

## **RIVERSIDE GALLERY**

Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond TW9 1TP

**Sumiko Okubo. July 17 - Sep 18 2010**

### **A Poem of the Harvest**



Recent works by internationally acclaimed artist Sumiko Okubo, combining an array of printmaking techniques, exploring the archetypal themes of the changing seasons, the elements and the natural world.

Mon/Wed 10-6, Tue/Thur/Fri 10-5, Sat 10-1.30

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## **SUMIKO OKUBO**

### **Highly Accomplished Printmaker from Tokyo**

Sumiko Okubo's work is widely published and exhibited in Japan and abroad. She is a Director of the Japanese Art Society (Shunyokai) established in 1922 with 600 members.

Initially trained in Tokyo she also studied at the Central School of Art and Design under Norman Ackroyd (RA) and Chris Orr (RA). While living in London she exhibited at the Royal Academy and appeared on BBC television arts programmes, in the Artists Review and in Concours. She has regularly exhibited her prints and drawings (collectively called 'A Poem of Nature') in a range of UK and Japanese galleries.

Since returning to Japan she has established herself as a major influence in Japanese printmaking. Her work is inspired by the natural world combined with a deep sense of the spiritual.

However her prints are unique in that her traditional Japanese style is imbued with the western influences she absorbed during her time in London, all this beautiful work produced by woodblock and etching.

As the noted Tokyo Art Critic Kensuke Tsukada has written of her:

'The modern print techniques and influences she absorbed in London blend perfectly with the metaphysical world and the traditional sense of beauty so important in Japanese Art. It is a lyrical world derived from the luminous and misty style of the Korin School'.

Riverside Gallery, Richmond

## **Sumiko Okubo's Profile**

Born in Tokyo, Japan

Graduated Women's College of Fine Arts (Tokyo)

Worked as a Graphic Designer

**1981-'87** Lived in England, '81-83 studied at Sir John Cass College, Morley College /studied under Terry Greaves, Norman Ackroyd, Chris Orr

**1986** Completed Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design S.A.S. Printmaking (London)

### **Solo and main exhibitions**

**1984-'09** The Royal Academy Summer Exhibition,'85 The watercolor work was introduced and interviewed by BBC TV London

Prints & Printmakers from the Royal Academy, '84 Contemporary Art Exhibition (Aberystwyth art Center, Wales)

**1985-'95** Artist Prints at the Royal Festival Hall (Print Maker's Council, London), Contemporary Art collection (Gallery Regatta, Surrey)

**1986** Royal Society of Painter Etcher Engraver (Bankside Gallery, London) . Portfolio Members Exhibition of the Kew Studio (Smith's Gallery, London), Hunting Art Prize Mole Gallery, London), 4 Artists (Ice House Gallery, London), London Institute Selection of Work ( National Theatre London)

**1987** British Modern Prints Exhibition (CCAC Design Center Gallery, San Francisco), Prints & Ceramics Selection (Wandle Gallery, Surrey)

**1988-'06** Shunyokai Art Society Exhibition '92,'94,'95 Scholarship Prize '98 Shikanosuke Oka Prize (Tokyo Metropolitan Museum)

**2007-'10** Shunyokai Art Society Exhibition (The National Art Center, Tokyo)

**1989** US.UK Print Connection (Barbican Centre, London, New York)

**1990** Solo Exhibition (Tokorozawa Seibu Department Store), '90-'08 CWAJ Print Show (Tokyo American Club)

**1991,'93,'95** Solo Exhibition (Tokyo American Club Genkan Gallery), International Prints Selection (Pacific Art Gallery, Chicago/Miami)

**1992-'05** Exhibitions held by Printmaker's Council (Concourse Gallery, Curwen Gallery, Eastleigh Museum, England, Germany)

**1993** Solo Exhibition (Craft Gallery, Ketsuzan, Higashiyamato), Modern Elected Print Exhibition, Anglo German Exhibition (Concourse Gallery, London,Germany)

**1994,'97,'00** Krakow International Print Triennial (Galerie BWA/Pa ac Sztuki,

Poland)

**1996** Basel Modern Art Exhibition-7 Japanische Grafik (Galeria Pierre Rippstein, Switzerland)

**1998** '01,'04 Solo Exhibition (YOSEIDO GALLERY, Tokyo), The Works Show (The Suan Dusit Art Gallery, Bangkok), Aomori Print Grand Prix Competition(Aomori City Museum Hall, Japan),

**1999** Japan Contemporary Art Exhibition (The ChianMai University Art Museum, Thailand), '01KanaeYamamoto Print Grand Prix Competition (Ueda City Museum, Japan)

**2000** Vietnam-Thailand-Japan Modern Art Exhibition (Funabashi City Gallery, Tokyo), JDA Workshop & Installation (Park Tower, Tokyo), Contemporary Japanese Art Exhibition ? (ART BOX GALLERY, Ginza), Fan Exhibition (Gallery Anri, Nagoya)

Venus: A Centenary Exhibition (Mitsukoshi Department Gallery, Tokyo)

**2001** Facon Japon (La Galerie, France), Konoha Gallery Selection of Prints (Galerie Grand Paris, France/Konoka Gallery, Tokyo)

**2002,'05** Solo Exhibition (GALLERY UESTO, Ginza), (Gallery Artpit, Kiryu, Japan)

**2003** Shunyo ChianMai University Exhibition (The ChianMai University Art Museum, Thailand),

**2004** 4<sup>th</sup> Contemporary Artists Exhibition from Japan (Zainul Gallery, Bangladesh, organized by Chuwa Gallery, Tokyo)

**2004,'05** New Prints Exhibition (Gallery Rutan, Tokyo)

**2005** Musical images (Gallery Ichimainoe, Tokyo), Asahi A exhibition (Asahi Art Gallery, Tokyo), 5 Personalities (Ginza Towa Gallery, Tokyo),

**2006** Solo Exhibition (ART BOX GALLERY, Tokyo), GARDEN (Gallery Olive Eye, Tokyo), ART GARDEN (Shinjuku Takashimaya Department Gallery, Tokyo) ,

-----***Sumiko Okubo's Art Works "A Season of Poems" published by the ART BOX GALLERY***-----

**2007** Solo Exhibition (Gallery Olive Eye, Tokyo)

**2008** Solo Exhibition (STUDIO SIENKO GALLERY, London),(GINZA TOWA GALLERY, Tokyo)

**2009** Solo Exhibition (Gallery So, Kanazawa-city, Japan) (Gallery Olive Eye, Tokyo), Garden (Gallery Olive Eye, Tokyo)

**2009/2010 HORSE** Christmas/New Year Group Show(STUDIO SIENKO GALLERY, London)

**Many other group and solo exhibitions**

**Collections:** British Museum, Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design (London), Ogilvy & Mather Advertising (New York)

The ChianMai University Art Museum (Thailand), Imabari-city Yoshiumi Cultural Center, Imabari, Japan)

**Occupation:** Printmaker, the Director of the Shunyokai Art Society, the Supervisor of the Int'l Children's Painting Competition

of the Environment(UNEP, FGPE), Lecturer at the several art societies

(Elected as the Director of the printmaking Dept. of the Shunyokai Art Society for 2009-2010)

**Member of:** The Shunyokai Art Society, The Japan Artists' Association, British Print Makers Council, JDA Designers Association

**Homepage:** [http://homepage1.nifty.com/sumiko\\_central/](http://homepage1.nifty.com/sumiko_central/)