

ZEN SPIRIT

Evolving Tradition in the Work of Miraku Kamei XV and Hisaaki Kamei



ZEN SPIRIT

Evolving Tradition in the Work of Miraku Kamei XV and Hisaaki Kamei

Miraku Kamei XV and his son, Hisaaki Kamei, have a lineage in ceramic production that spans a period in Japan of over four hundred years and dates to the founders of Takatori ware, which hones from the practice of *chanoyu*, or formal tea ceremony. Known for its elegant, decisive, yet unfussed beauty both technically and artistically, Takatori ware persists proudly into the modern day in large part due to the hard work and dedication of the Kamei Family. Their deep-rooted history of knowledge, discipline, and wisdom in the ceramic craft reveals the genuine forward-thinking and innovative heart of Japan's Takatori ware tradition.

The work of Miraku Kamei XV and Hisaaki Kamei is highly refined without being rigid or tense and exemplifies an elegant restraint without losing a sense of the extraordinary. It is this concentration on visual effect that transfers over into each piece, making each a unique work of art. Every piece honors not only the aesthetic sensibility of the form but the functionality as well, keeping them in touch with their sense of purpose and place. This keeps the Kamei's work grounded and established while having more than a touch of the transcendent.

The Kameis have not only delivered works in their elegant and refined style but have also grown beyond the expected. The next generation, Hisaaki Kamei, continues to explore what Takatori ware is in his own voice, and he does this with exceptional openness, originality, and expression while preserving the traditional ceramic ware established by his ancestors so many years ago. For this show, both father and son have created a theme of circle, triangle, and square based on a focused and pure Zen spirit.

—Caroline Staller

All works are stoneware and come with a wooden box.

MIRAKU KAMEI XV

Miraku Kamei XV was born Masahisa Kamei in 1960, the eldest son of Miraku Kamei XIV, master potter of Takatori ware. He completed his university degree in Ceramics at Kyoto Saga University of Arts and took the title of the fifteenth generation in 2001. Mr. Kamei has been carrying on the tradition of Takatori ware for more than thirty years. In addition to exhibiting and promoting Takatori ware around Japan, he is an active teacher, training students in ceramics at a number of institutions around his home city of Fukuoka. He is also president of the Fukuoka/Hakata branch of the Japan Ceramics Association and a member of numerous arts organizations. In 2016, Kamei received the award of Contemporary Master Craftsman, designated to a craftsman with excellent skills from Fukuoka, Japan.



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Carp-shaped handles, Black glaze

12.5 x 6.5 x 6.5"

XV186



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Ame glaze, Fuji decoration, Takatori style
3 x 5.25 x 5.25"
XV198



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Yellow glaze, Fuji decoration, Takatori style
3 x 4.75 x 4.75"
XV199



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Ear-shaped handles, Shippo design openwork,
White glaze
10 x 5.25 x 5"
XV185



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Gourd form, White glaze
10.5 x 3.75 x 3.75"
XV39



ZEN SERIES (6 PIECE SET)

3 Plates: .5 x 5.5 x 5.5" each

Pot 1: 5.5 x 3.75 x 3.75"; Pot 2: 5.5 x 3.75 x 3.75"; Pot 3: 5.5 x 3.5 x 3.5"

XV205



ROUND POT (TSUBO)

Takatori style

10.5 x 8 x 8"

XV207



TRIANGLE POT (TSUBO)

Takatori style

7.25 x 8 x 8"

XV206



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Old Takatori style, Kakewake glaze

3.25 x 5.75 x 5.75"

XV196



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori style

2.75 x 5 x 5"

XV190



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Shippo design openwork
10.5 x 5 x 5"
XV110



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Crane neck shape, White glaze
10.5 x 3.75 x 3.75"
XV85



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Shippo design openwork, Takatori glaze
3 x 5 x 5"
XV160



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Seam decoration, Kakewake glaze
3 x 4.5 x 4.5"
XV159



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Gourd form

10.5 x 3.75 x 3.75"

XV114



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Cylindrical handles, Shippo design openwork

10 x 5 x 5"

XV109



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Kakewake glaze

3 x 4.5 x 4.5"

XV106



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori style

2.75 x 5.25 x 5.25"

XV99



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Openwork foot, Ame glaze, Shichi Hoh,
Takatori style
3.5 x 5.5 x 5.5"
XV200



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Pentagon design, Takatori style
3 x 5.5 x 5.5"
XV201



