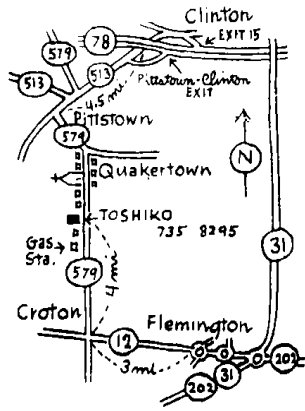




Don Fletcher
1177 Croton Rd.
Flemington, NJ 08822



OPEN HOUSE at TOSHIKO'S

Featuring the work of Toshiko Takaezu's
former apprentices and students
and current studio artists.

Sunday, May 19th, 2019 | 1 to 6 PM

THE PEONIES WILL BE BLOOMING

1177 Croton Rd, Flemington, NJ 908-735-8295
www.thetakaezustudio.com

THAT: THE HUNTERDON ART TOUR

May 4th and 5th

The Studio is a Destination on
the tour. The tree
peonies will be very
nearly blooming.
www.thehunterdonarttour.com



THE HUNTERDON POLO CLASSIC

Sunday, June 8th

At Fieldview Farm
www.hunterdonpolo.org
for details

COLLECTIVE IDENTITY *The Legacy of Apprenticeship*

April 12th to
June 23rd

Noyes Arts Garage
2200 Fairmount Avenue,
Atlantic City, NJ
www.artsgarageac.com



1177 Croton Rd, PO Box 461
Quakertown, NJ 08868

A NEW TIME FOR THE OPEN HOUSE

It has always seemed a great pity that visitors to the studio should miss the glories—the almost indecent glories—of the tree peonies in full bloom. This year we have decided to move the event up to mid May so as to present the garden in all its finery. This is not to say we dislike any of the other months of spring. We are even so unreasonable as to enjoy the garden in January and February in the midst of sleet and rain; but there is something almost divine about mid May. We are aware, of course, that every garden in the state is in fine fettle blossom-wise at just that time; which is why we are having an open house instead of a garden tour. In any case, we aren't really fitted for a garden tour. Since we had next to nothing to do with making this garden, which the result of several decades of work by Toshiko and her apprentices, the garden is a bit of a mystery to us. It does mean we can boast about it in good conscience. An important non-floral benefit of the new date is that we don't conflict with the Hunterdon Polo Classic (see below).

EXHIBITIONS

Thanks to the efforts of Skeff Thomas, Mike Steelman and Ben Eberle in terms of inspiration, organization and transportation, the third iteration of **COLLECTIVE IDENTITY: The Legacy of Apprenticeship Under Toshiko Takaezu** is now on display at the wonderfully lively Arts Garage in Atlantic City. Truth in advertising requires me to note that I was never an apprentice and never pretended to possess the moral fiber required for the post, but I did see nearly all of the apprentices whose work is featured during their time with Toshiko, so I have been granted sort of honorary witness status. The participating artists in the show are Hoyt Barringer, Geoff Booras, Tim Clark, Ben Eberle, Don Fletcher, Curtis Fontaine, Fitzhugh Karol, David Kaufmann, Yuichiro Komatsu, Nicholas Newcomb, Frances Parker, Andy Rahe, Kate Randall, Elizabeth Smith, Michael Steelman and Skeffington Thomas. The show also features 3 pieces of Toshiko's work from our collection and several from the Noyes Museum collection. Atlantic City is a sentimentally important to at least two of us. One of us (Mike Steelman) was a lifeguard on the beach there in his youth and another one (me) spent a very complicated and bitterly cold semester of 5th grade in nearby Ventnor in 1960, which climate science insists was not the coldest winter weather ever experienced by small boys, but it isn't easy to imagine surviving anything colder. Be that as it may, the Arts Garage is a lot of fun and the show is exceptionally well mounted, for which thanks to Michael Cagno, Saskia Schmidt and Jenavieve Coulon. <http://www.artsgarageac.com/>

