

JAMES HARRIS GALLERY  
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## PRESS RELEASE



**Akio Takamori “Selected Works”  
July 14 to August 30, 2021  
Virtual Online Exhibition**

Additional images are available upon request

Left : Akio Takamori “Karako: Twins” 2006  
Stoneware with underglazes  
22” x 20” x 12”

James Harris Gallery is pleased to present an extraordinary group of sculptures by Akio Takamori from an East Coast Estate. The collectors were devoted to Akio's work for many years and acquired seven works by the artist over twenty years. The earliest piece titled “Humanity II” dates from 1995 is one of the artist's seminal envelope works. In the 1980s, ceramic artists started to push the idea of the vessel and transform it from its functional purpose into sculpture. Takamori's slab-formed vessels were not only instrumental in launching his career but also allowed him to combine the concept of the vessel to drawing. “Humanity II” demonstrates his melding of the interior and exterior through swelling forms and glazing. The collection includes a wonderful example of a small figurative sculpture of an aging man from Akio's “Village Series.” There are two examples of the subject of young monks, one large scale the other more intimate. As well as a beautiful work titled “Kneeling Venus” depicting an elegant head of a woman based on Tang Dynasty sculpture on top of the Classical Western nude female figure. These collectors were passionate about supporting artists throughout their careers. This group of works show their dedication to that process. We are proud to be able to showcase these pieces.

The gallery will mount virtual exhibitions until the next location of our physical space is announced in the fall of 2021.