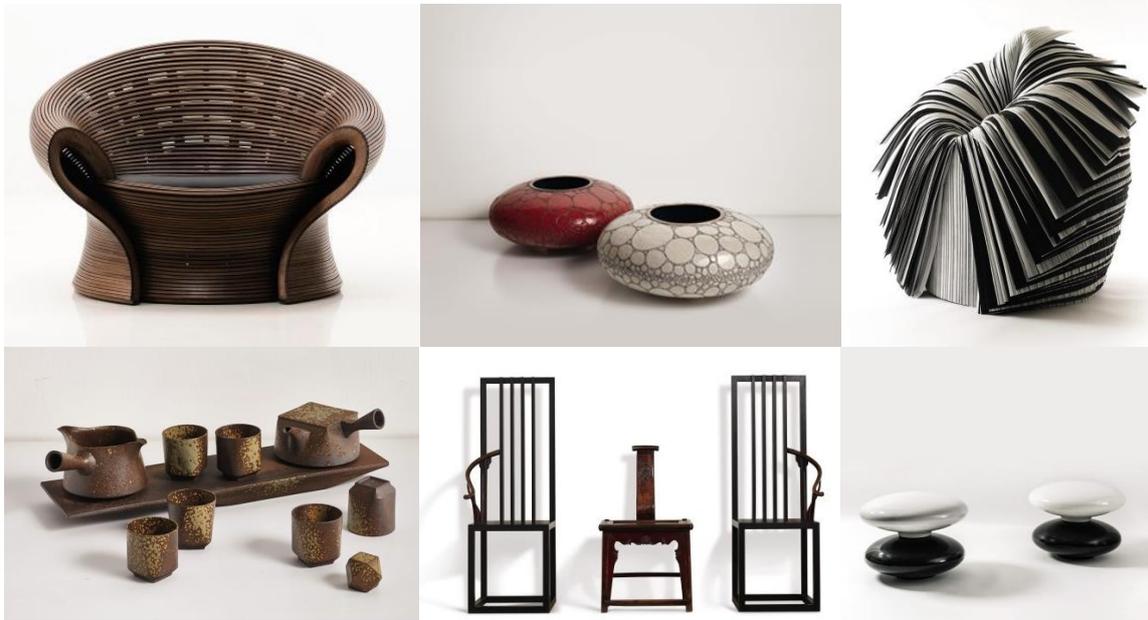


Sotheby's Presents
ASIAN DESIGN: CHINA, JAPAN, KOREA
A Selling Exhibition

Features a Special Session Dedicated to KANJIAN
A Contemporary Brand Reviving the Tradition of Craft,
Founded by Celebrated Chinese Singer Dadawa



Exhibition: 1 – 6 April 2016
Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre
During 2016 Spring Sale Series

Hong Kong, March 2016 In recent years, Asian decorative art and design has carved out a position on the international art stage with its own unique design dialect spanning a broad range of style and themes. Celebrating this new wave of Asian decorative art and design, Sotheby's is pleased to present the selling exhibition of *Asian Design: China, Japan, Korea*, which will launch alongside the Hong Kong Spring sale series from 1 – 6 April 2016 at Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Featuring nearly 50 works by important designers from Asia, *Asian Design* responds to the mounting interest in this category not only in Asia, but internationally. This exhibition will include a **special section dedicated to KANJIAN**, a contemporary brand founded by celebrated Chinese singer Dadawa that is reviving craft traditions in new ways.

Kevin Ching, CEO of Sotheby's Asia, said: 'In 2012, Sotheby's pioneered the sale of international design furniture at auction in Hong Kong through our innovative "Boundless" series. This season, we are delighted to expand that mission further with a selling exhibition dedicated to Asian design. There is no question that decorative art and design are on the rise in Asia, and Sotheby's is excited to meet the burgeoning interest in this fast-growing market with a first-class selection of contemporary design objects. We look forward to showcasing the very best of Asia's design talent to an international audience alongside our Hong Kong auctions this April.'

CHINESE DESIGN

Today's contemporary Chinese design scene is in full bloom, led by a group of talented designers that has emerged to create a unique style of contemporary Chinese design rooted in the country's five millenia of cultural heritage. Recontextualising aesthetics code and traditions from the past, these designers are rejuvenating them into new hybrid style of work for the present; inventing a new vocabulary to examine the contrast between historical and contemporary China in a way it has never before been evoked.

To demonstrate this evolution, *Asia Design* will feature work **spanning three generations of designers**, starting with such visionaries as **Shao Fan** and **Shi Jianmin**, who began their design careers in the 1990s with a focus on developing a new language for contemporary design within the constraints of traditional practice. Also included is **Song Tao**, who experiments with new materials and forms yet continues to reference traditional function and form, as well as members of the latest generation such as **Li Naihan** and **Zhang Zhoujie**, whose graceful designs incorporate technology and digitally-driven generative processes.

1.



2.



3.



1.

Shao Fan

Untitled

1996, this work is unique
Catalpa and elm wood, in 3 parts

2.

Li Naihan

Bar (The Crates Series)

2015, this work is from an edition of 12 plus 2
artist's proofs
Black walnut, mirror-finish and stainless steel

3.

