## Sakureigama

## Sakurei Okamoto / Shuichi Okamoto

279 Hirano, Kyuragimachi, Karatsu-shi Access: 15 minutes' drive from JR Kyuragi Station





▲ Kiln mark/Potter's mark



## Sakurei Okamoto

- ▶1958 Born in Karatsu.
- ▶1979 Apprenticed at Karatsu kiln.
- ▶1989 Opened own studio and kiln in Kyuragi, Karatsu.

## Pottery with a refined sensibility

"At any time, tradition is the archive of the cutting edge. My work has it's foundation in tradition, but I'm always looking for new things on which to apply it.", Okamoto san notes about the style of work at Sakureigama. "Living cultivates our sensibilities. I try to spend my days with my 'antennae' extended, seeking elements to reflect back into my work, hoping something new will come from it."

He says there is no meaning in using materials from outside Karatsu. It's an aspect of the work that is unseen, but consumers can tell the difference. Karatsu is blessed with a deep tradition and regional character, and out of respect for this, Okamoto san doesn't cut corners.

"I am so happy to be able to create for a living." He faces his work, animated, and he looks like a young man again.



- ☐ Business Hours: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm \*Contact us
- □ Closed: New Year's Holiday
- □ Languages: Japanese
- ☐ Gallery:
- OK
- Contact us 9:00 am 5:00 pm
- $\square$  Studio Tour:
- NO
- □ Kiln Tour: NO
- □ Type of Firing: Wood / Gas
- □ Pottery Lesson: NO
- □ Parking:
- 🖨 OK