**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Fan-shaped form, Kakewake glaze
6 x 8.5 x 5.5"
XV167

lower left:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Flower-shaped form, Takatori style
3 x 5.25 x 5.25"
XV202

lower right:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Butterfly decoration
3 x 5 x 5"
XV141





above:
ZEN SERIES (4 PIECE SET)

Plate: .5 x 6 x 14.75"
Pot 1: 3.5 x 3.25 x 3.25"
Pot 2: 3.5 x 3.25 x 3.25"
Pot 3: 3.75 x 3 x 3"
XV204

right:

VASE

Dyed glaze
13 x 6 x 6"
XV135





WIDE MOUTH FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Oribe glaze, Takatori style

10 x 4 x 4"

XV184



KINUTA (HAMMER) FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Carp-shaped handles, Oribe glaze, Takatori style

8,5 x 4 x 4"

XV187



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Oribe and black glazes, Old Takatori style

3,25 x 5,25 x 5,25"

XV193



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Oribe and yellow glazes, Takatori style

3,25 x 5 x 5"

XV189

**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH CERAMIC LID**

Cherry handles, Kakewake glaze

7.25 x 7 x 7"

XV93



SQUARE POT (TSUBO)

Takatori style

10.25 x 6.5 x 6.5"

XV208





**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH CERAMIC LID**

Cylindrical handles, Shippo design openwork
6 x 7 x 6"
XV52



SWEETS TRAY (KASHIKI)

Six gourd (mubyō) design openwork,
Kakewake glaze
3 x 9.5 x 8.5"
XV118





FLAT PLATE

Wave pattern, Kakewake glaze

1 x 12,5 x 6,25"

XV129



HANGING FLOWER VASE (KAKE-HANAIKE)

Kakewake glaze

8 x 4,5 x 2,5"

XV176

previous page, lower left:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Old Takatori style,

Kakewake glaze

2,75 x 5 x 5"

XV107

previous page, lower right:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Ridged decoration,

Yellow glaze

2,75 x 5 x 5"

XV27



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Old Takatori style, Kakewake glaze

2.75 x 5 x 4.75"

XV8



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Raised stamp decoration, Kakewake glaze

3 x 4.75 x 4.75"

XV61



**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH CERAMIC LID**

White glaze

6.75 x 7.75 x 7"

XV95

lower left:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

3 x 4.75 x 4.75"

XV72

lower right:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori style

3 x 4.5 x 4.5"

XV97





TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Doujime form

3 x 4.75 x 4.75"

XV103



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

"Gold flower" (kinka) glaze

3 x 5 x 5"

XV108

**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Shippo design handles

7.25 x 6.25 x 6"

XV91



lower left:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Black glaze

3 x 5 x 5"

XV144

lower right:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

"Gold flower" (kinka) glaze

2.5 x 4.75 x 4.75"

XV175





FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Cloisonne, Shippo design handles, Kakewake glaze
9.25 x 4.25 x 4.25"
XV82



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Crane neck form, "Gold flower" (kinka) glaze
11 x 3.5 x 3.5"
XV33



SWEETS TRAY (KASHIKI)

Flower form, Butterfly design openwork
3.25 x 8.5 x 8.5"
XV123



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Gourd form, Takatori glaze

11.5 x 3.5 x 3.5"

XV158



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Shippo design handles

9.75 x 5.25 x 5.25"

XV37



FOOTED TRAY (TAKATSUKI)

5 x 9.5 x 9.5"

XV125



**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Altered form, Cylindrical handles,
Kakewake glaze
6.5 x 7.5 x 7.5"
XV170



**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Cylinder form, Cylindrical handles,
Kakewake glaze
6.5 x 7.5 x 7.5"
XV169



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Shippo design openwork, Shippo handles, White glaze
 10 x 3.5 x 3.5"
 XV155



VASE

Kakewake and white glazes
 11 x 6 x 6"
 XV174



VASE

Dyed glaze
 5.5 x 7.75 x 7.75"
 XV137



upper left:

FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Turnip form (shimo kabura), Shippo
design handles, Lined pattern

9.75 x 4.5 x 4.5"

XV115

upper right:

FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Bamboo form

11.25 x 4 x 4"

XV116

INCENSE BURNER (KORO)

Helmet form, Ame glaze

6.5 x 5.25 x 5.25"

XV149



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Seam decoration, "Gold flower" (kinka) glaze
 3 x 5 x 5"
 XV77



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Shippo design openwork foot, "Gold flower" (kinka) glaze
 3.25 x 5 x 5"
 XV98



above left:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

"Gold flower" (kinka) glaze
 2.75 x 5.25 x 5.25"
 XV102



above right:

