"ARITA 400project" meets Japanese top producers at the next Maison & Objet in January 2016 – a special project to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Arita porcelain at an international trade fair for interior design in France

Produced by Ken Okuyama Design Co., Ltd. (based in Yamagata, Japan: CEO Kiyoyuki OKUYAMA), the 400th anniversary project of Arita porcelain by Saga Prefecture will be presented at an international trade fair for interior design Maison & Objet in Paris. For our third participation in Maison & Objet in January 2016 (the first in September 2014, the second in September 2015), Beat Takeshi, Kengo Kuma and Kashiwa Sato join "ARTIA 400project."
【ARITA × 4CREATORS】
January 22nd to 26th 2016
MAISON & OBJET
PARIS NORD VILLEPINTE  Hall 6 entrance

| Conference event |
3pm January 23rd, 2016
MAISON & OBJET
PARIS NORD VILLEPINTE  Hall 6 entrance
Speaker:
Ken Kiyoyuki Okuyama (KEN OKUYAMA DESIGN)
Kashiwa Sato (SAMURAI)
Industrial Designer / KEN OKUYAMA DESIGN, CEO
Born in Yamagata, Japan, 1959. Ken has worked as a Chief Designer for General Motors, a Senior Designer for Porsche AG, and a Design Director for Pininfarina S.p.A., being responsible for Ferrari Enzo, Maserati Quattroporte and many cars. He is also known for numerous products such as motorcycles, furniture, robots and architecture. In 2007, KEN OKUYAMA DESIGN was founded providing business consultancy to many corporations. Ken also produces cars, eyewear, interior products under his original brand. He is currently a director of Yanmar Holdings Co., Ltd. and a visiting professor at Art Center College of Design, Tama Art University, Kanazawa College of Art and the Faculty of Engineering of Yamagata University.

Beat Takeshi
Born in 1947 at Adachi ward in Tokyo, Beat Takeshi embarked on a path as a comedian at Asakusa Furansu Za (Asakusa Furansu Theater) after having ceased his study at Meiji University. As a member of manzai (Japanese duo comedy) duo “Two Beat”, he gained popularity in Japan. He also expanded his solo career path into television / radio as well as into films and book publishing. He has acquired worldwide recognition as a director by the name of Kitano Takeshi. He received the Golden Lion award at the Venice International Film Festival for Hana-bi in 1997 as well as the Silver Lion award at the above-mentioned festival for Zatoichi in 2003. His other films have been also well received in numerous international film festivals. In 2010, his work as an artist blossomed into his exhibition “Beat Takeshi Kitano, Gosse de peinture” held in Paris by Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain. In the same year, he was named a Commander of the Order of the Arts and Letters (Commandeur dans l'ordre des arts et des lettres) in France for his diverse artwork.
Kengo Kuma was born in 1954. He completed his master's degree at the University of Tokyo in 1979. After studying at Columbia University as Visiting Scholar, he established Kengo Kuma & Associates 1990. In 2009, he was installed as Professor at the Graduate School of Architecture, University of Tokyo.

Among Kuma’s major works are Water/Glass (1995, received AIA Benedictus Award), Stage in Forest, Toyoma Center for Performance Arts (received 1997 Architectural Institute of Japan Annual Award). Recent works include Kabukiza (2013), Besancon Arts and Culture Center and FRAC Marseilles (France).

Kuma has also written numerous books, including Anti-Object, translated into English, and most of his latest titles – A Natural Architecture, A Small Architecture - have been published Chinese and Korean and gaining wide readership from around the world.

Kashiwa Sato

Creative Director / Art Director

Kashiwa has established his own creative studio SAMURAI after having worked at Hakuhodo. His representative works are : the logo design and signage schemes of National Art Center Tokyo, the creative direction of global brand strategies of Uniqlo, the branding project of Rakuten, the branding project of Seven-Eleven, the Miraculous Comeback–Revival Brand Strategy of Imabari Towel Japan and the total produce of CUPNOODLE Museum and Fuji Kindergarten.

