

Artist Statement:

Niho Kozuru is an artist who combines form and color to forge human connections between cultures and across time. Kozuru descends from generations of clay artists in Fukuoka, Japan. She was raised cross-culturally in both Japan and the US. Kozuru is known for her unique undulating cast rubber and glass columns that are reconfigured from the daily life of New England decorative arts. Kozuru uses "turned" motifs such as balusters with an added blast of color - renewing symbolic objects by giving new life and spirit. Her palette and forms are firmly rooted in her family's ceramic heritage of using vibrant glazes. In Kozuru's artwork, sculpture and color become a visual metaphor, bridging cultures, honoring her ceramic ancestors and expressing form and color as a universal language that connects all people.

Bio:

Niho Kozuru (高鶴丹穂) is a Japanese-born artist based in Boston, MA. Her family has been making Agano ceramics (上野焼) on the island of Kyushu, Fukuoka, Japan for generations. In 1602, Agano began producing matcha teaware for the Daimyo Feudal Lords, and the region is still known for ceramics today. Kozuru originally came to the US with her family when her father became a Visiting Fellow at Harvard Ceramics Studios. She was brought up cross-culturally and maintains strong connections to her Japanese heritage and language. Kozuru has shown at museums and galleries internationally including the ICA/Boston and the Fukuoka City Art Museum. She has been awarded grants and fellowships such as the Massachusetts Cultural Council Artist Fellowship. Kozuru's artwork is held in private and public collections including deCordova Sculpture Park + Museum, Sheldon Museum of Art, Danforth Museum, Fuller Craft Museum, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston Children's Hospital, Dana Farber, Fidelity, Google, Nogata Tanio Museum and among others. Kozuru received her BFA from the Parsons School of Design in New York, NY, and her MFA from University of Hawai'i at Manoa, Honolulu.