

Takahiro Kondo

Curriculum Vitae



Born 1958, Kyoto, Japan

1978-1982	Hosei University, Tokyo, Japan, Faculty of Literature
1984-1985	Kyoto Prefectural Technical Institute of Ceramics, Kyoto, Japan
1985-1986	Kyoto Municipal Institute of Industrial Research, Kyoto, Japan
2002-2003	Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh, MA Design and Applied Art
2018	Artist in Residence, Gardiner Museum, Toronto, Canada

Working in Japan

Takahiro Kondo lives and works in Kyoto in what was his grandfather's original studio in the hills of Yamashina. His grandfather, Yuzo Kondo (1902 -1985), was named a Living National Treasure in 1977 for his work in *sometsuke* or underglaze cobalt blue decoration. Despite his weighty heritage, Kondo did not start working in ceramics until 1986. His early ceramics followed a more traditional path, but he soon established his own independent artistic identity creating dynamic modern work, using simple slabbed forms and experimenting with other media such as metals and cast glass. His experiments with metals resulted in the creation of his unique "silver mist" glaze, for which he is now well known.

Kondo draws inspiration from the natural world, with water being a central theme. His work took on another dimension after the disaster of 3/11 when he created a series of meditative figures, the *Reduction* series, to call attention to the causes and consequences of the events in the Tohoku area for all of Japan.

Another important aspect of his career has been his special relationship with Scotland, where inter alia, he gained an MA Design from Edinburgh College of Art, and also learned glassmaking techniques. During this time, he first visited Orkney, and was inspired by the totemic power of the Ring of Brodgar's standing stones, which led to the creation of his *Monolith* series.

Ruta Noreika, 2019

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2022 *Kondo Takahiro: Making Waves*, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
- 2021 *Takahiro Kondo: Surging Waves: Special Exhibition in Commemoration of the Tenth Anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake*, Izura Institute of Art and Culture, Ibaraki University, Japan
- 2019 *Mizutani and Sora*, Gallery Satsu, Tokyo, Japan
- 2017 *The Thinking Hand*, Kahitsukan, Kyoto Museum of Contemporary Art, Kyoto, Japan
- 2016 *Seisui – The Shifting Vessel*, Setouchi City Art Museum, Okayama, Japan
Waves of Ink: Painting in Porcelain, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
- 2014 *Unstable*, Gallery Cellar, Tokyo, Japan
- 2013 *Unstable*, Gallery Cellar, Tokyo, Japan
- 2011 *Takahiro Kondo*, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2010 *The Future of Craft: Self Portrait*, The Museum of Arts and Crafts, Itami, Japan
Reflections, Barry Friedman Gallery, New York, USA
- 2009 *Sei-Mei-Yu-Kyu: Eternal Life*, Tenmaya Art Gallery, Okayama, Japan
Gold and Silver, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Osaka, Japan
- 2008 *Gold and Silver*, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Transformation, Hamilton Art Gallery, Hamilton, Australia
Silver Mist Series, Lesley Kehoe Galleries, Melbourne, Australia
Transformation, 101 Collins, Melbourne, Australia
Transformation, Barry Friedman Gallery with Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
- 2007 *Mist*, Matsuzakaya Art Gallery, Nagoya, Japan
Trans-Form, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
Time and Change: Metamorphose, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, Japan, and touring in Japan
Transformation, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
Oil Series 3, Gallery Cellar, Nagoya, Japan
- 2006 *Oil Series 1 & 2*, Gallery Cellar, Nagoya, Japan
Black and White, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Osaka, Japan
Shin-Ra-Ban-Sho: All Things in Nature, Tenmaya Art Gallery, Okayama, Japan
- 2005 *The Journey from Clay 1985-2005*, Ginza Wako Hall, Tokyo, Japan
Silver Mist, Barry Friedman Gallery with Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
The Silence of White, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
- 2004 *Porcelain, Glass, Silver Mist: New Forms*, Daimaru Art Gallery, Kobe, Japan
Encounters Between Porcelain and Glass, Akasaka Yū Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Silver Mist Series, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2003 *In Search of Ao: Blue Mist*, Paramita Museum, Mie, Japan
- 2002 *Galaxy: Sacred Waters*, Ginza Wako Hall, Tokyo, Japan
Mist Bowls, Akasaka Yu Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Silver Mist, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Osaka, Japan
Celestial Ceramics, Barry Friedman Gallery with Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
- 2001 *Galaxy 2 I*, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Mushichi Ceramics, Shichikashuku Museum of Water and History, Miyagi, Japan
- 2000 *Dragon Water: Toward 2000*, Ginza Wako Hall Tokyo
New Porcelain, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1999 *Takahiro Kondo*, Galérie 213, Paris, France
Takahiro Kondo: Time & Space, Imura Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
- 1997 *Dimension Box*, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan

