Bamboo Art by Hajime Nakatomi</i> , The Gallery by SOIL, Hong Kong
2018	Sakura Seisakusho Inc. Sakura Shop Ginza, Tokyo, Japan
2013	Sakura Seisakusho Inc. Sakura Shop Ginza, Tokyo, Japan
2011	Sakura Seisakusho Inc. Sakura Shop Takamatsu, Japan
2007	Gallery K, Oita, Japan
2006	Gallery Shibata, Beppu, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions

2026	<i>Revealing Beauty from Japan</i> , Adrian Sassoon in collaboration with Katie Jones Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
2025	<i>Bamboo Crafts: Traditional Beauty</i> , Oita Prefectural Art Museum, Oita, Japan <i>Meet Bamboo! The Collection of Oita Art Museum</i> , Oita, Japan <i>Bamboo Baskets: Chinese Origins, Japanese Innovations</i> , The University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
2024	<i>The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes</i> , Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, USA <i>Homo Faber 2024: The Journey of Life</i> , Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy <i>The Fullness of the Void: Bamboo Art in Japan</i> , Musée des Arts Asiatiques, Nice, France
2023	<i>TAI Modern</i> , Asia Week, New York, USA <i>Japan Gallery</i> , Art Fair Beppu, Beppu, Japan
2022	<i>TAI Modern</i> , Art Miami, Miami, USA <i>TAI Modern</i> , Asia Week, New York, USA
2021	<i>Art of Bamboo</i> , The Godown Arts Centre, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia <i>TAI Modern</i> , Asia Week, New York, USA
2020	<i>Mingei Bamboo Prize</i> , Musée national des Arts asiatiques - Guimet, Paris, France <i>TAI Modern</i> , Art Miami, Miami, USA <i>TAI Modern</i> , Asia Week, New York, USA <i>Masterpieces of Bamboo Art</i> , Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts, Utsunomiya, Japan
2019	<i>OITA: Japanese Bamboo Art from the Oita area</i> , Galerie Mingei, Paris, France <i>TAI Modern</i> , Art Miami, Miami, USA <i>TAI Modern</i> , SOFA, Chicago, USA <i>Kanegae</i> , Art Fair Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan <i>We Were Always Here: Japanese American Post-war Pioneers of Art</i> , Heather James Fine Art, San Francisco, USA
2018	<i>The Language of Bamboo: Contemporary Bamboo Art</i> , Gallery 27, Kyoto, Japan <i>The Oriental Bamboo: Art of Living Exhibition on Asian Bamboo</i> , Crafts Museum of China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China <i>TAI Modern</i> , SOFA, Chicago, USA
2017	<i>Bambu: histórias de um Japão</i> , Japan House, Sao Paulo, Brazil <i>TAI Modern</i> , SP-Arte, Sao Paulo, Brazil <i>Galerie Mingei</i> , Pavilion of Art & Design Paris, Paris, France <i>Wamono art</i> , Asian Art Contemporary, Hong Kong

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

2016 *Discovering Japanese Bamboo Art*, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Indiana, USA

2015 *Revalue Nippon Project*, Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan
Japanese Bamboo and the World Expo: A Century of Discovery, Japanese Friendship Garden & Museum, San Diego, USA

2014 *Oita's Art Moment*, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, LA, USA
TAI Modern, SOFA, Chicago, USA

2013 *Revalue Nippon Project Charity Gala 2013 with GUCCI*, Yokohama Royal Park Hotel, Yokohama, Japan

2012 *Modern Twist: Contemporary Japanese Bamboo Art*, Clark Center for Japanese Art and Culture, Hanford, California, USA
Katie Jones, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
TAI Gallery, SOFA, New York, USA

2011 Katie Jones, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
TAI Gallery, SOFA, New York, USA

2010 *Salone Del Mobile Milano*, Bottega Veneta Home Collection, Milano, Italy
Katie Jones, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
TAI Gallery, Art Chicago, Chicago, USA
TAI Gallery, Dallas Art Fair, Dallas, USA
Japanese Bamboo: Tracing the legend of Beppu craftsmanship, Thailand Creative & Design Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

2009 *Bamboo World*, Oita Prefectural Art Museum, Japan
TAI Gallery, Asian Art in London, London
TAI Gallery, Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, USA
TAI Gallery, Sculpture Objects & Functional Art West, Santa Fe, USA

