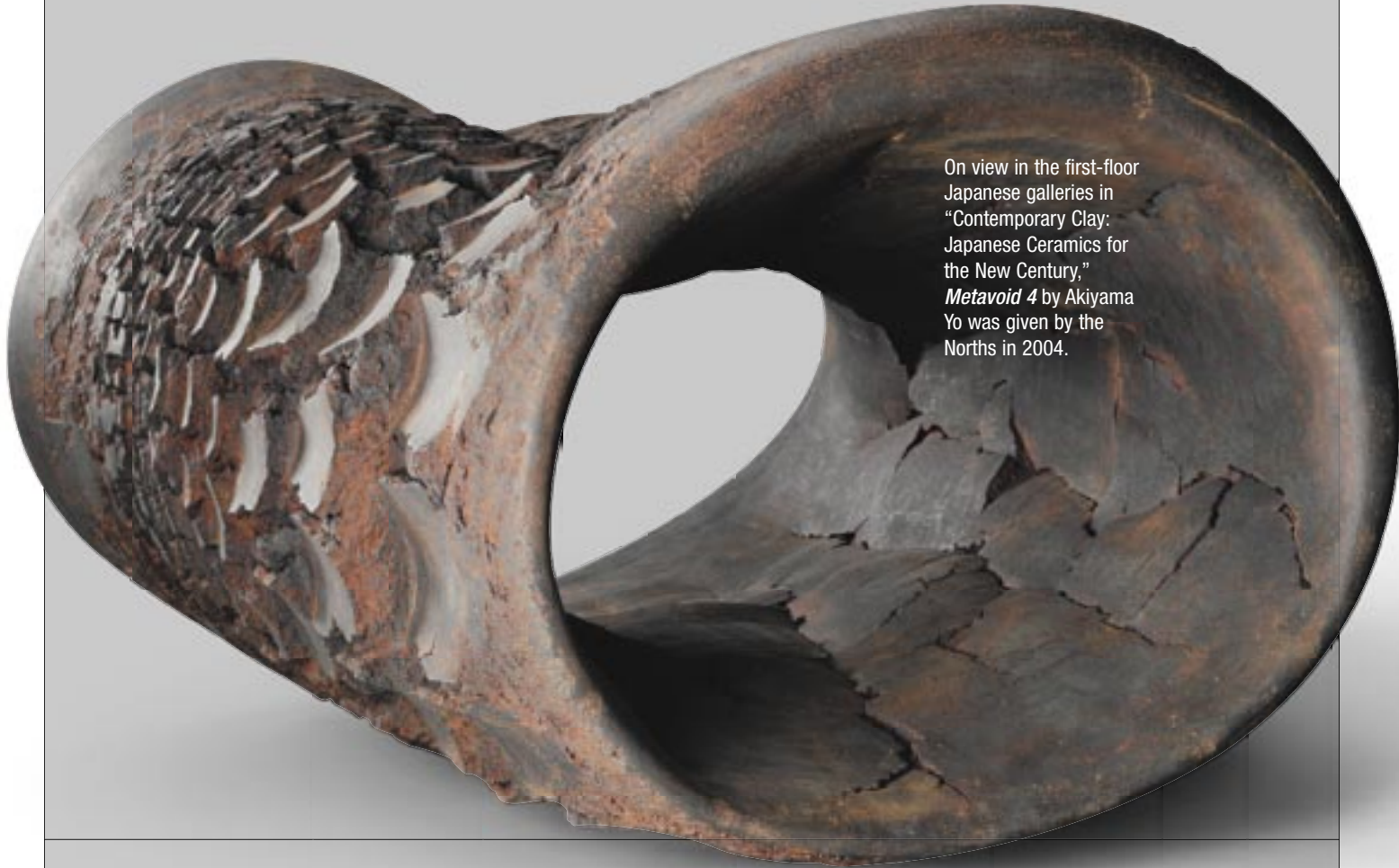


G I F T S *of* A R T

On view in the first-floor Japanese galleries in "Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century," *Metavoid 4* by Akiyama Yo was given by the Norths in 2004.

## A shared passion for ceramics inspires collectors



Halsey and Alice North

Alice and Halsey North were first introduced to Japanese ceramics in 1986 on an anniversary trip to Japan. Avid collectors of American ceramics, it seemed natural for them to begin collecting Japanese ceramics as well. They were particularly drawn to work made in Kyoto under the influence of the avant-garde Sodeisha group. The Norths found the community in Kyoto as intriguing as the work itself and they maintain close friendships with many of the artists.

The primary lenders to the exhibition "Contemporary Clay: Japanese Ceramics for the New Century," the Norths first traveled to the MFA from their home in New York to give a lecture to the Friends of Asian Art. The audience's enthusiasm as well as that of the Museum staff made a lasting impression. They remained in close contact with the department and its chair, Joe Earle, who shares his knowledge of Japanese ceramics with them. "Joe is brilliant, creative, and kind; his curatorial expertise and professionalism set the highest standards," says Halsey North.

For more information on making a gift of art, contact Gift Planning at 617-425-4047.