Selected Solo Exhibitions (continued)

- 1997 *Blue Skies*, Gallery Okumura, Tokyo, Japan
Takahiro Kondo, Imura Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
- 1996 *Blue Spirit*, Gallery Yūgen, Tokyo, Japan
- 1995 *Takahiro Kondo*, Imura Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Takahiro Kondo: Painter and Potter, National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh
- 1994 *Blue Time I 200*, Takashimaya Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Takahiro Kondo: Vessels, Solids, Surfaces, Gallery Yugen, Tokyo, Japan
- 1993 *Surface Doro-ing '93*, Osaka Contemporary Art Center, Osaka, Japan
- 1992 *Takahiro Kondo*, Gallery Sanjō, Kyoto, Japan
Blue and White and Doro-ing, The Azabu Museum of Arts and Crafts, Tokyo, Japan
- 1990 *Blue and White Porcelain*, Museu de arte de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2023 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, The Treasure House Fair, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2022 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Listening To Clay, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Homo Faber: Porcelain Virtuosity, organised by the Michelangelo Foundation, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy
- 2021 *Hands and Earth: Six Perspectives on Japanese Contemporary Ceramics*, Katonah Museum of Art, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon at Parham, a House of History, Parham House, West Sussex
The Kyoto Art and Culture Prize: 33rd Prizewinner's Exhibition, Museum of Kyoto, Japan
- 2020 *Adrian Sassoon at The London House of Modernity*, London
The Artists of Hands & Earth, Katonah Museum of Art, New York, USA
The Spirit of Japanese Ceramics, Mashiko Museum of Ceramic Art, Mashiko, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2019 *L'Asie Maintenant*, Musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet, Paris, France
Exchange and Experimentation: Towards a New Generation of Ceramic Art, The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Kōka, Shiga, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Water Garden and Vessels, Satsu Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
A Tea Journey: From the Mountains to the Table, Compton Verney, Warwickshire
Vessel Explored / Vessel Transformed; Tomimoto Kenkichi and His Enduring Legacy, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Kyoto: Capital of Artistic Imagination, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
Bouddha, la légende dorée, Musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet, Paris, France
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2018 *Hands & Earth; Six Perspectives on Japanese Contemporary Ceramics*, Lowe Art Museum, Miami, USA
Erasure, Takahiro Kondo & Toshi Ichianagi, Tokyo Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2018 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
The Five Elements, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
JAPAN NOW, Gardiner Museum, Toronto, Canada
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
The Dramatic Vessel, Iwate Museum of Art, Morioka, Iwate, Japan
- 2017 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
On the Art of Building a Teahouse, Neues Museum, Nürnberg, Germany
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Timeless Elegance in Japanese Art: Celebrating 40 Years!, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
The Dramatic Vessel, The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Kōka, Shiga, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2016 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
The Sculptural Turn, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, USA
Kyoto Contemporary Art Network Exhibition, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2015 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Vessels and Copies: The Transient Life of Forms, Kyoto Art Centre, Kyoto, Japan
Tradition on Fire, Asian Art Museum, San Francisco, USA
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Réceptacle du passage ou la vie transitoire des forms et ses empreintes, Maison de la Culture du Japon à Paris, France
Blue and White Tiles, Yingge Ceramics Museum, New Taipei City, Taiwan
Four Centuries of Rinpa Art: From Past to Present, Hosomi Museum, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
Contemporary Japanese Ceramics in a Global Context, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
Ancient to Modern: Japanese Contemporary Ceramics and their Sources, The San Antonio Museum of Arts, San Antonio, USA
- 2014 *Mémoire des Ruines*, Nuit Blanche Kyoto, Kyō-yaki Noborigama Kiln Site, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Kyoto Ceramics – Tradition and Evolution, The Kyoto City Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
