

# ADRIAN SASOON

## 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 <i>The Language of Bamboo: Contemporary Bamboo Art</i> , Gallery 27, Kyoto, Japan
2018	<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  
*Revalue Nippon Project*, Panasonic Shiodome Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2015 *Japanese Bamboo and the World Expo: A Century of Discovery*, Japanese Friendship Garden & Museum, San Diego, USA  
*Oita's Art Moment*, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, LA, USA
- 2014 *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  
*TAI Gallery*, Sculpture Objects & Functional Art New York, New York, USA
- 2008 *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
- 2007 *TAI Gallery*, Art Miami, Miami, USA  
*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

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| 2024 | <i>The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes</i> , The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes Committee, USA<br><i>Proud Jingumae</i> , Nomura Real Estate Development, Japan<br><i>The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes</i> , The Next Generation Bamboo Art Prizes Committee, USA<br><i>Proud Jingumae</i> , Nomura Real Estate Development, Japan |
| 2020 | Suzuki, S., <i>Masterpieces of Bamboo Art in Tochigi</i> , Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts, Japan<br>Röttgen U., Zettl, K. <i>Craftland Japan</i> , Thames & Hudson, UK  |
| 2019 | Boudin, P., Niang, Z., <i>Oita: Japanese bamboo art from the Oita area</i> , Galerie Mingei, France  |
| 2018 | Earle, J., <i>Baskets: Masterpieces of Japanese Bamboo Art 1850-2015</i> . Stark Studios Limited, Hong Kong<br><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<br><i>Bamboo Traces: Contemporary International Bamboo Art &amp; 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<br><i>Oita's Art Moment</i> , TAI Modern, USA  |
| 2012 | Marks, A., <i>Modern Twist: Contemporary Japanese Bamboo Art</i> , USA<br>Ozawa, N., <i>Japanese Basket</i> , Shinchosha Publishing, Japan   |
| 2008 | <i>SOFA New York. The 11th Annual Sculpture Objects &amp; Functional Art Fair</i> , DMG World Media, USA<br>Earle, J., <i>New Bamboo: Contemporary Japanese Masters</i> , Japan Society, USA   |
| 2007 | Hamilton, L., <i>East Weaves West: Basketry from Japan &amp; Britain</i> , Collins Gallery, Glasgow<br><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 Geijutu: 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  
 Casa Brutus: No.122 May, Magazine House, Japan  
 2009 *Love Bamboo Love Earth*, National Taiwan Craft Research and Development Institute, Taiwan