

Kaori Tatebayashi  
*Bronze Commissions*



Tristan Hoare  
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# Biography

Kaori Tatebayashi (b. 1972) is a Japanese ceramicist, living and working in London for over 20 years. While studying ceramics in Kyoto and London, Kaori explored what new possibilities clay could have and what this familiar material meant to her own identity. Its paradoxical nature was fascinating, simultaneously having a sense of fragility and permanence.

Working in hand formed white stoneware, she produces portraits of flowers and plants with amazing precision, not only describing how they look, but also how they feel. The result is an experience which comes very close to nature. Modelling directly from flowers and plants in season, Kaori creates three dimensional sculptures in which she aims 'to capture time and preserve it within the clay.' The fired ceramics encapsulate the fragility of nature's cycle, preserving the fleeting moments of a plants life.

'Whatever you make with soft and malleable clay, the firing will result in irreversible changes. Clay will end its organic life, and what remains after the firing is like a lifeless 'shell'. It becomes strong and durable, but at the same time, it can be destroyed in an instant when dropped.'

Born in Arita, the home of Imari porcelain in Japan, Kaori grew up in a family trading pottery and was surrounded by beautiful ceramics since her childhood. She studied ceramics at Kyoto City University of Art and at The Royal College of Art. She has exhibited internationally, received awards from the Crafts Council, and carried out a commission for the British Museum's Grenville Room in 2009.





Hollyhock II (White finish), Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, 2025

# Commission Timeline

## Private Consultation

Kaori offers a personalised consultation process to ensure each commission responds thoughtfully to its intended setting. During the consultation, consideration is given to:

- Spatial proportions and wall dimensions
- Natural and artificial lighting conditions
- Conceptual direction and client input

Following this stage, Kaori will present a formal proposal to establish the artistic direction.

## Timeframe

Timelines are determined by the scale and complexity of each commission. As a general guide the consultation and proposal stage is approximately 1–3 weeks and the creation period ranges from 12 - 24 weeks or longer.

Please note that the creation period is indicative and may vary depending on the scale of the work and Kaori's existing commitments.

## Fees & Payment Terms

Following consultation and pricing agreement, a contract is issued.

A 50% non-refundable deposit is required to commence production, with the remaining balance payable prior to delivery and installation.

## Process & Artistic Direction

Each commission is bespoke and while the process is collaborative, Kaori retains full creative authorship to ensure the integrity and artistic quality of the finished work.

We have a selection of works already produced that can be customised in different patinations and compositions. However Kaori is able to create more unique compositions upon request.

The process begins with making a ceramic sculpture and once completed, the sculpture is submitted to the foundry in preparation for casting. Due to the inherent complexity of bronze production, the final costs can vary depending on the specific requirements of the work.

Accurate quotations are therefore provided only after the ceramic model has been completed and inspected by the foundry. The inspection of this initial sculpture typically costs from £1,000.00 up to £1,800.00. However we have a series of pre-scanned works available for purchase where this charge is not necessary.

This staged approach ensures clarity and precision in pricing, reflecting the craftsmanship and technical expertise required to realise the final sculpture.



Lupin (White Patina), Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, 2025

# Bronze Patina options



Verdigris Patina



White Patina



Chadwick Grey Patina



White Wash Gold Patina



Detail of German Iris 2 (White Wash Gold Patina), Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, 2024



# Pricing

Due to the inherent complexity of bronze production, the final costs can vary depending on the specific requirements of the artwork. Please note the below costs and timelines for works that are already produced.

Artwork	Status	Price	Timeline
Snails (Edition of 10)	Produced	£ 2,000.00	Ready
German Iris I	Produced	£ 19,000.00	Ready / 12 weeks
Hollyhock I	Produced	£ 20,000.00	Ready / 12 weeks
Hollyhock II	Produced	£ 40,000.00	Ready / 12 weeks
Lupin	Produced	£ 20,000.00	Ready / 12 weeks

For more bespoke and detailed compositions as such as the *Bramble with a Chaffinch Nest* seen opposite please get in touch directly for costs and timeline.



*Foxgloves (Spray painted finish)*, Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, 2025



German Iris (Spray painted finish), Tristan Hoare Gallery, London, 2020



For private enquiries or to arrange a consultation,  
please contact [ludovica@tristanhoare.co.uk](mailto:ludovica@tristanhoare.co.uk)

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