

For Immediate Release



*Onishi Gallery To Participate In Salon Art + Design 2024 And
Present Japanese KOGEI Exhibition*

NEW YORK CITY (November 2024): Onishi Gallery, specializing in KOGEI (contemporary craft art from Japan), is proud to partner once again this year with Salon Art + Design, the leading New York contemporary design fair to be held at the Park Avenue Armory from November 7 to 11.

In addition to our booth at the Armory, Onishi Gallery will present an exhibition at our new Upper East Side Gallery. Featuring work by six leading artists working in a range of traditional media, **KOGEI and Art** will run from November 8 until December 20.

“KOGEI” refers to works made using materials and methods that have stood the test of time, reflecting uncompromising dedication to technical perfection and a search for new forms of expression. Both our Salon Art + Design booth and our special gallery show will highlight the growing role of KOGEI in contemporary Western lifestyle and global art and design.

The two events also support the mission of KOGEI USA, a new not-for-profit established with the goal of raising the reputation of Japanese traditional arts and culture outside Japan by holding exhibitions and cultural events at major museums in the US and Europe.

Our booth at Salon Art + Design, on the theme “Merging Japanese Sensibility with Western Contemporary Taste,” showcases the achievement of eight “Living National Treasures” (Ningen Kokuhō) and twelve other leading artists (please see below for further details).

The six artists highlighted in our gallery exhibition are David Stanley Hewett (b. 1967), Konno Tomoko (b. 1967), Noguchi Ken (b. 1982), Onihira Keiji (b. 1973), Rusu Aki (b. 1976), and Tanaka Terukazu (b. 1945).

Hewett, an American living in Japan, works in the medium of finest Japanese gold leaf applied to canvas or wood, preserving and re-imagining a heritage of gorgeous decoration with its roots in elite samurai culture. Konno makes organic, otherworldly porcelain forms that are both colorful and grotesque, inspiring conflicting feelings of aesthetic delight and existential dread. Noguchi Ken—showing in our gallery for the first time—combines cotton strings with layer after layer of *urushi* (the sap of the Japanese lacquer tree) to form black, mountain-like sculptures.

Onihira, a native of Wajima, a center of traditional lacquer art struck by a devastating earthquake on New Year’s Day 2024, uses *maki-e* (sprinkled precious metal powders) and inlay of shell to depict celestial phenomena on lacquer boxes. Employing industrial iron-processing techniques, Rusu creates powerful sculpture that reflects the inherent qualities of one of the planet’s most abundant metals. Tanaka, a former artist in residence at the Freer|Sackler Galleries, makes boxes from a combination of silver, copper, and Japan’s unique traditional alloys.

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SALON ART + DESIGN

Location

Park Avenue Armory, 643 Park Avenue between 66/67 Streets, New York, N.Y.
(Onishi Gallery: Booth #C2)

Dates

November 7–11, 2024

Hours

November 7: Preview Events (invitation only)
November 8: 11am–8pm (11am–3pm: invitation only)
November 9: 11am–7pm
November 10: 11am–7pm
November 11: 11am–4pm

For further details, please visit www.thesalonnny.com

Onishi Gallery’s booth will display work by eight Ningen Kokuhō (“Living National Treasures”): Inoue Manji (porcelain); Katsura Morihito (metalwork); Komori Kunie (lacquer); Mae Fumio (lacquer); Murose Kazumi (lacquer); Ōsumi Yukie (metalwork); Tamagawa Norio (metalwork); and Yamagishi Kazuo (lacquer), alongside twelve other leading artists: Hara Satoshi (metalwork); David Stanley Hewett (painting); Konno Tomoko (ceramic); Mizushiri Seiho (lacquer); Nakamuro Sōichirō (lacquer); Noguchi Ken (lacquer); Onihira Keiji (lacquer); Rusu Aki (metalwork); Sako Ryūhei (metalwork); Suzuki Miki (ceramic); Tanaka Terukazu (metalwork); and Urade Katsuhiko (lacquer).

ONISHI GALLERY

Location

16 E 79th Street, Ground Floor, New York, NY 10075

Gallery Contact

Nana Onishi
212.695.8035; nana@onishigallery.com; www.onishigallery.com

Dates

November 8–December 20, 2024

Hours

Tuesdays–Fridays, 10am–5pm (closed November 27–29)

Media Contacts for Onishi Gallery

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About KOGEI USA

KOGEI USA is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit organization recently established with the goal of raising the reputation of Japanese traditional arts and culture outside Japan by holding exhibitions and cultural events at major museums in the US and Europe.

About Living National Treasures

“Living National Treasure” (Ningen Kokuhō) is the term popularly applied in Japan to individuals designated “Preservers of Important Intangible Cultural Properties” (Jūyō Mukei Bunkazai Hojisha) by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology under a system inaugurated in 1955.

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[Image captions]

David Stanley Hewett (b. 1967)
Bushido 252, 2023
Kanazawa gold leaf and acrylic on canvas
32 1/4 × 25 5/8 in. (82 × 65 cm)

Konno Tomoko (b. 1967)
Creature, 2010
Stoneware with *nerikomi*
21 5/8 × 20 1/2 × 10 5/8 in. (55 × 52 × 27 cm)

Noguchi Ken (b. 1982)
L.S.C.U. (Line and Surface Composition with Urushi) #1, 2023
Urushi, linen, and cotton string
11 7/8 × 23 5/8 × 13 3/4 in. (30 × 60 × 35 cm)

Onihira Keiji (b. 1973)
Box with Design in Raised *Maki-e, Soaring Aurora*, 2020
Dry lacquer and wood (base), gold-silver alloy, gold, abalone shell, South Sea abalone shell, and pigment
8 1/2 × 10 1/2 × 5 3/4 in. (21.7 × 26.4 × 14.5 cm)

Rusu Aki (b. 1976)
Two Separate Routes, 2022
Iron
21 × 28 3/8 × 14 1/8 in. (53.5 × 72 × 36 cm)

Tanaka Terukazu (b. 1945)
Two-Tone Box 01, 2008
Copper, *kuromidō*, and silver
7 7/8 × 8 5/8 × 8 7/8 in. (20 × 22 × 22.5 cm)