



OKUYAMA HOSEKI (B. 1937)

Okuyama has been working as a silversmith since he left his home in Shinjo, Yamagata Prefecture, and in 1995, he was designated as a Living National Treasure for his *tankin* skills. The two techniques in which Okuyama excels in the *kiribame* and *uchikomi* methods of hammering a design onto metal and then fitting the metal parts into the design. *Kiribame* is well suited for larger patterns, while *uchikomi* is more suitable for delicate designs. Both techniques allow the artist to create skillful designs of nature. In the 1990s, he developed a unique style of modern and colorful designs by applying damascening techniques to his creative metal vessels to incorporate nature-inspired expressive motifs. The large work of art that was donated to Ise Shrine displayed more than 12,000 cherry blossom petals, which were hammered on the surface through the *uchikomi* method.

SELECTED AWARDS AND EXHIBITIONS

- 2020 Asia Week, New York, US
Master of Metal Art, Okuyama Hoseki and His True Calling, MOA Museum of Art, Shizuoka, Japan
- 2019 The 66th Japan Traditional Kōgei Exhibition, Japan
- 2018 Living National Treasure Exhibition, MOA Museum of Modern Art, Shizuoka, Japan

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- Agency for Cultural Affair | Japan
- MOA Museum of Modern Art | Shizuoka, Japan
- National Museum of Modern Art | Tokyo, Japan



Flower Vase "Dew grass", 2003, Gold, silver, *shakudo* (alloy-copper, gold) and *shibuichi* (alloy-copper, silver) h. 8 1/2 x dia. 5 in. (22 x 13 cm)