

Kiyomizu Rokubey VIII

Biography

- 1954 Born in Kyoto
- 1979 Graduated from the department of architecture, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan
- 2000 Promoted to 8th Kiyomizu Rokubey

Eighth generation Kiyomizu Rokubey VIII

Established in the mid-Edo period, the Kiyomizu Rokubey family has continued their legacy for 248 years and over eight generations since 1771.

Eighth generation Rokubey was born in Kyoto in 1954 as the eldest son of the seventh generation. His given name at birth was Masahiro. After graduating from Waseda University, Faculty of Science and Engineering, Department of Architecture in 1979 (Showa 54), he studied pottery at Kyoto Prefectural Ceramists' Technical Institute and went on to study glaze at Kyoto Municipal Institute of Industrial Research before becoming full-fledged in ceramic art.

Kiyomizu received the Grand Prix at the Asahi Ceramic Art Exhibition in 1983 (Showa 58) which became the year of his actual debut, and continued on to win the Kazuo Yagi Award at the Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition in 1988 and 1989, the Kyoto Prefecture Cultural Award in 1993 and the Ceramic Society of Japan Prize in 2005. He has always gained attention in the era where ceramic art expression took off from the 1980s to the 90s.

Structured works using the tatara technique consistently pursues spatiality, and the soil used for firing has direct effect on the glaze, giving a unique texture to each piece and the surrounding environment. Clay slabs are cut exactly according to plans and bonded together, but by creating slits in the body the strength of a piece can be manipulated. In addition, distortion due to firing can be intentionally incorporated in a piece using the force of gravity.

After succeeding his father as eighth generation in 2000 (Heisei 12), his creative work has largely been focused on structured ceramic ware. He later became a professor at Kyoto University of Art and Design in 2003 (Heisei 15) and has been dedicated in nurturing the next generation while working energetically in his creations. After receiving the Ceramic Society of Japan Prize in 2005 (Heisei 17), he has become one of the faces that represents the ceramic art world today

Kiyomizu Rokubey VIII

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| Selected Solo Exhibition | <p>2023 <i>CERAMIC SIGHT</i>, Nonaka-Hill, Los Angeles, USA</p> <p>2022 Gallery Utsuwakan, Kyoto, Japan</p> <p>2021 <i>8th Kiyomizu Rokubey Exhibition</i>, The Museum of Ceramic Art, Hyogo, Hyogo, Japan
Takashimaya Art Gallery, Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan (2018, 2015, 2013, 2009, 2001)
Takashimaya Art Gallery, Nihonbashi, Tokyo, Japan (2018, 2015, 2011, 2001)</p> <p>2018 Takashimaya Art Gallery, Osaka, Osaka, Japan, (2015, 2011, 2005)</p> <p>2018 Gallery Haku, Osaka, Japan, (2014, 2012, 2010, 2008, 2005, 2004, 2003, 1991, 1987)</p> <p>2015 Gallery Utsuwakan, Kyoto, Japan</p> <p>2013 Takashimaya Art Gallery, Yokohama, Yokohama, Japan
Takashimaya Art Gallery, Nagoya, Nagoya, Japan</p> <p>2009 Takashimaya Art Gallery, Nagoya, Nagoya, Japan</p> <p>2005 Takashimaya Art Gallery, Yokohama, Yokohama, Japan</p> <p>2002 Gion Konishi, Kyoto, Japan</p> <p>1999 Gallery Nakamura, Kyoto, Japan (1996, 1993, 1991, 1989)</p> <p>1998 Contemporary Art NIKI, Tokyo, Japan</p> <p>1996 Masuda Studio, Tokyo, Japan (1992, 1988, 1985)</p> <p>1994 Memories Gallery, Nagoya, Japan</p> <p>1993 Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo, Japan</p> <p>1989 INAX Gallery, Tokyo, Japan</p> |
| Selected Group Exhibition | <p>2019 <i>SODEISHA CONNECTED to AUSTRALIA</i>, Newcastle Art Gallery, AUSTRALIA</p> <p>2016 <i>Craft Arts: Innovation of "Tradition and Avant-Garde" and the Present Day</i>, The National Museum of Modern art Tokyo, Tokyo, JAPAN</p> |
| Public collection | <p>2013 <i>The KIYOMIZU Rokubey Family</i>, Aichi Ceramic Art Museum, Seto, Japan</p> <p>2007 22nd International Open Sculpture Competition, Ube Open-Air Museum, Ube, Japan</p> <p>2005 <i>Contemporary Clay – Japanese Ceramics for the New Century</i>, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Boston, USA</p> <p>2004 <i>The Retrospective Exhibition of KIYOMIZU Rokubey I~VIII</i>, Chiba City Art Museum, Chiba, Japan</p> <p>2003 <i>Korea – Japan Contemporary Ceramic Art Exhibition</i>, Kumho Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea</p> <p>2002 <i>The New Way of Tea</i>, Japan Society, Asia Society, New York, USA
<i>International Asia-Pacific Contemporary Ceramics Invitational Exhibition</i>, Taipei County Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taipei, Taiwan</p> <p>2001 <i>Leaders of Contemporary Japanese Ceramics</i>, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki, Japan
<i>Crafts in Kyoto</i>, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan</p> <p>1994 <i>The Taipei International Exhibition of Ceramics 1994</i>, Taipei, Taiwan
<i>Clay Work</i>, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Osaka, Japan</p> |

