## 737 NORTH MICHIGAN

### **ART EXHIBITION**

# Transcending Borders: Chicago-inspired Art from Japan

July 2018 - September 2018

#### Daisaku Ueno - Pottery / Contemporary Art

Daisaku Ueno was born in Hokkaido, Japan and still lives and works there today. Daisaku employs a firing process called ANAGAMA to create ceramic pieces and uses natural raw materials such as mud, wood, bamboo, stone, and water to make carvings and sculptures. In outdoor exhibitions, he will use whatever natural materials he can find lying around to make these works. Daisaku hosts workshops and other similar events at art schools to teach on the ancient art form of ANAGAMA and instruct on how to create his style of organic sculpture. Daisaku hopes to be able to hold many more outdoor performances in various locations around the world.



Daisaku Ueno may be contacted at <a href="mailto:uenodaisaku@gmail.com">uenodaisaku@gmail.com</a>

#### Masanori Umeda - Painting / Contemporary Art

Masanori Umeda was born and raised in Obihiro, Hokkaido, Japan. In his early teenage years he mainly produced paintings. In 1990, he won both the Best Special Award and the Ikko Tanaka Award in the Amnesty Poster Graphics Competition. From 1993 to 2008, he held the Inspirational Award at Liquitex Biennial. His solo exhibition, "Tokachi New Generation Series X (10)" was displayed at the Hokkaido Obihiro Museum of Art in 2007. At the Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art, he presented his installation "Hokkaido 3D Expression Exhibit". Some of his works have become part of the Hokkaido Obihiro Museum of Art's collection. Masanori has also been commissioned to create works for Amnesty International Japan and has created pro-bono pieces to display around Obihiro for the Obihiro Contemporary Art Exhibition Secretary General. In the future, he hopes to showcase his works in many locations and wants everyone to come and see them



Masanori Umeda may be contacted at marg@tokachi.com

#### Natsuki Kubo - Calligraphy / Design Calligrapher / Gago (Pen name): Hourin

Natsuki Kubo was born in Kyowa-Cho, Hokkaido, Japan, and currently resides in Sapporo. At the age of 7 she started to learn calligraphy from Mr. Zuihou Sato, a master calligrapher. In 2009, she created her original writing method by combining letters and illustrations. In 2012, she moved her working base to Sapporo. At the same time she started to collaborate and perform with artists and creators of various genres such as sound, clothing, lighting and food. In 2014 and 2015 in Chicago, USA she expanded the range of her artistic activities to group exhibitions, workshops, and demonstrations. In 2016 she formed a unit "Wakana" to enjoy calligraphy in Kimono. Her motto is "to live with calligraphy for a life time in order to pass on the charm of calligraphy to the future generations through her original expression".



Natsuki Kubo may be contacted at atelier7272@gmail.com

#### Shinichi Yura - Painting

Shinichi Yura was born and lives in Hokkaido, Japan. In his painting, spontaneous and rhythmical brushstrokes are distinctive. A German professor of art once called the movement of his brushstrokes very Japanese. It is his lifelong desire to merge East and West, and he is searching for a new way of expressing light in his art. Shinichi travels overseas and paint on the spot to record the color and the atmosphere. He graduated from California College of arts in 1982. Artist in residence scholarship from Ateliehaus Worpswede, Germany, 1988. Japan International Cultural Exchange Foundation Scholarship and participated in Open Art in Rueil-Malmaison & Villepinte, France, 2007. Awarded a Certificate of Excellence, Palm Art Award, Leipzig, Germany, 2009. He was featured in Who's Who in Visual Art in Germany in 2012. He participated in Our Art Working exhibition in Chicago at Uptown Arts Center in 2015, 2016, at Japan Information Center of the Consulate General of Japan, Chicago in 2017 and 2018. He shows his works each year in solo shows in Japan.





Shinichi Yura may be contacted at <a href="mailto:shinichiyura@gmail.com">shinichiyura@gmail.com</a>