Japanese Ceramics for the Twenty-first Century, The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, USA
- 2013 *Clay Bodies*, Barry Friedman Gallery, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
New Blue and White, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA
- 2012 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Arts Machiya, Minoya Machiya, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Clare Beck at Adrian Sassoon, COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London
Architecture et Impermanence, Institut français du Japon-Kansai, Kyoto, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2012 *Japanese Style: Sustaining Design*, Ruthin Craft Centre, Ruthin, Denbighshire
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2011 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Beauty In All Things: Japanese Art and Design, Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
Monokeirokemono, Tokyo Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2010 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
From Things to Objects, Kyoto University Museum, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, Masterpiece, Former Chelsea Barracks, London
Monokeiro, Kyōhakuin, Kyoto, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
The World of Kondo Ceramics: Tradition and Innovation, Ginza Wakō Hall, Tokyo, Japan
Kondo Yutaka: The Transformation of a Traditional Kyoto Family, Joan B. Mirviss Gallery, New York, USA
Domani, Tomorrow, The National Art Centre, Tokyo, Japan
- 2009 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
Treasures of the Future, Takashimaya Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Adrian Sassoon, The International Ceramics Fair & Seminar, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
From Mono to Mono, The Kyoto University Museum, Kyoto, Japan
Celebrating Kyoto: Modern Arts from Boston's Sister City, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA
- 2008 *The Scottish Gallery*, COLLECT, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Adrian Sassoon, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2007 *The Artistic World of the Kondo Family*, Maruei Sukairu, Nagoya, Japan
The Scottish Gallery, COLLECT, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
- 2006 *The Scottish Gallery*, COLLECT, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
Contemporary Clay, Japan Society, New York, USA
Ceramics Beyond Borders, National Library of Singapore, Singapore
- 2005 *Contemporary Clay*, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA, USA
The Scottish Gallery, COLLECT, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
- 2004 *The Scottish Gallery*, COLLECT, Victoria and Albert Museum, London
- 2002 *The New Way of Tea*, Japan and Asia Society, New York, USA
- 2001 *The Worlds of Red and Blue*, Tenmaya Art Gallery, Okayama, Japan
Masters of Clay, Barry Friedman Gallery, New York, USA
Pacific International Contemporary Ceramic Art: Trends and Developments, Yingge Ceramics Museum, New Taipei City, Taiwan
Imagination Transcends Time, Takashimaya Grand Hall, Tokyo, Japan
- 2000 *Historic Chinese Blue and White and Contemporary Japanese Work by the Kondo Family*, The Palace Museum, Beijing, China
Hiroshi Senju, Yuki Ikenobo, Takahiro Kondo: Connected Across Time by Imagination, Namba Takashimaya Grand Hall, Osaka, Japan & tour
- 1999 *Three Generations of Modern Blue and White*, Eki Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
Passage/Void, Art Space Kan, Kyoto, Japan
- 1997 *Thinking Ceramics*, Isetan Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
Moon, Fire, Water, Gallery Okumura, Tokyo, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 1996 *Fire, Clay, Water*, Izu Oshima, Tenkawa, Nara, Japan
Selected Exhibition of Emerging Artists, Kyoto City Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan
Selected Avant-Garde Art, Kyoto City Museum, Kyoto, Japan
- 1995 *Legends in Fire*, Ōi Town Museum of History and Folklore, Fukui, Japan
- 1994 *Le Parfum*, Galerie Kouki, Paris, France
Beyond Vessel, Robert McDougall Gallery, Christchurch, New Zealand
Kyoto Emerging Artist Award Exhibition, Kyoto Shijo Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
- 1993 *Three Generations of Contemporary Japanese Blue and White Ceramic Art*, Daimaru Museum, Tokyo, Japan & tour
- 1992 *20th Century Japanese Blue and White*, The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge
The Wall, Mitsukoshi Gion Gallery, Kyoto, Japan & tour
- 1991 *Ceramista*, Kyoto City Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan