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

"Gold flower" (kinka) glaze
 3 x 4.75 x 4.75"
 XV161

SWEETS TRAY (KASHIKI)

Bridge handle, Shippo design openwork
 6 x 9 x 8.25"
 XV121



HISAAKI KAMEI

Hisaaki Kamei is the first-born son of Takatoriyaki Miraku Kamei XV. Takatori started at Kuroda Clan's kiln and has been created for tea ceremonies for 400 years. Based on tea master Enshu Kobori's *kirei sabi* (bright sabi), each generation has inherited from previous masters several techniques, including symmetrical shapes, thin structures, and gradation using seven different traditional glazes. Each master has moved forward creating his own pottery. Hisaaki Kamei received a B.A. at the School of Business at Hosei University and graduated from the Forming Department, Kyoto Prefecture Pottery School. He is a Board Member of the Japan-France Tea Ceremony Association and has recently lectured in Cameroon and France.



JAR

White glaze
14 x 8,5 x 8,5"
HK1



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Aurora glaze
3.5 x 6 x 5.75"
HK39



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Aurora glaze, Tobikanna decoration
3.25 x 5.25 x 5.25"
HK42



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Wide opening, Aurora glaze
9.75 x 5.25 x 5.25"
HK48



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Aurora glaze
8 x 4.5 x 4"
HK50



POURING VESSEL

Aurora glaze
3 x 6.25 x 4"
HK55



SAKE BOTTLE

6.5 x 3.5 x 3.5"
HK53



CUP

Aurora glaze
3.75 x 3.75 x 3.75"
HK51



CUP

Aurora glaze
3.75 x 3.75 x 3.75"
HK52

Facing page, bottom left:

SAKE BOTTLE

Shinogi (ridge pattern)
6.25 x 3 x 3"
HK54



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Kakewake glaze, Old Takatori style
2.5 x 5.5 x 5.5"
HK45



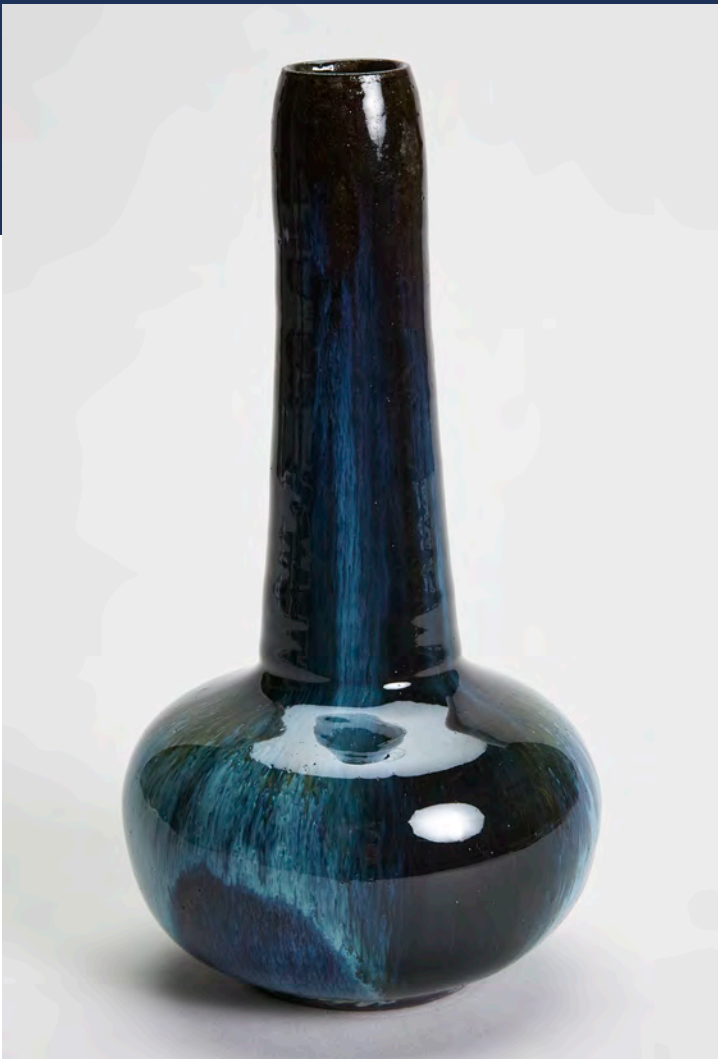
TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Aurora glaze
3 x 5 x 5"
HK41

NARROW MOUTH POT (TSUBO)

Takatori glaze
11 x 5.5 x 5.5"
HK13





FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Aurora glaze
10 x 5.25 x 5.25"
HK47



