

# THANK YOU

to the following for their generous support  
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Beattie Foundation	Barbara McFadyen and Douglass Phillips
Buka Gakuen University	Seigado
Judy Devitt	Shepherd Foundation
Laura and Michael Grace	Ben Simmons Photography
Hijiri-Koubo	Tokyo University of Arts
HYART Gallery	Tsubame Industrial Materials Museum
Japan Foundation New York	Tsukuribe-Koubo
Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago, Japan Information Center	Yamawaki Art College Foster Young, Jr.



COVER IMAGE: Yukie Osumi, Water Vessel, *Lucidity*, 2019  
ABOVE: George Sawyer, *Puzzle Brooch*, 1999.

# TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

卓越した伝統：  
現代金工作家に見る日本伝統技術

Japanese techniques  
in contemporary metal arts

**MAR. 29 – SEP. 13, 2020**

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Photography by Brady Connelly, Tamara Tsurkan, and Ben Simmons

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## Hiroko Yamada CURATOR

“Hiroko Yamada was born and raised in Japan, and her first career was as an architect in Tokyo. She became interested in small-scale design and chose to pursue this interest at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (Madison, WI) under the mentoring of metalsmiths Fred Fenster and Eleanor Moty. In addition to becoming an accomplished jeweler, she dedicated herself to helping others create one-of-a-kind works in metal. This commitment has included teaching Penland School of Craft (Penland, NC) workshops regularly since 2005.

For the past five years, Hiroko has promoted exchanges between American and Japanese metal artists through exhibitions and workshops with a goal of introducing traditional Japanese metal work and techniques to Western art metal culture.

Hiroko worked closely with Penland Gallery Director Kathryn Gremley in creating two exhibitions that presented the work of American metalsmiths in Japan. *The Art of the Brooch* appeared at Gallery C.A.J. (Kyoto, Japan), Kobe Design University (Kobe, Japan), and Museum of Kyoto (Kyoto, Japan) in 2014. *North American Mokume-Gane Exhibit* in Japan appeared at Tsubame Industrial Materials Museum (Nigata, Japan) and Yamawaki Art College Gallery (Tokyo, Japan) in 2016. Both included Penland-affiliated artists.

In 2018 Hiroko's work was included in the Japanese Traditional Art Metal Exhibition in Tokyo and Kumamoto along with work by Seth Gould and Andrew Meers, who have both been Penland resident artists and students of Hiroko's. In 2017 and 2018, she co-curated, with professor Hiroki Iwata of Tokyo University of Arts (Tokyo, Japan), an exhibition of work by American and Japanese metal artists at Ginza Okariya Gallery in Tokyo. She also facilitated an invitation for American artists to study with masters and Living National Treasures in Japan, and she invited a Japanese master to teach workshops in the US in 2016, 2017, and 2019.”

— from *Tradition of Excellence* exhibit catalog  
Penland Gallery (Penland, NC)

## PARTICIPATING ARTISTS

Seisei Asai  
浅井盛征  
Tokyo, Japan

Kiyoko Fujie  
藤江聖公  
Tokyo, Japan

Seth Gould  
セス ゴードウ  
Bakersville, NC

Noriko Hagino  
萩野紀子  
Saitama, Japan

Hiroki Iwata  
岩田広己  
Tokyo, Japan

Marvin Jensen  
マーヴィン ジェンセン  
Bakersville, NC

Kazuo Kashima  
鹿島和生  
Tokyo, Japan

Morihito Katsura  
桂盛仁  
Tokyo, Japan  
Japanese Living National  
Treasure, Designated in 2008

Takashi Kojima  
小嶋崇嗣  
Kyoto, Japan

Andrew Meers  
アンドリュー ミエース  
Penland, NC

Haruo Mitsuta  
満田晴穂  
Yokohama, Japan

Hiroshi Nishikata  
西片浩  
Nigata, Japan

Ryota Nishikata  
西片亮太  
Nigata, Japan

Yuko Okahara  
岡原有子  
Shizuoka, Japan

Masako Onodera  
マサコ オノデラ  
Stout, WI

Motoko Oshiyama  
押山元子  
Yamanashi, Japan

Yukie Osumi  
大角幸枝  
Tokyo, Japan  
Japanese Living National  
Treasure, Designated in 2015

Ryuhei Sako  
佐故龍平  
Okayama, Japan

Hiroko Sato-Pijanowski  
ひろこ さとう-  
ピジャンオウスキー  
Yokohama, Japan

George Sawyer  
ジョージ ソイヤー  
Minneapolis, MN

Makoto Susa  
須佐真  
Nigata, Japan

Fumiki Taguchi  
田口史樹  
Kobe, Japan

Emiko Takenouchi  
竹之内恵美子  
Tokyo, Japan

Norio Tamagawa  
玉川宣夫  
Nigata, Japan  
Japanese Living National  
Treasure, Designated in 2010

Tatsushi Tamagawa  
玉川達士  
Nigata, Japan

Yoshio Ueno  
上野彬郎  
Nigata, Japan

Mizuko Yamada  
山田瑞子  
Tokyo, Japan



IMAGE: Tatsushi Tamagawa,  
*Flower Vessel*, 2017.