Awards

- 2021 39th Kyoto Prefecture Prize for Distinguished Service in the Arts, Japan
- 2020 Winner, 33rd Kyoto Fine Art Culture Prize, Chūshin Foundation for the Encouragement of the Arts, Japan
- 2003 Inglis Allen Masters of Design Award, Edinburgh College of Art, Edinburgh
- 2002 Overseas Study Program for Artists, sponsored by the Japanese Government
- 1994 Kyoto City Newcomer's Arts Prize, Japan

Selected Public Collections

Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums, Aberdeen
 National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh
 The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge
 Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland
 Musée national des arts asiatiques – Guimet, Paris, France
 Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA
 Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, California, USA
 Brooklyn Museum of Art, New York, USA
 Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
 Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, USA
 Los Angeles County Museum of Art, Los Angeles, USA
 Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
 Museum of Arts and Design, New York, USA
 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts, USA
 Rhode Island School of Design Museum, Providence, Rhode Island, USA
 Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, Washington, USA
 Spencer Museum of Art, The University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, USA
 The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA
 The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Texas, USA
 The Walters Art Museum, Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Selected Public Collections (continued)

Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, Connecticut, USA
 Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
 Hamilton Art Gallery, Victoria, Australia
 The National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, Australia
 Museu de arte de São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil
 Chūshin Art Museum, Kyoto, Japan
 Kahitsukan, Kyoto Museum of Contemporary Art, Kyoto, Japan
 Mashiko Museum of Ceramic Art, Tochigi, Japan
 Miho Museum, Kōka, Shiga, Japan
 Paramita Museum, Komono, Mie, Japan
 Saku Municipal Museum of Modern Art, Nagano, Japan
 The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Kōka, Shiga, Japan

Bibliography: Catalogues & Books

2022	<i>Kondo Takahiro: Vessel Body Void</i> , published by Mitsumura Suiko Shoin, Japan
2018	<i>JAPAN NOW</i> , published by Joan B. Mirviss, Gardiner Museum, Canada
2017	<i>Thoughts on Hands</i> , published by Kahitsukan, Kyoto Museum of Contemporary Art
2011	<i>Takahiro Kondo</i> , published by The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
2007	<i>Metamorphose</i> , Paramita Museum, Mie Prefecture, Japan <i>OIL</i> , Gallery Cellar, Nagoya, Japan
2006	<i>The Works of Takahiro Kondo, All Things in Nature</i> , published by Tenmaya Co., Ltd., Japan
2005	Earle, J., <i>Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century</i> , Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA, USA, pp 62-63
2003	<i>Blue Mist: The Works of Takahiro Kondo</i> , Kyuryudo and Paramita Museum, Mie Prefecture, Japan
1999	<i>Time and Space – Raisonne</i> , Imura Art Gallery, Kyoto, Japan
1996	<i>Blue Spirit</i> , published by Dohosha Shuppan Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Japan
1995	<i>Takahiro Kondo: Painter and Potter</i> , National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh