OCEANS FORMED
Glass Works by Midori Tsukada

It is rare to see a show dedicated exclusively to Japanese glass, but Ippodo Gallery is giving visitors a chance to see the work of Midori Tsukada this spring. After years of study in both glass and welded metalwork, Midori Tsukada (b. 1972) has mastered a skillful technique that reveals pale blues and greens through a naturally occurring copper oxidation process, with occasional hints of silver and gold. The colours evolve free-form on cool toned glass, as the hues and beads evoke the gentle mist of an ocean spray, or the dew that reveals pale blues and greens through the shifting form. This young artist has already received many honours and awards.

YAN SHANCHUN
West Lake II

Chambers Fine Art’s solo exhibition of Yan Shanchun’s recent work is the third at the gallery and focuses on his most recent paintings of West Lake and the fascinating dialogue between his paintings and etchings which are inspired by the same subject matter although totally different in scale and impact. Born in 1957 in Hangzhou, Yan graduated from the Printmaking Department of the Zhejiang Academy of Fine Arts (now China Academy of Fine Arts) in 1982, and thus belongs to the generation of artists who were the first to graduate after the academies were closed during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976). Yan’s career has followed an unusual path. For a decade after joining the staff of the Shenzhen Fine Arts Institute in 1993, he devoted most of his time to scholarly pursuits, only returning to painting in 2005. Since 2010, however, he has simultaneously explored the imagery of West Lake in Hangzhou in paintings and etchings. The celebrated city of Hangzhou, located in an area of considerable wealth and culture is centred on West Lake, a source of inspiration for poets and painters for hundreds of years. Even when Yan was not living in Hangzhou, memories of the famous lake and celebrated viewing-points never left him and they became the inspiration for much of his work.

CHINESE CERAMICS
OF THE SONG DYNASTY

The highly esteemed London dealer is presenting an exhibition of 20 ceramics from the Song Dynasty this spring. Widely recognised as the pinnacle of Chinese ceramic art, Song ceramics have been revered for centuries and influenced design worldwide into the 21st century. Echoing the scholarly spirit of the Song Dynasty and the period’s appreciation for the life force of nature, or qi, the ceramics will be shown alongside natural rhythms and whims of the nature, or qi, that reveals pale blues and greens through the shifting form. This young artist has already received many honours and awards.

DOUBBLE SPIRAL
Hoshino Kayoko and Hoshino Satoru

This is the second exhibition devoted exclusively to new work by this celebrated couple and includes over 30 works created specifically for the show. The title, Double Spiral, references not only their diverse careers, but also the intertwining of the spiritual and physical worlds and the balance between opposites as represented by the yin-yang symbol (ailuiskada). As Hoshino Satoru’s sculpted clay forms literally spiral upward with a powerful sense of fluidity and seductive tactility, Kayoko’s work maintains a more austere appearance, twisting and turning as if their faceted surfaces rotate. Both have repeatedly stated that it is the nature of clay and the interaction with human expression that leads them to their unsynoptical sculptural confrontations, allowing the push and pull with the clay to lead to its own outcome.

Exhibitions / Fair

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Lake Hill #2 (2017) by Yan Shanchun, acrylic and mixed media on canvas, 213 x 153 cm, Chambers Fine Art

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