2008 TAI Gallery, Sculpture Objects & Functional Art New York, New York, USA
New Bamboo: Contemporary Masters, Japan Society, New York, USA
TAI Gallery, Asia Week, New York, USA
TAI Gallery, Sculpture Objects & Functional Art New York, New York, USA
TAI Gallery, The San Francisco Arts of Pacific Asia Show, San Francisco, USA
TAI Gallery, Art Miami, Miami, USA

2007 *East Weaves West: Basketry from Japan & Britain*, Collins Gallery, Glasgow
Michael West Gallery, Isle of Wight, and Hove Museum & Art Gallery, Hove
New Relation between Bamboo and Society, Oita Art Plaza, Oita, Japan
11th Japan Craft Arts Exhibition in Bamboo and Wood Division, Nihombashi Mitsukoshi, Tokyo, Japan
42nd Japan Craft Arts Exhibition in Western Division, Fukuoka Mitsukoshi, Fukuoka, Japan
The Next Generation, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, USA
Beyond Basketry: Japanese Bamboo Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Boston, USA
Power and Delicacy: Master Works of Japanese Bamboo Art, TAI Gallery, Santa Fe, USA

2006 *Hin: The Quiet Beauty of Japanese Bamboo Art*, Faulconer Gallery of Grinnell College, Grinnell, USA
TAI Gallery, Art Palm Beach, Palm Beach, USA
TAI Gallery, Art Miami, Miami, USA
53rd Japan Craft Arts Exhibition, Japan Kogei Association, Tokyo, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

2005	<i>10th Japan Craft Arts Exhibition in Bamboo and Wood Division</i> , Japan Kogei Association, Tokyo, Japan
	<i>40th Japan Craft Arts Exhibition in Western Division</i> , Japan Kogei Association, Fukuoka, Japan
2004	<i>Contemporary Japanese Bamboo Arts</i> , Richmond Hand Work Art Center, Richmond, USA
	<i>Contemporary Japanese Crafts</i> , Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, Los Angeles, USA
	<i>TAI Gallery</i> , San Francisco International Arts Festival, San Francisco, USA
2003	<i>TAI Gallery</i> , Sculpture Objects & Functional Art, Chicago, USA
	<i>38th Japan Craft Arts Exhibition in Western Division</i> , Japan Kogei Association, Fukuoka, Japan
2002	Tigerman Himmel Gallery, Chicago, USA

Selected Awards

2025	Cultural Merit Award of Taketa, Taketa, Japan
2024	Coffland Grand Prize, The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes, Santa Fe, USA
2021	Finalist, Mingei Bamboo Prize, Paris, France
2017	Grand Prize and Special Award, 53rd Bamboo Craft Arts Exhibition, Beppu, Japan
2016	Special Award, 52nd Bamboo Craft Arts Exhibition, Beppu, Japan
2006	Special Award, 42nd Bamboo Craft Arts Exhibition, Beppu, Japan
2004	Beppu Mayor's Award, 40th Bamboo Craft Arts Exhibition, Japan
2003	Oita Prefectural Governor's Award, 38th Japan Craft Arts Exhibition in Western Division, Japan
	Grand Prize and Special Award, 39th Bamboo Craft Arts Exhibition, Beppu, Japan

Selected Public Commissions

ANA InterContinental Beppu Resort & Spa	Beppu, Japan
Espasio Nagoya Castle	Nagoya, Japan
Fukuoka Airport	Fukuoka, Japan
Four Seasons Hotel Tokyo at Otemachi	Tokyo, Japan
Hyatt Regency Naha Okinawa	Naha, Japan
Kirishima Greenship icoia	Miyakonojo, Japan
KOSE Miyabiso	Atami, Japan
Magarigawa Club	Minami Bosou, Japan
ORIX Corporation Headquarters	Tokyo, Japan
Osaka International Airport	Itami, Japan
Prince Sakura Tower Tokyo	Tokyo, Japan
Proud Jingumae	Tokyo, Japan
Ritz Carlton Kyoto	Kyoto, Japan
Ritz Carlton Tokyo	Tokyo, Japan
Zenkyoji Temple	Saiki, Japan

