



*"Like the flowing river"*

Porcelain, wood board, canvas, acrylic paint

24.5 x 24.5 in

Tomoko Hayakawa

早川 朋子

### **About the work**

By stacking soft loops that are pushed and tilted, the pieces sway on the flat surface. The lines are entwined and entangled but are also fluttering comfortably. A slight shadow appears under the loops, and it seems to be floating and flowing in unison. The famous phrase of Hojoki written by Kamo-no-Chomei, “The flowing river never stops and yet the water never stays the same” (translated by Yasuhiko Moriguchi, David Jenkins, Michael Hofmann) came to my mind. These lines were constructed by imagining the sway of the water in a river, and letting the piece freely form itself.

### **About the Artist**

New York based ceramic artist, Tomoko Hayakawa, has been honing her skills in slip casting ceramics for the past 23 years. Originally an interior/industrial designer, Tomoko blended her design experience in her artwork.

In 1999, after getting licensed by a Dutch ceramic company who announced her products, Tomoko’s passion gradually shifted from creating commercial products to fine art. She was relieved from her initial beliefs towards slip casting as only a technique for mass producing products, which dramatically expanded her range of ideas. By incorporating the technique of slip casting into her art works, Tomoko was able to challenge the boundary between art and design. Slip casting (by using molds) is ideal for creating lightweight and clean structures. By overlapping multiple simple parts, new expressions of depth can be created. Her curiosity for the flexibility of ceramic material and its hard texture after being fired, is still endless to this day.

Website: <https://studiobyhand.com/>