

KATE MACGARRY

Rio Kobayashi

Born in Mashiko, Japan in 1989. Lives and works in London.

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 *Crooked Pencils*, Kate MacGarry, London
- 2024 *Off The Shelf*, Pavilion for Olympia, London Design Festival
- 2023 *Manus Manum Lavat (One hand washes the other)*, London Design Festival, Cromwell Place, London

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2026 *100 Candleholders*, Blunk Space, Point Reyes, CA, USA
- 2025 *Flavia Brändle & Rio Kobayashi*, House of Switzerland, Pro Helvetia and Presence Switzerland, Salone del Mobile Milano, Italy
- Rio Kobayashi & Fritz Rauh*, Blunk Space, Point Reyes, CA, USA
- 2024 *The Equal Right to Live and Blossom*, Kate MacGarry, London
- Blunk Space, Design Miami, USA
- Grazie Enzo: Contemporary Responses to Enzo Mari*, The Design Museum, London
- Dwellings*, South London Gallery, UK
- Lost and Found Yōkai*, Young V&A, London, UK
- 2023 *100 Hooks*, Blunk Space, Point Reyes, CA, USA
- Embroidered*, Koivu, Milan, Italy
- Alcova*, Barbini Specchi Veneziani, Milan Design Week, Italy
- 2022 *R for Repair*, London Design Festival, Victoria & Albert Museum, London
- Barbini Specchi Veneziani, Italian Glass Week, Venice, Italy
- 2021 *Alcova*, Gilda Editions, Milan Design Week, Italy
- Supersalone*, Milan Design Week, Italy
- 2019 *Odds*, TOMA Project Space, Southend-on-Sea, UK
- Masters of Disguise*, SEEDS, London Design Festival, UK
- 2018 *U-JOINTS*, PlusDesign Gallery, Milan Design Week, Italy
- 2017 London Design Fair, London Design Festival, UK

Awards, Commissions & Judging

- 2025 London Design Festival 2025 Emerging Talent Medal
- 2024 Best Curio, commission for Blunk Space, Design Miami 2024
- Off the Shelf Pavilion, commission for Olympia London, London Design Festival
- Dezeen Award Judging
- 2023 Dezeen Award Emerging Designer of the Year nomination
- Design Museum Ralf Salzmänn prize nomination

Bibliography

Selected Publications

Selected Press

- 2025 F. Perry, 'London's furniture designers are making it their way', *Financial Times*, 6 September
R. Bertoli, "'How creativity can transform our world': meet the winners of the 2025 London Design Medals', *Wallpaper*, 5 September
'Rio Kobayashi in conversation', *Sursuma*, 31 May
L. Jackson, 'Interiors: Slide Show', *The World of Interiors*, 12 May
- 2024 J. Hahn, 'Off The Shelf pavilion is made from standardised components that can go back on the shelf', *Dezeen*, 20 September
B. Sunshine, 'Meet the rising stars of the London Design Festival 2024', *The Times*, 11 September
M. Willingham, 'Artist and maker Rio Kobayashi talks taste', *Financial Times*, 6 September
A. Petsinis, 'Rio Kobayashi tells ICON how his Japanese and Austrian-Italian heritage influences his work', *ICON*, 9 July
- 2023 R. Bertoli, 'Rio Kobayashi turns traditional furniture making on its head', *Wallpaper*, 30 December
- 2017 J. Harris, 'The collection by Rio Kobayashi is made of turned ash poles with pointed ends', *DOMUS*, 5 October
A. Morby, 'Rio Kobayashi bases colourful furniture on traditional game Mikado', *Dezeen*, 29 September

Education

- 2007 Apprenticeship, Wetscher, Zillertal, Austria