

MAYU UEDA

Born in Kobe, Japan

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Mayu Ueda is a ceramic artist based in Japan. Born in Kobe, she received her BFA and MFA in Ceramics from Osaka University of Arts.

Her current work explores emotional and tactile landscapes through clay and stone, often combining these materials in a single firing to produce cracks and gaps that serve as metaphors for memory and healing. Her series, including A Lump of Feelings and A Garden of Feelings, explores how internal sensations and memories can be translated into sculptural form. Ueda's work has been widely exhibited both in Japan and internationally, including major exhibitions such as the Kikuchi Biennale (Tokyo), Relación Cerámica (Spain), and the Taoxichuan Art Museum (China).

She has participated in residencies at Guldagergaard (Denmark), the Archie Bray Foundation (USA), and the Shangyu Celadon Center (China), among others. Her works are included in public collections such as the John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Indiana University Southeast, and the Taoxichuan Art Museum.

In 2025, she will present a large-scale outdoor sculpture as a long-term public installation for Rokko Meets Art 2025 beyond (Kobe, Japan). In 2026, she is scheduled to give a lecture and workshop at the University of North Texas (USA), expanding her engagement with international ceramic education.

Through her practice, she seeks to evoke a sense of quiet depth, connecting the materiality of clay with the unseen layers of emotion and time.

Education

1998 BFA in Ceramics, Osaka University of Arts, Japan

2000 MFA in Ceramics, Osaka University of Arts, Japan

Residencies

2025 Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Japan

2024 Shangyu Celadon Contemporary International Ceramic Center, China

2015 Archie Bray Foundation, Helena, MT, USA

2014-2015 Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park, Japan

2014 Guldagergaard - International Ceramic Research Center, Denmark

Selected Exhibitions / Lectures / Workshops / Art Fair

2026 Lecture & Workshop, University of North Texas, USA (*upcoming*)

2025 Long-term Outdoor Installation, Rokko Meets Art 2025 beyond/ROKKO Forest sound Museum(Kobe, Japan)
Yuwaku suru Katachi (A Form of Temptation) / Gallery VOICE (Tajimi, Gifu, Japan)

2024 Solo exhibition "Iro ro Kewai -A Lump of Feelings-" / city gallery 2310 (Kobe, Japan)
Hyatt • Sanbao China-Japan-Korea Ceramics Exhibition/1st Floor Art Gallery, Taoxichuan Hotel (Jingdezhen, China)
Lecture / Artist Lecture / Taoxichuan RECOND FLOOR FLAGSHIP STORE(Jingdezhen, China)
Walk With The Light—International Modern Ceramics Exhibition / Taoxichuan Quimo Art Gallery(Jingdezhen, China)
Taoxichuan Spring and Autumn Art Fair - SPRING ART FAIR / Taoxichuan CERAMIC ART AVENUE(Jingdezhen, China)
Large, Small plates / Rakukukan Gion Konishi (Kyoto, Japan)

2023 10th Kikuchi Biennale / Musée Tomo(Tokyo, Japan)

Art Fair "UNKNOWN ASIA 2023" / GRAND FRONT OSAKA(Osaka, Japan)

Relación Cerámica / Museu del Taulell Manolo Safont(Castellón, Spain)

2022 Relación Cerámica / Centro de Artesanía de Aragón(Zaragoza, Spain)

2021 "Temperature - International Ceramics Art Exchange Exhibition" / Zhejiang Province Longquan Spring Gallery (Longquan, China)

- “EPOCH・KNOCK” / Gallery Shimada(Kobe, Japan)
- 2020 SENSE of Material / ANN LINNEMANN STUDIE GALLERI(Copenhagen, Denmark)
- “3 narabi” / ORIE ART GALLERY(Tokyo, Japan)
- FANCIES / ANN LINNEMANN STUDIE GALLERI(Copenhagen, Denmark)
- 2019 C.A.P. 25 anniversary exhibition 『Watashi to Watashitani (Me and We)』 / KOBE STUDIO Y3(Kobe, Japan)
- Two person exhibition “Ikitoshi Ikeru Mono (All living things in this world)” /Rakukukan Gion. Konishi (Kyoto, Japan)
- Solo exhibition “Living, Being, Feeling -A Lump of Feelings-” / Gallery Shimada trois (Kobe, Japan)
- 2018 Behind Image Beyond Form /B&C Design Center(Jingdezhen, China)
- Taoxichuan Spring and Autumn Art Fair - AUTUMN ART FAIR/Taoxichuan CERAMIC ART AVENUE(Jingdezhen, China)
- Solo exhibition “Momo to Saru - Fruits & Animals-” / GALLERY KEIFU (Kyoto, Japan)
- Small Favors / The Clay Studio (Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A.)
- 2017 “Urnen” / Sundaymorning @ Ekwc(Oisterwijk, Netherlands)
- China・Jingdezhen Creative Fair / Taoxichuan CERAMIC ART AVENUE(Jingdezhen, China)
- Small Art Object / A.I.R. Vallauris(Vallauris, France)
- LETTERS / MOM ART SPACE, GÄNGEVIERTEL (Hamburg, Germany)
- GICB2017 Thematic exhibition “Pray_Cherishing Life” / Yeoju World Livingware Gallery(Yeoju, Korea)
- 2016 Points of Departure:An Exhibition without Borders/John Michael Kohler Art Center(Sheboygan, WI, U.S.A.)
- Lecture / Ceramic, Graduate Institute of Applied Arts, Tainan National University of Arts(Tainan, Taiwan)
- CERAMICA MULTIPLEX 2016 / City Museum of Varazdin (Varazdin, Croatia)
- Archie Bray Resident & Visiting Artists Exhibition at NCECA/Belger Crane Yard Gallery (Kansas City, KS, U.S.A)
- 2015 Lecture / Ceramic course, Craft department, Osaka University of Arts(Osaka, Japan)
- Solo exhibition “Fruits” / GALLERY KEIFU (Kyoto, Japan)
- Art Fair “Kobe Art Marche” / Kobe Meriken Park Oriental Hotel (Kobe, Japan)
- Panelist/ 25th Anniversary Commemorative Event - International Ceramic Art Workshop and Symposium /Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park (Shiga, Japan)
- Resident Artist Exhibition 2015 / Bray Warehouse Gallery(Helena, MT, U.S.A)
- 2014 Permanent exhibit / ANN LINNEMANN STUDIE GALLERI(Copenhagen, Denmark)
- Solo exhibition “The autumn in Guldagergaard.” / The Apple House Gallery (Skælskør, Denmark)
- 2013 Solo exhibition “A Lump of Feelings” / GALLERY KEIFU (Kyoto, Japan)
- The 60th anniversary memory Flower arrangement exhibition Mishoryu Nakayama Bunpo-kai / Takashimaya Departmentstore Hall(Osaka, Japan)

Awards

- 2023 Selected, 10th Kikuchi Biennale
- 2023 Shigeki Hattori Prize, UNKNOWN ASIA
- 2017 10 Select Awards, Small Art Object
- 2016 Selected, CERAMICA MULTIPLEX 2016
- 2016 Selected, Kyoten (Kyoto exhibition)
- 2015 Sage Scholar, Archie Bray Foundation

Public Collections

- Guldagergaard - International Ceramic Research Center
- Archie Bray Foundation for the Ceramic Arts
- Kerameicon - Croatia Ceramic Association
- John Michael Kohler Art Center
- Indiana University-Southeast
- A.I.R. Vallauris
- Taoxichuan CERAMIC ART AVENUE ART GALLERY
- Shangyu Celadon・Modern International Ceramic Art Center