

江戸木目込人形

1. Wood and Cloth Dolls

Toshimitsu Kakinuma



Works by Kakinuma

Q: Which part of the production process do you enjoy most?

Clay modeling—the process of creating the original form in clay. I enjoy the freedom to imagine and the creative process of seeing what I have envisioned take shape in three dimensions.

Q: When are you most glad that you became an artisan?

When someone says, “Thank you.” Through kimekomi dolls, I have met people from Japan and abroad, and I now have more opportunities to work overseas as well.

Q: What is most important to you in your work?

Finishing every part carefully—not only the front of the doll, but also the back, base, and other areas that are difficult to see from the front. I value putting care into the parts that are not visible.

Q: When would you recommend giving one as a gift?

They are wonderful for birthdays and other celebrations, of course, but I would also be delighted if people chose them as souvenirs for visitors from overseas—a gift that conveys Japanese tradition.

Q: What kind of experience do you hope visitors will have at this exhibition?

This exhibition gives visitors the chance to discover and experience a variety of crafts, including “KIMEKOMI.” I hope people leave thinking, “I am glad I came. I learned something new and gained something from the experience.” I want visitors to enjoy a relaxed, enriching experience. Please come and experience it for yourself at the venue.

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