

# Gotanbayashi Kama

**Michael Martino**

2048-1 Takumachi, Taku-shi Tel. 090-6896-8466

Access: 10 minutes' drive from JR Taku Station

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▲ Kiln mark/Potter's mark



**Michael Martino**

▶1967 Born in New Mexico, USA.

▶1990 Moved to Japan.

▶2006 Opened the studio.

▶2010 - 2011 Built the wood kiln.

## Beyond language and culture

Mike Martino talks to us about his passion for Karatsu ware in fluent Japanese. Meeting veteran potter Yoshihisa Tsuruta set him on the path to making Karatsu ceramics. Fascinated with the variety of work produced in the Karatsu tradition, he decided to become a potter. While his work shows his distinct character, he tells us that it is difficult to replicate the Karatsu aesthetic found in the old ware. He tries to make work that changes and expresses its true beauty with repeated use. Simple, beautiful work that represents a blending of cultures.

Mike hopes to educate more people overseas about the techniques, tools, and materials of the Karatsu ceramic tradition. He believes that with an elevated appreciation of Karatsu ware overseas, Karatsu ceramic artists will have more opportunities to share their work outside of Japan.



- Business Hours:  
By appointment
- Closed:  
Closed Irregularly
- Languages:  
English / Japanese
- Gallery:  
OK
- Studio Tour:  
OK
- Kiln Tour:  
OK
- Type of Firing:  
Wood / Gas
- Pottery Lesson:  
OK \* Contact us
- Lesson Fees:  
¥ 5,000 / hour
- Parking:  
🚗 OK

