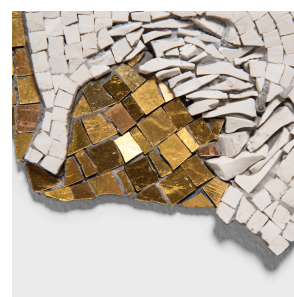

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"AZRAEL" MOSAIC BY TOYOHARU KII

\$388

2021 • Japan • Marble, Glass • Collection #CTOYK081

W: 5.75" D: 1.0" H: 6.5"

In the series "Heavenly," Toyoharu Kii honors the fullness of life and its continual rebirth. In some works, white tesserae assume abstract profiles. In others, irregular shapes contain a disorderly array of jagged tiles, suggesting the unexpected moments that life reveals. Expressing his wish for guidance, the artist surrounds each marble form with a halo of golden tiles, representing the company of a heavenly guardian in the cycle of rebirth. This mosaic in particular is named after Azrael, the archangel of death.

A leader of the cross-cultural craft resurgence, Japan-based artist Toyoharu Kii creates his intricate mosaics with hand-cut Italian marble and smalti, Venetian glass made by the same Italian family for over 400 years. Continued...



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"AZRAEL" MOSAIC BY TOYOHARU KII

Using traditional Italian techniques, Kii's art is nonetheless modern. Monochromatic, abstract, and highly textured, his work highlights the involved and technical art of mosaic making.



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