

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Moonlit Night

Fall Selections from Ippodo Gallery, New York

September 2- October 5, 2021



Ken Matsubara, *Crescent Moon*, 2021 - H70 7/8 × W46 1/8 inches, H180 × W117 cm

Autumn is a poetic and enriching season in Japan, deeply rooted in traditions that celebrate the harvest and the beauty and wonder of the natural world. To honor the season, people gather to drink sake steeped with chrysanthemum petals, stroll through rustling fields of susuki, tall grasses with wispy tips that turn golden in autumn, and observe auspicious holidays like Chōyō no sekku, associated with a doubling of good fortune. A particular autumnal joy is Otsukimi, the festival of the harvest moon. Ippodo Gallery, New York, is pleased to welcome you to Moonlit Night, a selection of crafts that celebrate this Otsukimi season. Otsukimi (お月見, moon-viewing festival, also known as Jugoya, 十五夜), pays homage to the full moon. While traditionally observed on the 15th day of the eighth month of the Lunar calendar, this year, Otsukimi falls on September 21 through 24. The full moon on these nights is the most magnificent of the year, shining high in the autumn sky. People invite family and friends for moon-viewing parties, serving foods that evoke the moon, like plump, round dango (sweet rice dumplings) and tsukimi udon, noodle soup with a poached egg.

Ippodo Gallery invites you to our very own **Otsukimi Festival** on **September 16, 2021, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.** We welcome families and friends of all ages to spot moon motifs on the gallery's artworks, and to enjoy tsukimi dango, the traditional rice dumplings served on the holiday.

Ippodo Gallery has assembled a selection of works that celebrate autumn and the moon. Yukiya Izumita's delicate, layered ceramic works, made from the soil around his studio in the rugged Tohoku region, resemble autumn leaves falling on top of one another. Ken Matsubara's newest paintings feature various phases of the moon. Hafu Matsumoto creates vases, baskets, and sculptures entirely from bamboo. Kaguyahime (The Tale of Princess Kaguya), old folklore, is about a beautiful princess from the Moon discovered as a baby inside the stalk of a glowing bamboo stalk. With its elegant, hollow, green stems that reach toward the skies, bamboo symbolizes purity and good fortune. Other works such as a selection of tea bowls by contemporary Japanese potters, ranging from early-career artists to master craftsmen, and incense burners used in the tea ceremony to celebrate life's miracles, will also be showcased, like a yearly harvest. We look forward to welcoming you into our space to celebrate Autumn, Chōyō no sekku, the Otsukimi festival, and to find inspiration in our artists and their works.



Takashi Tomo-oka, Chrysanthemum 5, Kiku, 2017
H10 13/16 × W21 3/16 in, H27.5 × W53.8 cm



Hafu Matsumoto, Fushi (Wind Figure)
H11 3/4 × W16 1/2 × D15 in, H30 × W42 × D38 cm



Shiro Tsujimura, Sphere Shaped Jar, Natural glaze
H16 7/8 × W17 3/4 × D17 3/4 in, H43 × W45 × D45 cm

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