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Contact: Locks Gallery
T 215-629-1000
info@locksgallery.com

Jun Kaneko

June 3 - July 31, 2021



Untitled (Dango 20-12-04), 2020, glazed ceramic, 72 x 32 1/2 x 23 3/4 inches

L O C K S G A L L E R Y



Locks Gallery is pleased to present an exhibition of Jun Kaneko, the artist's seventh solo exhibition with the gallery. On view from June 3 to July 31, the exhibition will feature significant freestanding ceramic forms and wall-hung pieces with abstract designs and markings.

While Kaneko limits his sculptural forms to specific shapes and sizes, the repetitive use of abstract painting on the surface of these shapes creates limitless possibilities of visual effects. Originally trained as a painter in Japan and captured by the California Clay Movement of the early 1960s, Kaneko has for decades explored the interpenetration of form and space in his sculptures. Known for his large-scale, monumental *dangos* (Japanese for "rounded form" or "dumpling"), Kaneko immerses himself in the parallel processes of painting and of applying slips and glazes to his ceramics. Whether motifs of calligraphic lines, cross hatching, dots, drips, spirals, or other gestural markings, Kaneko says that he hears what the form has to say and begins to make the marks.

Along with his wife Rae, the artist founded KANEKO a public, nonprofit, interdisciplinary cultural organization in Omaha, NW, where he lives works. KANEKO's mission focuses on exploring creativity across interdisciplinary fields including art, science, philosophy, urban planning, and education with a rotating exhibition program. In the artist's own words, an "open space for your mind."

[continued on reverse]



Untitled (Head 16-11-14), 2016, glazed raku ceramic and stainless steel, 69 x 24 3/4 x 20 inches

Jun Kaneko (born in 1942 in Nagoya, Japan) has shown extensively in the U.S. for over fifty years and had one-person exhibits in Canada, Finland, Japan, Norway, South Korea. Kaneko's work is in numerous museum collections throughout the world including Arabia Museum, Helsinki, Finland; Detroit Institute of Arts; Gardiner Museum, Toronto; Los Angeles County Art Museum; Museum of Art and Design, NY; The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan; Philadelphia Museum of Art; Phoenix Art Museum and Smithsonian American Art Museum. In addition to his sculptures and installations, the artist has been commissioned to design costumes and sets for leading productions by the Washington National Opera, San Francisco Opera and the Philadelphia Opera Company.