

Brigitte Saby is a tireless discoverer who surfs the ever-shifting crest between Art and the decorative arts. Her inspiration is nourished by the ebb and flow between Past and Present, West and East, between the ephemeral and the intemporal, and between artistic tradition and creative buzz. But Brigitte Saby also likes to share her *coups de cœur*. This newsletter invites you into her world of perpetual movement...

# Wabi Sabi, or the Art of Time

## References / The Art of Going Slowly in Kyoto

*Wabi-Sabi* is at the heart of Japanese aesthetics. *Wabi*, or tranquil simplicity, 'is refinement through simplicity, rustic elegance, nobleness without sophistication'; *Sabi* is the patina of time, and the total abandonment to nostalgia and romanticism when confronted with aesthetic manifestations of Nature and Passing Time. An art embodied by *Raku*, whose history goes back to 16th century Kyoto, where a great tea-master had these unique potteries made by hand and fired at a low temperature. A century later, the Villa Katsura was a refuge for the imperial family, where they could contemplate nature, especially when moonlight played among the fountains. In the 20th century it became a place of pilgrimage for architects of the future Modernist movement, who were fascinated by the refined volumes, economy of materials and effects, and intelligent planning.



Villa Katsura (Tea Pavilion & Kitchen) - Raku bowl by the Master Honnami Koetsu (1620) - Raku bowl in the Musée Guimet  
\*Alain Delaye, quoted in *Esthétiques du Quotidien au Japon* (IFM/Regard)

## Paris News / Cult of the Gesture and the Eternal Return of Japonisme

Last Autumn, as a reaction to the frenzied pace of the fashion world, Musée Galliera curator Olivier Saillard (in conjunction with Tilda Swinton) produced *Eternity Dress*, his second theatrical staging with a fashion theme: a contemplative and almost silent work, exploring the time-honoured rituals of cutting and fitting that lead on to the birth of that mysterious object we call a dress. In the world of cooking utensils, a tiny French company has carved itself a slice of success by appearing in the catalogue of the New York MoMa. *The Malle W Trousseau* is a family story – one of transmission, involving food lovers who packed the most durable knives, pans, aprons and vegetable-scrapers into a light, modern case... Meanwhile contemporary Japanese pastry-making, all about delicate textures and fleeting flavours, is beginning to titillate Paris – and is to be savoured like a breath of Spring air.



*Eternity Dress* / Olivier Saillard & Tilda Swinton - La Malle W Trousseau - Angel Cake, Patisserie Ciel (Paris)

## Wabi-Sabi in the World of Brigitte Saby

The notion of calm infuses the world of Brigitte Saby: discreetly worked materials constitute her hallmark. 'I am always seeking a balance between the refined and the natural. This bedroom is an elegant gentleman's ivory tower. I used straw for the walls and curtains, and for the nuances...'

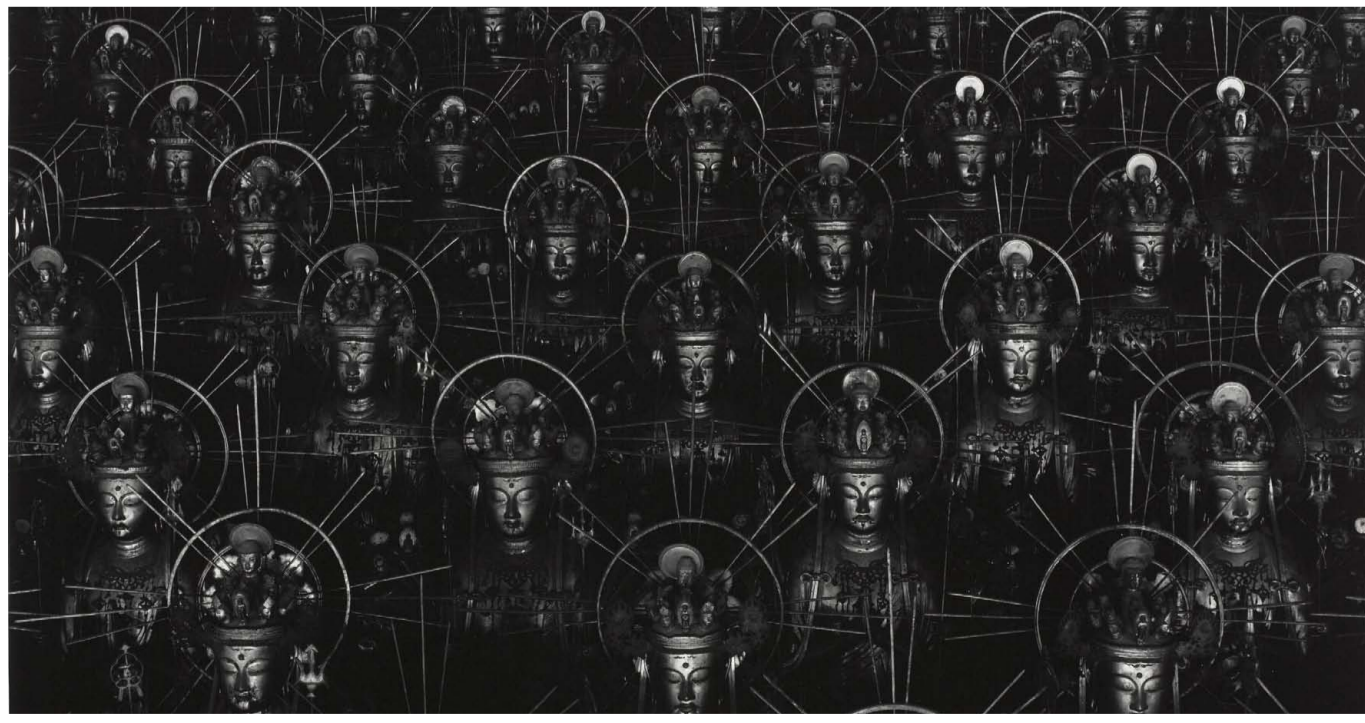


Héliographe

## Art News: Sugimoto's Accelerated Buddhas

The Grand Master of Japanese photography made his reputation with distant still lifes and hanging landscapes, obtained using infinitely prolonged poses. Hiroshi Sugimoto is an artist and craftsman who produces his own prints and frames with the same meticulous care.

At the Fondation Pierre Bergé - Yves Saint Laurent until January 26.



Artefact Décoration  
3, avenue Victor Hugo  
75116 Paris  
tél +33 (0)1 40 67 96 06  
fax + 33 (0)1 40 67 96 07  
brigitte@brigittesaby.com  
www.brigittesaby.com