

**RESOBOX**

Where Japanese culture resonates.

## PRESS RELEASE

April 5, 2018

### **RESOBOX Chelsea**

203 W 20th St., New York, NY 10011 USA  
(212) 242- 6238

## Localisms



**Artist:** Yasumitsu Morito

**Date:** April 24, 2018 to May 24, 2018

**Opening Reception:** Tuesday, April 24, 2018, 7:00pm - 9:00pm

**Where:** RESOBOX Chelsea

203 W 20th St., New York, NY 10011

**Gallery Hours:** Mon - Fri 12:00pm - 5:30pm

Sat & Sun: Closed

**Contact:** Takashi Ikezawa, (718)-784-3680, [info@resobox.com](mailto:info@resobox.com)

**Web:** <http://resobox.com/exhibition/localisms/>

## **Exhibit Overview**

RESOBOX is pleased to present an exhibition of new works by Yasumitsu Morito, a New York based Japanese-born sculptor. While Morito's main concentration, Japanese traditional pottery called Mashiko-yaki, bears a historical fact that it had a relationship with New York in terms of its popularization and improvement in 1950s, Mashiko-yaki has been flourishing as "Mingei," which is an artifact that possesses both function and aesthetic reflecting the local ideology and culture, on the home front.

In this solo show, Morito attempts to fuse the Japanese traditional craft with visual arts for New Yorkers as well as people around the world. The conflict between everyday objects and fine art will be resolved with the universal language of art by Morito who was born in Mashiko and has been practicing art in New York City. Morito introduces his exquisitely glazed potteries, which show his longtime dedication to "Mingei," and his sculptures, *Mother and Child* series as a new phase of Mashiko-yaki, made out of a local material from New York. Morito's work conveying the Japanese philosophy and concept of "Mingei" from Mashiko speaks to not only Japanese but also local people in New York by emphasizing the materiality of interactions with each other. Now, he embodies the feeling of harmony that goes beyond the geographical boundaries within RESOBOX where Japanese culture resonates.

## **About the Artist — Yasumitsu Morito**

Yasumitsu Morito is a NYC based artist who works primarily in sculpture that extends from intimate gallery space to interactive public space. He has exhibited in various venues in New York, including a Public Sculpture in Carl Schurz Park in NY, solo show at the Bill Hodges Gallery, RESOBOX Gallery, and the Consulate General of Japan in New York. Morito's work has been featured in various publications including the Wall Street Journal, NY1, the Smithsonian and the Consulate General of Japan. He is an elected member of National Sculpture Society and currently teaches Ceramic Sculpture at the Art Students League of NY.

Morito hails from Mashiko in Japan, a district that practiced traditional Japanese ceramic. He studied at the Tochigi Ceramic Technology Support Center and became an instructor there in 2009. He was an instructor at the José Matías Delgado University in El Salvador through the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) from 2007-09. In 2011 he was bestowed the title of Cultural Ambassador of the Tochigi Prefecture by the district governor.

Web: <http://www.moritoyasumitsu.com>

## **Photo Gallery**



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