

## Wada Akira Biography

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- 1978 Born in Chiba, Japan.
- 2001 BA in Ceramics, Arts Department, Bunka Gakuin, Tokyo  
Studied under ceramist Katsuji Uwataki
- 2005 Set up his own ceramic studio  
Recognized as member of Japan KOGEI Association
- 2007 Granted a fellowship 'Overseas Study Program for Artists' in Paris, France by Japan's Agency for Cultural Affairs
- Currently lives and works in Sakura, Chiba (JP)

## Solo Exhibitions

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- 2010 *Universe*, Chiba Mitsukoshi, Chiba (JP)
- 2012 Yamani Otsuka Gallery Midori, Tochigi (JP)
- 2013 *Memory*, Kakiden gallery, Tokyo (JP) {'11 *White Porcelain & Ash Glaze of the Mangrove*}
- 2014 LIXIL GALLERY, Tokyo (JP)
- 2016 Gallery Cajio, Tokyo (JP)  
Kandori Gallery, Tokyo (JP) {'12 }
- 2017 Mitochu Koeki@TÔBI Art Fair, Tokyo Art Club, Tokyo (JP)
- 2018 Yusai Gallery, Tokyo (JP)  
Gallery Kurimoto, Niigata (JP)  
Sendai Mitsukoshi, Miyagi (JP)  
*Wada Akira: Clay and Sculpture*, Chiba Citizen's Gallery Inage, Chiba (JP)  
*Akira Wada Ceramic Art and Sculpture*, Toki station Gallery, Ibaragi (JP)
- 2020 Takashimaya, Travelling exhibition in Kyoto・Osaka・Yokohama locations (JP)  
Gallery Utsuwakan, Kyoto, Japan
- 2021 *The beauty of white porcelain created from sharp forms*, Chibagin Himawari Gallery, Tokyo (JP)  
*Contrast -Light and Shadow*, Hagi Uragami Museum, Yamaguchi, (JP)
- 2022 *White Setting*, Contemporary Crafts Fujinoya, Tochigi (JP)  
GALLERY KOHODO, Gifu (JP)
- 2023 *Knead, Grind, Carve, Bake*, Nihonbashi Mitsukoshi Main Store, Tokyo  
{ '7, '09, '11, '14 }  
*WALK ON THE EDGE*, Sakura City Museum of Art, Chiba

*Light and Shadow*, Mashiko Ceramic Art Museum, Tochigi (JP)

2024 *White Path*, Kobe Hankyu, Hyogo (JP)

#### Group Exhibitions

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2009 *60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Chiba Prefectural Selected Artists Exhibition*, Chiba, Prefectural Museum of Art, Chiba (JP)

2010 *About The Tea Ceremony - A Viewpoint on Contemporary Kōgei*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (JP)

*10<sup>th</sup> Oita Asian Sculpture Exhibition*, Fumio Asakura Museum of Sculpture, Oita (JP)

2011 *6th Paramita Ceramic Art Grand Prize Exhibition*, Paramita Museum, Mie (JP)

*Tea Ceremony - Modernity in Molding and Design II*, Gallery Voice, Gifu (JP)

*The White Period*, Mashiko Museum of Ceramic Art, Tochigi (JP)

Mitochu Koeki@Art Fair Tokyo 2011, Tokyo International Forum, Tokyo (JP)

*Outdoor Sculpture Half a Century Exhibition*, Kitakyusyu Municipal Museum of Art, Fukuoka (JP)/UBE Tokiwa Museum, Yamaguchi (JP)

*REVALUE NIPPON PROJECT*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)

2012 *Modern Sculpture: Life&Art - Feel Ceramics*, Higashihiroshima City Museum of Art, Hiroshima (JP)

*12<sup>th</sup> Kajima Sculpture Competition*, The Atrium in Kajima KI Building, Tokyo(JP)/ Art and Culture Asuto Hall, Osaka (JP)

2013 *Master Teabowls of Our Days*, Musée Tomo, Tokyo (JP)

*Cheongju International Craft Biennale Main Exhibition 2*, Cheongju Cultural Industry Complex, Cheongju (KR)

2014 *The Power of Creation*, Mashiko Museum of Ceramic Art, Tochigi (JP)

*Modern Ceramic Art Phenomenon*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)

*Ceramic Vessels from Kanto*, Itami City Industrial Arts Center, Osaka (JP)

*The 19th MOA Mokichi Okada Award Exhibition*, MOA Museum, Shizuoka (JP)

*Into the Fold: Contemporary Japanese Ceramics from the Horvitz Collection*, Harn Museum of Art, (US)

2015 Japan KOGEI Association East Japan Section, MOA Museum, Shizuoka (JP)

2016 *REVALUE NIPPON PROJECT*, Panasonic Shiodome Museum, Tokyo (JP)

*Modern Ceramic Art Guide: Evolving Form*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)

2017 *Modern Crafts and Tea Ceremony II*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo (JP)

*Mr. K's Collection*, Tajimi City Pottery Design and Technical Center, Gifu (JP)

*Modern Tea Ceremony*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)