Song Tao

Table

2012, this work is number 8 from an edition of 8
Elm wood and aluminium

CHINESE DESIGN: SPECIAL SECTION DEDICATED TO KANJIAN

Founded in 2012 by famed singer, artist, documentary filmmaker, philanthropist, United Nations Goodwill Ambassador and social entrepreneur **Dadawa**, KANJIAN is a social enterprise promoting contemporary design inspired by traditional Chinese material and craft. The organisation brings together prominent designers in China and abroad with local craftsmen, working together to produce designs ranging from contemporary lacquer tableware to minimalist black pottery.

In this special section, Sotheby's is delighted to present more than 20 lots from KANJIAN. Highlights include *Pottery Pot No. 1 (Ash Glaze Version)*, a ceramic set with an unconventional design; and a pair of Cell vases by Michael Young, whose vivid red and white orb-like forms evoking particles under a microscope, breath new life into the ancient tradition of cloisonné.

Click Here for an Interview with Dadawa – [‘Dadawa Living Out Loud’](#)



1. & 2.
KANJIAN
Handmade Hoop Handle Silver Teakettle (1) & (2)
2015, this work is unique
Silver, iron handle and button

4.
KANJIAN
Cell Vase (Two Works)
2014, each work is from an edition of 10
Cloisonné ceramic

3.
KANJIAN
Lotus Cup
2015, this work is unique
Ceramic chip from Song Dynasty, raw lacquer, black matted paint and fiber, a set of four

5.
KANJIAN
Pottery Pot No. 1 (Ash Glaze Version)
2013, a set of 10
Ash glazed pottery

KOREAN DESIGN

While words like ‘heritage’ and ‘tradition’ are often associated with Korean furniture design, today’s designers often meld classical techniques such as lacquering and hand-crafting with contemporary forms. Take the use of colour in Korean design, which harks back to the golden age of Korean antiquity. Contemporary Korean furniture designers often follow the spectrum of the five Korean traditional colours – white, black, blue, yellow and red, representing metal, water, wood, earth, and fire, respectively – while exploring new material and form. Also at the heart of Korean furniture design is the traditional concept of *baesanimsu*, the notion of positioning the house with the mountainous landscape at the back and a stream of water in the front – a concept that is freshly interpreted by today’s emerging designers, among them featured artists such as **Bae Se-Hwa, Kang Myung Sun, and Lee Jae-Hyo.**



1.
Kang Myung Sun
From The Glitter 2013-10
2013, this work is unique
Mother-of-pearls inlaid on wood, lacquered in black

2.
Choi Byung Hoon
Beyond The Image 014-18 (left);
Beyond The Image 014-17 (right)
2014, this work is unique
White marble and black granite

3.
Bae Se Hwa
Steam 23
2013, this work is number 2 from an edition of 6 plus 2 artist's proofs,
Walnut wood and cowhide leather

JAPAN DESIGN

Often labelled solely as minimal and simple, contemporary Japanese furniture design has come a long way from its imitative post-war roots. By fusing traditional approaches with avant-garde structures and forms, contemporary Japanese design today teems with tension and energy, mingling minimalism with dramatic and rich detail to profound effect. Featured artists include **Shiro Kuramata** and **Nendo (Oki Sato)**, who push the aesthetics of furniture into uncharted waters as they play with traditional dimensions, colour, and function.



Nendo (Oki Sato)
Cabbage Chair (Mixed)
2008, this work is from an edition of 14
Unwoven fabric



Shiro Kuramata
Glass Chair
1976, this work is from an edition of 40
Laminated glass

Image Download: <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/df2pfk2cm08qbc3/AACKGbFCY52AQvMrUH8bi4hza?dl=0>

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NOTES TO EDITORS

I) EXHIBITION DETAILS

Date and Opening Hours

1 April 2016
10am – 5:30pm

2-3 April 2016
10am – 8pm

4-5 April 2016
10am – 6:30pm

6 April 2016
10am – 3pm

Venue

Hall 5, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre

Enquiries

(852) 2822 5566

II) SOTHEBY'S HONG KONG SPRING SALES 2016 CALENDAR *(The schedule is subject to change)*

Auction	Category
2 April	The Private Cellar of an International Collector – Rare Wines & Whiskies Finest and Rarest Wines – Featuring Ornellaia Archivio Storico (Part I)
3 April	Finest and Rarest Wines – Featuring Ornellaia Archivio Storico (Part II) Brushwork – From Asia to the World Modern and Contemporary Asian Art – Evening Sale <i>(Modern Asian Art, Contemporary Asian Art and Modern and Contemporary Southeast Asian Art)</i>
4 April	Modern Asian Art Day Sale Contemporary Asian Art Day Sale Modern And Contemporary Southeast Asian Art Day Sale The Origo Collection – Contemporary Ink Art Chinese Paintings And Calligraphy From the Yong Li Studio
5 April	Fine Chinese Paintings Magnificent Jewels and Jadeite Literati / Curiosity II
6 April	Important Watches The Pilkington Collection of Chinese Art Ming Furniture – An Asian Private Collection Kangxi – Emperorship and Power Emperors’ Playthings – A Connoisseur’s Collection Important Chinese Art

HONG KONG EXHIBITION AND AUCTION VENUE

Hall 5, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (New Wing), 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

III) UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

Date	Event	Venue
22 April – 3 May	<i>Zheng Chongbin: Structures</i>	Sotheby’s Hong Kong Gallery

IV) FOR MORE NEWS FROM SOTHEBY’S

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