

AKIHIRO NIKAIDO

b. 1977 in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan

Akihiro Nikaido, one of the most popular ceramic artists and holds solo exhibition for more than ten times a year vigorously not only in Japan but also in New York,

Paris, London, Munich in Germany, Taipei in Taiwan and Beijing in China. He is a leader of a young potters group named Toism since 2010, that 108 ceramic artists joined and more than 4,000 people visits their exhibition in 2015.

Nikaido's works fascinates renowned chef Yoshihiko Kousaka of KOSAKA in New York City, and chef Taku Sekine of Dersou, the best restaurant in Paris.

Nikaido concentrated mainly on pottery fired at a high temperature without glaze because, called 'yakishime.' He focuses also on the beauty from clay itself. Nikaido was inspired how ancient people created pottery during their every day lives, and making various kinds of ceramics.

The shape and texture of his works often shows nature such as weather or erosion of the earth; and other artworks make people feel a breath of contemporary and ancient period. He believes that Chanoyu (Japanese tea ceremony) embodies context of Japanese beauty and he often holds tea gathering to exhibit his works of art.

- 1999: Graduated from Bunka Gakuin Art vocational school, Ceramics major
- 2001: Started his carrier as a professional ceramic artist
- 2002: Moved to Mashiko, Tochigi
- 2010: Nikaido planned and established "To-ism 2010" that gave young artists opportunities to play active roles.
- 2011: canceled "To-ism 2011" because the Great East Japan earthquake occurred just before the exhibition. Instead, he started the project "To-ism the power of ceramics" that brings ceramics works to the people affected by earthquake.
- 2012: Restarted "To-ism 2012". "To-ism" was held every year since 2012.
- 2013: Joined "Next-generation Energy" at Ibakaki Ceramic Art Museum and Mashiko Museum of Ceramic Art, Art Messe Mashiko
- 2014: Joined "Contemporary Japanese Ware Exhibit" celebrating 'Washoku,' Japanese food, added to UNESCO Heritage list at Ibakaki Ceramic Art Museum.
Joined "Contemporary Ceramic phenomenon" at Ibakaki Ceramic Art Museum.
- 2015: Held solo exhibition "Wabi and Now" at Globus Chashitsu in New York, U.S.A. held solo exhibition in Taipei, Taiwan.