

*My Japanese Discoveries*

**The Extraordinary Kogei Art and Contemporary Design from Toyama, Japan**

**May 16–22**

**Opening Reception: May 16, 6–8pm**



ONISHIGALLERY

Living National Treasure of Japan  
Metal Artist  
**Ozawa Komin**



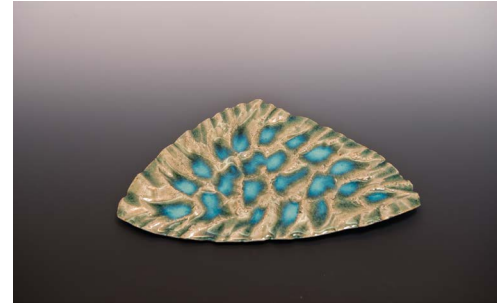
This metal artist from Takaoka City, holds the honor of being Toyama Prefecture's sole "Living National Treasure of Japan." Born in 1941 in an area known for its copperware, Ozawa is recognized today as master of the yakigata casting technique. He is also the inventor of a cast-wrapping technique called igurumi in which metal decoration is attached to the surface of the mold before molten metal is poured inside. Ozawa blends innovative technology with creative design to push the boundaries of traditional metal casting.

Metal Artist  
**Hannya Tamotsu**



This celebrated metal master, was born in 1941 in Takaoka City, Toyama Prefecture. Hannya is a 16th generation metal worker who creates art in the fukiwake casting technique, in which three different metals are individually poured into a mold within 5 seconds of each other. Due to the different melting points of the three metals, they do not blend together when combined but form a unique pattern instead. Hannya is the only known artist to have ever made a three-metal cast piece.

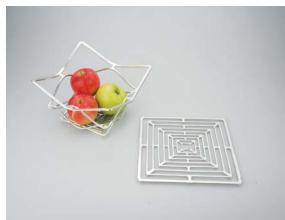
Ceramic Artist  
**Shakunaga Yukio**



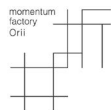
This widely-admired ceramic artist, was born in 1954 in Tateyama Town, Toyama Prefecture, into a family that produced Etchu Seto ware. Shakunaga creates simple forms and exquisitely colored ceramic pieces that have attracted devoted collectors all over the world, including Apple Company's Steve Jobs.

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One of Toyama's beautiful landscapes, Mt. Tateyama

## **My Japanese Discoveries: Toyama Prefecture, Japan**

### **The Extra Ordinary Kogei Art and Contemporary Design**

Onishi Gallery is proud to launch its latest project, *My Japanese Discoveries*, intended to share highlights of Japanese heritage and culture. The project's inaugural show runs from May 16 to May 22, with a celebratory opening reception on Friday, May 16 from 6-8pm.

Japan has 47 prefectures, each one with its own cultural, artistic, and culinary traditions. Because visitors often travel to Tokyo, Osaka or Kyoto rather than venture to more remote prefectures, this project valuably highlights the cultural histories and creative expressions of lesser-known locales.

With support from the Japanese government, Onishi Gallery will make possible exchanges between gallery patrons and artists from these distant prefectures. Gallery attendees will be able to learn about the prefectures' artistic masterpieces, functional-use crafts, and culinary specialties through public programming that include social exchanges, as well as local food and drink tastings. Our goal is to blend Japanese traditions with American culture so that participants may bring home these products for assimilation into their daily lives.

Our first collaboration in this project is with Toyama Prefecture, for which we will bring leading artists, industrial products, and local sake to the heart of Chelsea. Toyama, located in the Hokuriku region on the Japan Sea Coast—the northwest area of the Honshu island—is characterized by a stunning, rugged landscape of steep mountains, lush, rolling plains and the pure Kurobe River, which cuts the deepest gorge in Japan. Sustained by both long-standing traditions and emerging innovations, Toyama Prefecture is an applicant for UNESCO World Heritage.

### **Exhibition Schedule**

**On View: May 16–22, 2014**

**Opening Reception:**

**Friday, May 16, 6–8pm**

**Location: Onishi Gallery  
521 W. 26th Street, New York City**

**Hours: Tuesday–Saturday,  
11am–6pm**

**For Further Information:**

**Onishi Gallery**

**212.695.8035**

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**www.onishigallery.com**

### **With the Support of**

**Consulate General of Japan in New York  
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**Catering provided by Union Square Events**