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Gourd form
9.5 x 3.25 x 3.25"
HK5



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori yellow glaze
3.5 x 5.25 x 5.25"
HK46



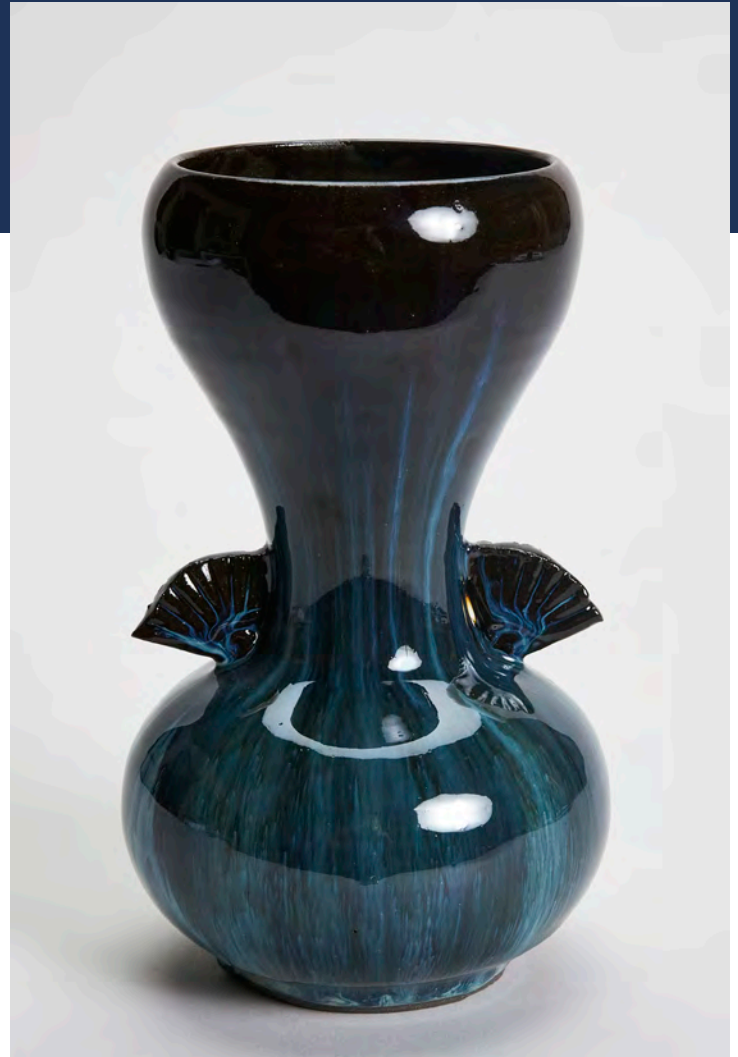
TSUTSUGAKI TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Kakewake glaze, Ichin decoration, Old Takatori style
3.5 x 5.5 x 4.75"
HK33



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Kakewake glaze
10.5 x 3 x 3"
HK4



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE) WITH EARS

Aurora glaze
8.25 x 5 x 5"
HK49



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori glaze
3.25 x 5.5 x 5.5"
HK17



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori yellow glaze
3.75 x 5 x 5"
HK21



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)
 Icchin decoration, Old Takatori style
 3 x 5.5 x 5.5"
 HK37



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)
 Takatori glaze
 3.5 x 5 x 5"
 HK20



**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
 WITH LACQUER LID**
 Takatori glaze
 5 x 8 x 8"
 HK15

lower left:
TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)
 Icchin decoration, Old Takatori style
 3.25 x 5.25 x 5"
 HK36

lower right:
TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)
 White glaze decoration, Old Takatori style
 3.25 x 5 x 5"
 HK35





**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Takatori glaze

6.75 x 7.5 x 7.5"

HK22



**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Three-colored glaze, Takatori style

7.25 x 6.75 x 6.75"

HK26



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Aurora stripe glaze

9.25 x 3.75 x 3.75"

HK29



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Turnip form, Takatori glaze

10 x 4.75 x 4.75"

HK11



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori glaze

2.5 x 4.5 x 4.5"

HK18



TSUTSUGAKI TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Ichin decoration, Old Takatori style