*Present of Porcelain in the Tea Room by 6 Artists*, Nezu Museum, Tokyo (JP)

*Porcelain in Evolution – from 1980's to Present*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)

- 2018 *New Acquisitions*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)  
*Vessels: Kasama and Mashiko*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)/Mashiko Ceramic Art Museum, Tochigi (JP)  
*Sozo Kaigan Inage*, Chiba Citizens'Gallery Inage,Chiba, (JP)  
*Tea Ceramics -Hagi 2018*,Hagi Origami Museum,Yamaguchi (JP)
- 2019 *21st Okada Mokichi Award: The Forefront of Contemporary Japanese Crafts*, MOA Museum of Art, Shizuoka (JP)  
*25th Japan Ceramic Art Exhibition*, Invited Exhibition  
*21st DOMANI Tomorrow Exhibition, At the End of the Heisei Period*, National Art Center, Tokyo (JP)
- 2020 National Crafts Center Ishikawa relocation and opening commemorative project participation  
*Crafts 2020 Nature and the Forms of Beauty*, Tokyo National Museum, Tokyo (JP)  
*Blue or White—Celadon, White porcelain, Blue-white porcelain*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)
- 2021 *Rich Tea Ceramics*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)  
*History of Modern Tea Pottery*, Toki City Mino Ceramic History Museum, Gifu (JP)
- 2022 *22nd Okada Mokichi Award: Tomorrow's Crafts*, MOA Museum of Art, Shizuoka (JP)  
*Ceramics connecting to the future: Power of traditional crafts exhibition*, travelling exhibition to 8 museums nationwide (JP)  
*Genreless Crafts*, National Crafts Museum, Ishikawa (JP)  
*5th Kanazawa World Crafts Triennale*, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Ishikawa (JP)
- 2023 *Contemporary Ceramics: Thinking Forms: Kikuchi Collection Exhibition*, Kikuchi Tomo Museum, Tokyo (JP)  
*In Search of New Forms*, Mashiko Ceramic Art Museum, Tochigi (JP)
- 2024 *KO + GEI 2024*, Tokyo Art Club, Tokyo (JP)  
*Master and Disciple Bond: Collection Exhibition*, Sakura City Museum of Art, Chiba (JP)  
*The "Form" and "Surface" of Contemporary Ceramics*, Sano City Yoshizawa Memorial Museum of Art, Tochigi (JP)  
*Takumi's Ceramic Travel*, Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)

## Prizes

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- 2007 35th New Works of Ceramic Arts Exhibition, Japan KOGEI Association Award
- 2009 The 3rd Kikuchi Biennale, Encouragement Award -  
The 20th Japan Ceramic Art Exhibition, Masuo Ikeda Special Award –
- 2010 The 50th Eastern Japan Traditional Kōgei Exhibition, The 50th Memorial Award
- 2011 The 6th Paramita Ceramic Art Award Exhibition, Grand Prix  
The 24th UBE Biennale International Sculpture Competition, Yamaguchi Bank Prize

- 2016    The 9th Modern Tea Pottery Exhibition TOKI, Grand Prix  
          The 27th Takashimaya Culture Fund, Takashimaya Art Prize
- 2017    The 15th Chiba City Arts and Culture Freshmen Awards, Newcomer Award  
          The 37th Pola Award for Traditional Japanese Culture, Encouragement Award  
          The 64th Japan Traditional Art Crafts, Governor of Tokyo Award  
          The 7th Kikuchi Biennale, Grand Prix
- 2020    Japan Ceramic Society Prize
- 2024    The 1st Bizen Contemporary Ceramics Biennale, Gold Prize

#### Public Collections

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Imperial Household Agency (JP)  
Japan Foundation (JP)  
Chiba City, Chiba (JP)  
National Crafts Museum, Ishikawa (JP)  
Ibaraki Ceramic Art Museum, Ibaraki (JP)  
Mashiko Ceramic Art Museum, Tochigi (JP)  
Musée Tomo, Tokyo (JP)  
Toki City Mino Ceramic History Museum, Gifu (JP)  
Midorigaoka Art Museum, Nara (JP)  
Paramita Museum, Mie (JP)  
Takashimaya Historical Museum, Tokyo (JP)  
Ise Cultural Fund (JP)  
Chiba Bank (JP)  
Cincinnati Art Museum, Ohio (US)  
Minneapolis Institute of Art, Minnesota (US)  
Allen Memorial Museum of Art, Ohio (US)  
MINKA Museum of Contemporary Art, Buenos Aires (AR)

#### Other

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##### Ceramic Wall Works

2005    *Horizon* and *Wave*, Satominoyu, Chiba (JP)

##### Workshops and Lectures

2012    Workshop and Slide Lecture, Tajimi City Pottery Design And Technical Center, Gifu, Japan

2016 Workshop and Slide Lecture, Kasama College of Ceramic Art, Ibaragi (JP) {'14, '13}

2022 Research Presentation: 49th Convention of Japan Society of Oriental Ceramic Studies, Ishikawa Prefectural Museum of Art, Ishikawa (JP)