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- Selected Group Exhibition
- 1993 *Contemporary Ceramics 1950–1990*, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya, Japan
The 48th International Ceramic Art Competition, Faenza, Italy
Modern Japanese Ceramics in American Collection, Japan Society Gallery, New York, USA
 - 1992 *Continuity and Transformation : Contemporary Japanese Ceramics*, Everson Museum of Art, New York, USA
 - 1990 *Japanese Clay Work Today*, Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts, Utsunomiya, Japan
Contemporary Ceramics, Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama, Wakayama Japan
 - 1989 *Europalia--Japan Exhibition '89 [Ceramics of the Showa Era : Tradition and Innovation]*, Mons Art Museum, Mins, Belgium
 - 1986 *1st International Ceramics Competition '86*, Mino, Japan

Museum and Public Collection

Tokyo National Museum of Modern Art, Japan
 The International Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
 The Japan Foundation, Japan
 Kyoto Prefecture, Japan
 Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Japan
 Wakayama Prefectural Modern Art Museum, Japan
 The Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Japan
 Takamatsu City Museum, Japan
 Museum of Modern Ceramic Art, Gifu, Japan
 Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Japan
 Everson Museum of Art, USA
 Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, USA
 British Museum, England
 Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan
 Yingge Ceramics Museum, Taiwan
 The Museum of Decorative Arts, Prague, Czech Republic
 Royal Ontario Museum, Canada
 Shepparton Art Gallery, Australia
 Newcastle Art Gallery, Australia
 Sevres National Museum of Ceramic, France
 Keramion Museum, Germany
 Benaki Museum, Greece
 China Museum, China
 Museu del Cantir d'Argentona, Spain

Kyoto State Guest House, Japan
 Chubu International Airport, Japan

Kiyomizu Rokubey VIII

Awards

- 1983 Won the Grand Prix in the Asahi Ceramic Art Exhibition '83
- 1986 14th Chunichi International Exhibition of Ceramic Arts ; received the Foreign Minister's Prize
Won the Grand Prix in the Asahi Ceramic Art Exhibition '86
- 1988 Received Kyoto Art Award for New Artists
- 1989 Yomiuri Prize in the Competition of Contemporary Ceramics -- Yagi Kazuo Prize '89
- 1993 Received Kyoto Cultural Award Incentive Award
- 1997 Sidney Myer Fund International Ceramics Award, Shepparton Art Museum, AUSTRALIA
- 1999 Received Takashimaya Art Award
- 2005 Received The 2004 Japan Ceramic Society Prize
- 2009 Received Kyoto Cultural Award Achievement Award
- 2013 Received Kyoto Art Culture Award
- 2022 Received a person of Kyoto City Cultural Merit