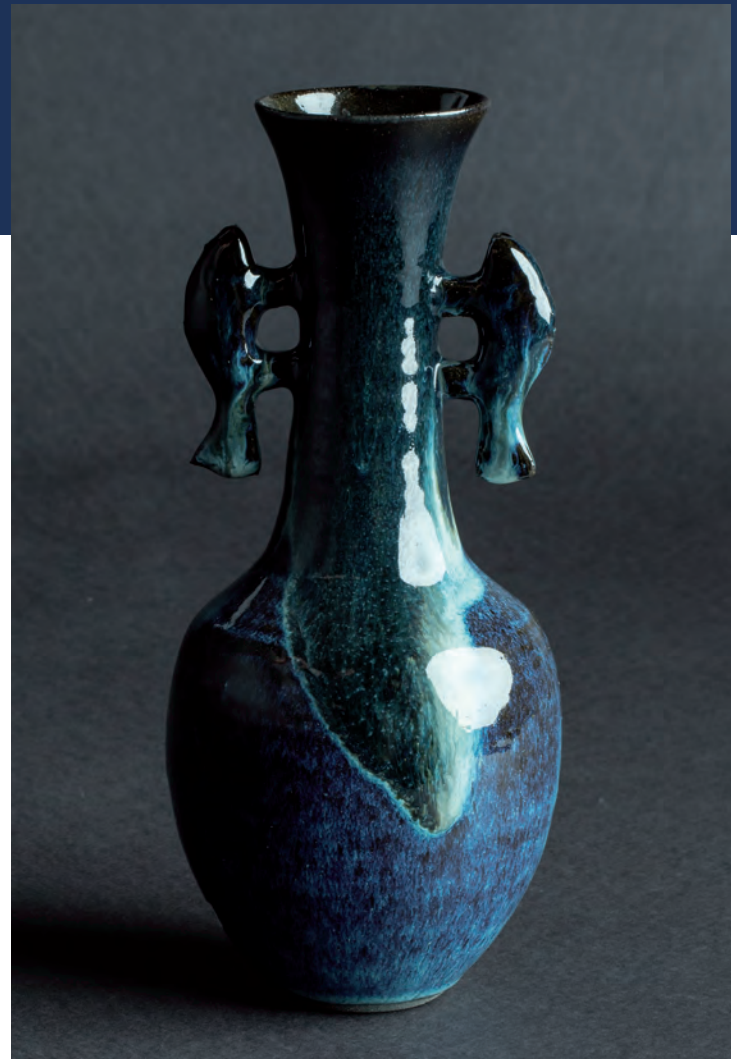
3.25 x 5.5 x 6"

HK31



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

11 x 5 x 5"
HK12



FLOWER VASE (HANAIRE)

Carp-shaped handles
10.25 x 4.5 x 4.5"
HK30



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Takatori style
3.25 x 5 x 5"
HK23



TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

"Clear mirror" glaze, Takatori style
3.25 x 4.75 x 4.75"
HK34

**WATER CONTAINER (MIZUSASHI)
WITH LACQUER LID**

Takatori glaze
6.5 x 6.75 x 6.75"
HK14



VASE
Dyed glaze
10.5 x 8 x 8"
HK2



PUCKER

ESTABLISHED 1967 BOSTON

GALLERY

PUCKER GALLERY

240 Newbury Street, 3rd floor
Boston, MA 02116

617.267.9473

contactus@puckergallery.com

GALLERY HOURS:

Monday through Saturday

10:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Sunday 1:00 to 5:00 PM

We are open to all and taking the necessary precautions for visitor and staff safety. We welcome appointments to maximize visitor experience.

Pucker Gallery is a member of the Boston Art Dealers Association and the New England Appraisers Association.

Design:

Jeanne Koles

Editors:

Beth Plakidas, Caroline Staller, and Casey Zeng

Photography:

John Davenport

© 2022 Pucker Gallery

ZEN SPIRIT

Evolving Tradition in the Work of
Miraku Kamei XV and Hisaaki Kamei

DATES:

10 September through 9 October 2022

PUBLIC OPENING:

Saturday 10 September 2022, 3–6pm

ON THE COVER:

Top row, left to right:

Miraku Kamei XV

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Ame glaze, Shiro Nagashi, Takatori style

3 x 5.25 x 5.25"

XV197

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Oribe and copper glazes, Old Takatori style

3 x 5 x 5"

XV194

Bottom row, left to right:

Hisaaki Kamei

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN) WITH SEAM (TOJIME)

Verdigris patina glaze

3 x 4.75 x 4.75"

HK44

TEA BOWL (CHAWAN)

Aurora copperization glaze

3 x 5.5 x 5.5"

HK40

Please visit www.puckergallery.com to view current and past exhibition catalogues, to subscribe to the *Pot of the Week* email list, and for a list of virtual gatherings and events accompanying *Zen Spirit*.