At Michigan State University's Broad Museum, a small show entitled **TOSHIKO TAKAEZU: THE CLOSED FORM** will be up until June 2, 2019 in the Ledge Gallery. <https://broadmuseum.msu.edu/exhibitions/toshiko-takaezu>

Toshiko's work is also featured at Arizona State University in **Clayblazers: Women Artists of the '50s, '60s and '70s** through August 10, 2019. <https://herbergerinstitute.asu.edu/events/clayblazers-women-artists-%E2%80%9950s-%E2%80%9960s-and-%E2%80%9970s-28> is the somewhat daunting link. Searching for "Herberger Institute Clayblazers" finds the show also.



THAT

The Hunterdon Art Tour will take place again on May 4th and 5th and the studio is again a destination on the tour. We complained last year about not being able to both participate as a destination and also visit all the other artists in the county; and it is still an insoluble problem. Maybe if many of you do a lot of visiting, you can tell us all about the other places on the tour. Certainly the tour seems like a lot of fun.

THE HUNTERDON POLO CLASSIC

This is one of our favorite events of the year. The Hunterdon foundation has once again included the Toshiko Takaezu Foundation as one of its benefitting non-profits and we are eagerly looking forward to

another day of hats, horses, riders, classic cars, hounds, food and libations. Come and join the fun! Call us for tickets or buy them at the studio in May.

WEBSITE IMPROVEMENT

Andy Rahe and Peter Russo have done a truly remarkable job at pulling together a representative cross section of Toshiko's work in an attractive and usable website which will be up and running any day now. We don't have a firm date, but it will be soon. We look forward to hearing from all of you about how to improve it still further.

WORKSHOPS

The Studio continues to partner with the Hunterdon Art Museum on workshops. See <https://hunterdonartmuseum.org/education-programs/learn-create/> for details.

NOBLE HEARTS

It has been a year of loss in our community. Our irreplaceable friends Walter Chandoha, Miriam Takaezu and Vincent Cioffi all ended long, useful lives. All were very close to Toshiko. Miriam, of course, was Toshiko's sister and a great help and source of wisdom for many years. Walter was a brilliant and widely admired photographer, garden writer, and story teller. Vincent was an engineer and practically wherever one looks at the studio there are evidences of his workmanship, intelligence and generosity. All 3 were well into their 90s, but each was such a vital, bright and active part of our world up to the last conversations, that it comes as a shock to be without them. We were lucky to have known them.

MANY THANKS

A great part of what makes running the studio the best possible job in the world, is the extended community of wonderful people who join in to help it move ahead. This year I have to acknowledge particularly my brothers and sisters-in-law. Bob and Denise, John and Gwenda, Peter and Andrea and Jim and Nancy have given us vital and timely help through the year. Also The Hunterdon Foundation, Sue Bannon, Martha Otis, Bill Baumbach, Curtis Fontaine, Ely Molloy, Mike Steelman, Liz Shaw, Ana Kalfaian, Evie Kalfaian, Alexis Richards, Nicole Jaffarian, Pernille Dake, Peter Russo, Turner Osler, Chi Chi Lau, Lorraine Kisly, Geoff Booras, Andy Rahe, Ben Eberle, Rafael Melendez and a host of others have provided hard work, thoughtful advice and indispensable good cheer and encouragement. I am grateful beyond expression for all of you. Don Fletcher don@thetakaezstudio.com 917.763.4058

A NOTE ON DIRECTIONS & PARKING

The best address for use with GPS is 1177 Croton Rd, Flemington, NJ 08822; and the little map on the other side does still work, of course. We try to reserve the limited parking at 1177 for those who have difficulty walking. Please park at Ralph Anthony Automotive or the House Next Door (1175 Croton Rd) and walk across the creek on the little bridge, if you are able. Don Fletcher 917-763-4058 don@thetakaezstudio.com