Selected Public Collections

Brighton & Hove Museums, Hove
Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, California, USA
Clark Center for Japanese Art and Culture, Hanford, California, USA
Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minnesota, USA
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Pennsylvania, USA
Racine Art Museum, Racine, Wisconsin, USA
Sidney and Lois Eskenazi Museum of Art, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA
Beppu City Traditional Bamboo Crafts Center, Beppu, Japan
Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum, Nagasaki, Japan
Oita Prefectural Art Museum, Oita, Japan
Taketa History and Culture Museum, Taketa, Japan
National Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute, Caotun, Taiwan

Bibliography: Selected Books & Catalogues

2024	<i>The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes</i> , The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes Committee, USA <i>Proud Jingumae</i> , Nomura Real Estate Development, Japan <i>The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes</i> , The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes Committee, USA
2020	<i>Proud Jingumae</i> , Nomura Real Estate Development, Japan <i>Suzuki, S., Masterpieces of Bamboo Art in Tochigi</i> , Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts, Japan
2019	<i>Röttgen U., Zettl, K. Craftland Japan</i> , Thames & Hudson, UK <i>Boudin, P., Niang, Z., Oita: Japanese bamboo art from the Oita area</i> , Galerie Mingei, France
2018	<i>Earle, J., Baskets: Masterpieces of Japanese Bamboo Art 1850-2015</i> . Stark Studios Limited, Hong Kong <i>The Oriental Bamboo: Art of Living Exhibition on Asian Bamboo</i> , Crafts Museum of China Academy of Art, China
2017	<i>Bambu: histórias de um Japão</i> , Japan House Sao Paulo, Brazil <i>Bamboo Traces: Contemporary International Bamboo Art & Craft Exhibition</i> , National Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute, Taiwan
2016	<i>Revalue Nippon Project</i> , Panasonic Shiodome Museum, Japan
2015	<i>Japanese Bamboo and the World Expo: A Century of Discovery</i> , TAI Modern, USA <i>Oita's Art Moment</i> , TAI Modern, USA
2012	<i>Marks, A., Modern Twist: Contemporary Japanese Bamboo Art</i> , USA <i>Ozawa, N., Japanese Basket</i> , Shinchosha Publishing, Japan
2008	<i>SOFA New York. The 11th Annual Sculpture Objects & Functional Art Fair</i> , DMG World Media, USA <i>Earle, J., New Bamboo: Contemporary Japanese Masters</i> , Japan Society, USA
2007	<i>Hamilton, L., East Weaves West: Basketry from Japan & Britain</i> , Collins Gallery, Glasgow <i>The Next Generation</i> , Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, USA

Bibliography: Selected Books & Catalogues (continued)

2007 Rinne, Melissa M., *Masters of Bamboo*, Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, USA
2006 Coffland, Robert T., Doe, Donald B., *Hin: The Quiet Beauty of Japanese Bamboo Art*, Art Media Resources, USA

Bibliography: Articles & Essays

2025 Hono Geijutsu: No.163, Abe Publishing, Japan
Tatler Homes: September, Tatler Asia Publication, Taiwan
2024 Yomiuri Shinbun: 25th December, Yomiuri Shinbun Company, Japan
2021 China Collections: May, China Collections Magazine, China
2020 Suzuki, S., *Masterpieces of Bamboo Art in Tochigi*, Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts, Japan
2019 James, H., *We Were Always Here: Japanese-American Post-war Pioneers of Art*, Fine Art, USA
Oita Godo Shinbun: 31st July, Oita Godo Shinbun Company, Japan
2018 Blue Wings: December, Finnair, Finland and Japan
Asahi Weekly: 6th May, The Asahi Shinbun Company, Japan
Geijutsu Shincho: October, Shinchosha Publishing, Japan
The Window of Arts: December, Seikatsu no Tomosha, Japan
2017 Design 360°: n.70, Sandu Publishing, Hong Kong
Kateigaho International Japan Edition: vol.39, Sekai Bunka Publishing, Japan
2016 Kateigaho: May, Sekai Bunka Publishing, Japan
2015 *Oita's Art Moment*, TAI Modern, USA
2013 Oita Godo Shinbun: 11th July, Oita Godo Shinbun Company, Japan
2011 *Nippon Vision 4*, Kenmei Nagaoka and D&Department Project, Bijutsu, Shuppan-Sha, Japan
2010 Kyodo News: 5th November, Kyodo News, Japan
Waraku: No.114, Shogakukan, Japan
2009 Casa Brutus: No.122 May, Magazine House, Japan
Love Bamboo Love Earth, National Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute, Taiwan