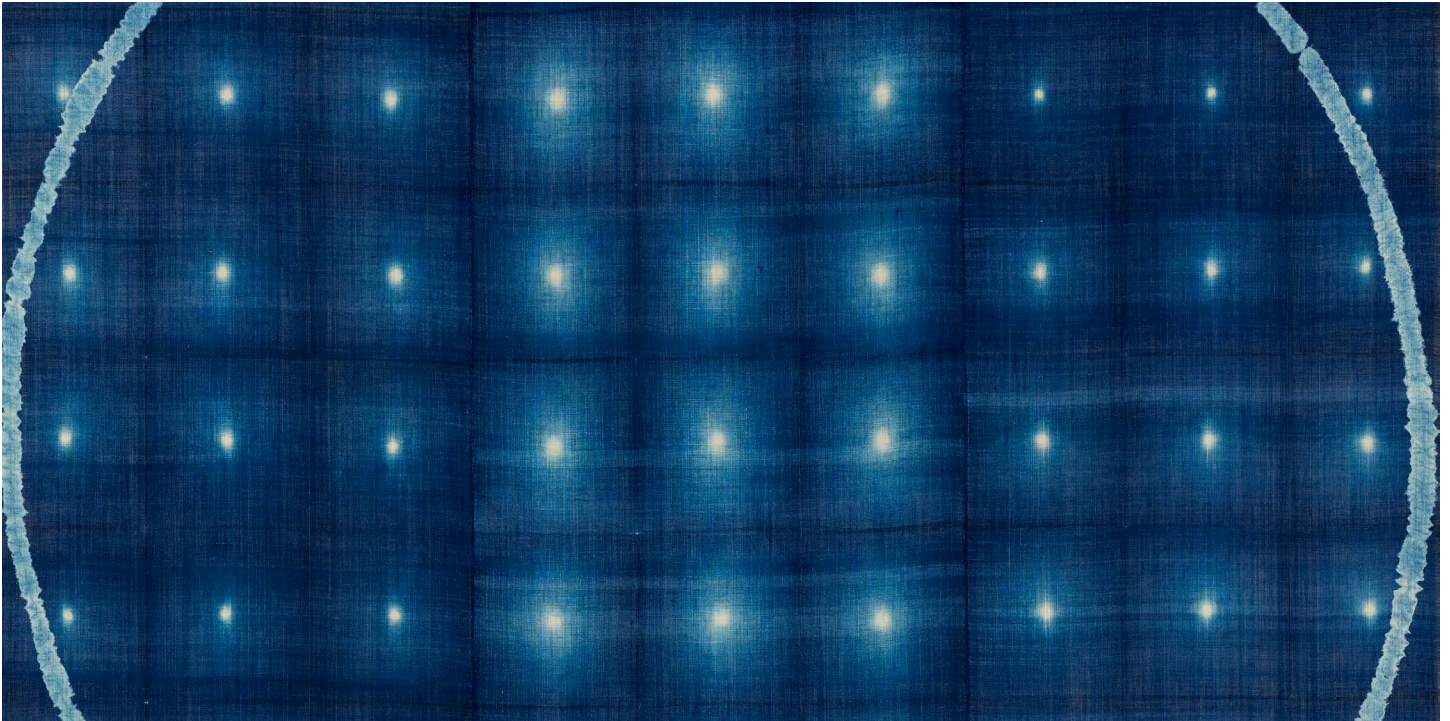


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## *Transforming Nature*

July 29 – August 1, 2026 | Hotel Jerome, 330 E Main St, Aspen, CO 81611



Shihoko Fukumoto, *Galaxy*, 1999, Linen, indigo, H78 3/4 x W70 7/8 in (H200 x W180 cm), (F30101)

ASPEN, COLORADO – Ippodo Gallery returns to the Aspen Art Fair at the historic Hotel Jerome for the second year in **Room 121** from **July 29 – August 1, 2026**. The presentation **Transforming Nature** draws the splendor of the organic world into the realm of the decorated interior. Surrounded by the Rocky Mountains, the raw essences of nature convene within the home-style setting in the form of stone, regional clays of Japan, forged iron, Venetian blown glass, carved & lacquered wood, washi paper, bamboo, traditionally dyed textiles, and precious mineral pigment paints. The ensemble of works by more than twenty artists, primarily hailing from Japan, invites new considerations about the relationship between people and the earth: a living medium capable of profound beauty and metamorphosis.

Through a diverse range of textures and forms—from the delicate, metal-worked petals of silver violas and golden ginkgos by **Shota Suzuki** to the subconsciously moving white marble sculptures of **Kan Yasuda**—the featured artists capture the ephemeral cycles of growth, decay, and rebirth. Each piece serves as a bridge between the physical and spiritual. Light, form, and human touch can elevate organic matter into the iconic. **Transforming Nature** is an invitation to witness the alchemy of the natural world as it is distilled through Japanese craft traditions.

**Textiles & Dyeing:** Vibrant wax-resist (*Rō-zome*) and soak-dyeing techniques of **Shigeki Fukumoto**. Deep indigo linens of **Shihoko Fukumoto**.

**Ceramics & Earth:** Terracotta sculpted organically by 2025 LOEWE Craft Prize winner **Kunimasa Aoki**. Laminated folds of salt- & iron-rich earth by **Yukiya Izumita**. Kiln-thrown natural ash glazes of **Yui & Kai Tsujimura**.

**Glass:** Sumi black and silk-inspired patterns of **Kota Arinaga**. Cascading vessels by **Midori Tsukada**.

**Lacquer & Wood:** Sophisticated interpretations of Japanese tea traditions by **Jihei Murase** using Zelkova elm and lacquer to emulate the light of the moon. **Toshiya Kimura's** hand-carved animal head.

**Bamboo & Metal:** Flowing bamboo woven and sculpted. Iron methodically hand-pounding into shaped candle-stands by **Hajime and Yasuo Ishikura**.

Ultimately, the presentation is anchored by the Nihonga paintings of **Daisuke Nakano** and **Masaaki Miyasako**, who each use mineral pigments and gold leaf on washi paper to translate the elements of nature—spring blossoms and the movement of water—into sublime scenes from the imagination.

*For more information and images, please contact:*

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Kodai Ujiie, Oribe Jar, 2026, Ceramic, lacquer, H21 3/8 x W12 3/4 x D12 3/8 in, (H54.3 x W32.5 x D31.5 cm) (C30449NP)

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### About the Gallery

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**Ippodo Gallery** is a cultural bridge to Japan's living master artists. Founded in Tokyo (1996-), the New York gallery (2008-) presents fine handcrafted and rare works created using traditional materials and methods. Each piece selected embodies Japanese aesthetic sensitivity that is born of a spiritual bond with nature. Ippodo's exhibition program features unique objects — fine ceramics, lacquerware, metal crafts, sculpture, paintings, and works on paper — that celebrate human invention, the natural world, and sublime beauty.



Kan Yasuda, KAISEI "Rebirth", 2006, White marble, H10 5/8 x W22 x D13 3/4 in (H27 x W56 x D35 cm), 88 lbs (B29736)