



Shida Kuo *Primal Selection*

May 31 - June 30, 2014
381-2 Motocho, Higashiyama-Ku, Kyoto

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 31, 5:00-7:00PM



SHIDA KUO, *Untitled 13-02*, 2013
Fired White Clay, Oxides and Wood
40L x 25W x 25H cm

PRESS RELEASE

Sokyo Gallery is proud to present the first exhibition in Japan by New York-based artist Shida Kuo. The exhibition, titled “Primal Selection,” includes twenty-six works made from 1991 to the present. Shida Kuo exhibits actively in both New York City and Taipei, Taiwan, but this will be his first show introducing him to the Japanese audience.

Shida Kuo produces abstract but warmly organic forms that allude to nature and primordial human beginnings. The inspiration for his clay sculptures is prehistoric objects and tools, perfected by generations of craftsmen. However, his intuitive and honest work combines both the old and the new. He combines the nuances of basic form and shape along with a contemporary sensibility, in the process achieving primal yet timeless forms. He often incorporates wood into his sculptures, taking two of the most fundamental materials—clay and wood—and turning them into expressions of human activity.

A fully-illustrated catalogue of nineteen selected works from 1991 to the present will accompany the exhibition. The catalogue will feature an introductory essay by Todd Heyden.

Shida Kuo was born in Taiwan. In 1982, he graduated from National Taiwan Normal University with a B.F.A. in painting, and after immigrating to the United States in 1989, he received an M.A. in ceramics from New York University (NYU) in 1992. He has been an adjunct professor of ceramics at NYU since 1993. Since 1999 he has exhibited at Eslite Gallery in Taipei, Taiwan; and since 2004, at Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York, NY. He has been a member of The International Academy of Ceramics (IAC) since 2005. His works are in important collections at many museums and foundations, including: National Taiwan Museum of Art, Taiwan; National Art Museum of the Republic of China; Racine Art Museum, Wisconsin, USA; Outdoor Sculpture Project for Ten-Mou SOGO Taipei City, Taiwan; San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts, Texas, USA; Centro Cultural Paraxo, Italy; Ed Broida Collection, USA; Yageo Foundation of Art, Taipei, Taiwan; Shiwan Treasure Pottery Museum, GuangDong, China; Yixing Ceramics Museum, Yixing, China; River Art Center, Tai-Chung, Taiwan; National Art Museum of the Republic of China; and National Taiwan Normal University.

“Shida Kuo: Primal Selection” will be on view at Sokyo Gallery, 381-2 Motocho, Higashiyama-Ku, Kyoto from May 31 through June 30, 2014. Open everyday, 10:00 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. For further information, please contact Atsumi Fujita at (81) 75.746.4456 or atsumi.fujita@gallery-sokyo.jp