

STORY of Starry Sky Cup “YACHIYO-GAMA”

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Toyo-Sasaki Glass Co., Ltd.

The Starry Sky Cup, which has become popular in recent years, is derived from Toyo-Sasaki Glass, a 100-year Japanese glassware manufacturer brand. The two Toyo Glass Co., Ltd. in Osaka and Sasaki Glass Co., Ltd. in Tokyo founded during the Meiji Period (1868-1912) merged into Toyo-Sasaki Glass Co., Ltd. in 2002. For this reason, all items created in Toyo-Sasaki Glass combine the elegance from the Kansai (Western-central region), and on the other hand, simple features from the Kanto (Eastern-central region) area in Japan. Toyo-Sasaki Glass is one of Japan's famous glass brands, having a wide range of uses, from home use to hospitality, food service fields for luxury hotels and restaurants.



The “Yachiyo-gama” series, to which has been popular with the name of Starry Sky Cup was born in 2006. Developed by our designing team with having over 30 years of experience, its design focused on the Japanese traditional color of “Shosoin Ai”, indigo color, and reproduced its warm Japanese-style keynote in glass. Authentic craft, Kanazawa Gold Leaf is also inserted to add precise and gorgeous flavor. Its body is equipped with a unique hammered surface created by adjusting mold material and the temperature during forming process to make its whole product look brighter.

When it comes to uniquely Japanese hammered surface, we introduce how to distinguish between authentic and counterfeit products. Hammered surface is a texture formed naturally by adjusting the temperature of glass in forming process. On the other hand, imitations produced for example in China do not possess this technology, so they artificially create irregular asperities to the mold. The surface of those products resembles the skin of a toad, its touch is unnatural and bumpy.

At Toyo-Sasaki Glass, there are many craftsmen who have been certified as traditional craftsmen by the Japanese Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry. In the “Yachiyo-gama” series, decent craftsmen use blow-pipe to extract molten glass heated around 1,500 degrees from a furnace, combine the two-color glass, transparent and blue, with inserting gold leaf. Authentic craftsmanship is blown in each and every piece. Japan is a country that values teamwork, and every beautiful piece is created through the cooperation of different process and each staff member. The “Yachiyo-gama” series was certified as one of "Edo Glass" creation, designated by the Tokyo Metropolitan Governor for continual inheritance of craft skills over the past 100 years, and was also certified as a "traditional craft product" by the Japanese government.



We would like to share one last secret of the Toyo-Sasaki Glass brand. When it comes to designing glassware, our seasoned designer focuses on comfort. For example, if you hold up the Starry Sky Cup, the soft curve on the cup base fits perfectly against the edge of your palm will allow you to have a relaxing feel. In contrast to the custom of Westerners using knives and forks to eat in plates and bowls placed flat on tables, many Asians typically eat with holding bowls in one hand and use chopsticks in another, and so the Toyo-Sasaki Glass brand's products emphasize the touch of users. I was deeply impressed by the obsessiveness to the details of Japanese handmade products.

Hope you all liked the background episode of our Starry Sky Cup “Yachiyo-gama”. We would like to continue and introduce more about each piece that Toyo-Sasaki creates. Thank you, and we shall see you again next time.