He won the Mainichi Design Award and the Tokyo ADC Grand Prix among other awards.

He is a visiting professor at Tama Art University.

He is also an author of bestseller “Kashiwa Sato’s Ultimate Method of Reaching the Essentials.”
MAISON & OBJET PARIS

【 ARITA - 400project - 】
January 22nd to 26th 2016
PARIS NORD VILLEPINTE  Hall 7  SCENES D INTERIEUR / GALLERY
Stands : K2
Reception event : 5pm January 22nd , 2016


Produced by  KEN OKUYAMA DESIGN
ARITA EPISODE2 BY SAGA PREFECTURE
ARITA PORCELAIN LAB
Founded in 1804, Yazaemon Pottery, Arita’s largest porcelain workshop, has refined its trademark glazing techniques through relentless testing processes spanning over 200 years. Today, Arita Porcelain Lab is reinventing the Arita brand, instilling into its traditional glazing technique a sense of modernity and contemporary lifestyle.

FUKAGAWA-SEIJI
Fukagawa Family, which lit its first ceramic kiln in 1650, founded its own crafts company FUKAGAWA-SEIJI in 1894. Awarded the Grand Prize at the 1900 Exposition Universelle in Paris, and in 1910 FUKAGAWA-SEIJI was appointed official purveyor to the Japanese Imperial Household. Making all materials, glazes and paints internally from their initial composition down to their finishing touches, this unique company has the largest expert workforce in all of Arita, with seven of national qualified traditional technical artists producing the world’s greatest-quality porcelain. Its elegant and sophisticated design attracts international customers.

Gen-emon
Since its establishment in 1753, Gen-emon has produced countless handcrafted ceramic creations ranging from fine dinnerware to houseware, adjusting to the needs of modern times. Today, Gen-emon porcelain is a world-renowned household name. Its production often involves the combination of many different materials into a wide array of delicately-crafted objects.
HATAMAN
Hataman is at the origin of the Imari Nabeshima brand of porcelain. It inherits ancient traditions while constantly adapting their design to shifting trends throughout the ages. Producing unparalleled added value, Hataman’s manufacturing processes combine traditional Japanese aesthetics with skilful craftsmanship.

Kamachi-toho
Kamachi-toho develops ceramic ware for businesses. Their philosophy of tradition-conscious modern design and world-class standard dinnerware production makes them a go-to ceramics provider for famous hotels and 2- to 3-star restaurants both in Japan and overseas. They use modern brush-up and hand-production techniques on Arita’s world-renowned toseki rocks. Their combination of modern techniques with traditional crafting methods allows them to produce a wide array of custom-made, colorful products.

KIHARA
The Kihara brand provides great-looking, user-friendly ceramic wares that keep its users always coming back for more. As a local Arita porcelain trading company, Kihara offers dinnerware for contemporary and modern lifestyles. Kihara combines 400 years of tradition with innovative designs in order to create unique products.
RISO porcelain
After having studied advanced ceramic production techniques from Tohen of Koimari at Arita porcelain founder Yi Sam-Pyeong’s house, Riso Ceramics established Heisei Koimari, continuously striving to develop new products that meet the demands of modern times. Riso Ceramics has not only inherited the techniques of traditional porcelain production, but also integrates cutting-edge technologies into those production processes.

224porcelain
224porcelain is a new porcelain brand produced by Hizen Yoshida Pottery in Ureshino City, Saga Prefecture, a region well known for its tea and hot springs. Using techniques and tools developed over a long history of pottery production both in the Ureshino region and neighboring Arita City, they provide innovative products that enrich our daily lives.

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■ All the projects for the 400th anniversary of ARITA
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Produced by KEN OKUYAMA DESIGN
Maison et Objet in September 2015

Produced by KEN OKUYAMA DESIGN

ARITA EPISODE 2 BY SAGA PREFECTURE