

# NAOKO MATSUBARA

Naoko Matsubara grew up in Kyoto, Japan where her father was a senior Shinto priest. She is considered to be one of the foremost Japanese woodcut artists in the world. She now resides in Oakville, Ontario.

## EDUCATION

- 1962 M.F.A., Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA  
Special Student, Royal College of Art, London, England
- 1960 B.F.A., Kyoto Academy of Fine Arts, Kyoto, Japan

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2021 “Woodcuts by Naoko Matsubara: In Praise of Hands,” Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, Oxford, UK
- 2019 “Lifelines: The Woodcuts of Naoko Matsubara”, Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, Oxford, UK  
Naoko Matsubara, “In Praise of Hands”, Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2017 Feature artist, Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 2016 Museum fur Ostasiatische Kunst, Berlin, Germany
- 2015 “Dancing with Wood 50 Years of Woodcuts”, Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 2012 “Odori”, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON
- 2009 “Matsubara: A Celebration in Pittsburgh”, A retrospective exhibition, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA  
“Illuminations”, Chatham University Art Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- 2008 World Washi Summit, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON
- 2007 “Art for Bloor Street: Three Collages by Naoko Matsubara”, December 2007 to May 2008, the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), Toronto, ON  
The Prince Takamodo Gallery, Canadian Embassy, Tokyo, Japan  
Galerie Gillygooly, North Hatley, QC
- 2005 “In Praise of Trees”, Winchester Galleries, Vancouver, British Columbia  
The Project Room, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, Ontario  
David Mirvish Art Books, Toronto, ON  
Azuma Gallery, Seattle, Washington, USA (Sponsored by the Seattle Art Museum)
- 2004 “Woodcuts of Naoko Matsubara”, The Carlen Gallery, Ottawa, Ontario  
Gallery Tsutsui, Tokyo, Japan
- 2003 “Tree Spirit”, The Woodcuts of Naoko Matsubara, Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), Toronto  
The Tolman Collection, Tokyo, Japan  
Original Woodcuts from new publication, “The Tales of Days Gone By.” Gallery Yugen, Ginza, Tokyo, Japan

- 2001 "Prints, Poetry & Play", fundraiser for the Oakville YMCA, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, Ontario
- 1999 "Naoko Matsubara: New Prints", Exhibition at Yamasou Bijutsu, Kyoto, sponsored by Gallery Tsutsui, Tokyo.
- 1997 Dofasco Gallery, Dundas, Ontario  
"Tibetan Sky", Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, Ontario
- 1995 Casa de la Cultura Oaxaquena, Oaxaca, Mexico  
Davidson Galleries, Seattle WA, USA
- 1993 Blackwood Gallery, The University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario
- 1992 Crawford Municipal Gallery, Cork, Ireland  
Swansea Arts Workshop Gallery, Swansea, South Wales
- 1991 The Oriental Museum, University of Durham, Durham, England  
Foyer Gallery, University of Ulster, Ulster, Northern Ireland  
Antrim Forum, Antrim, Ireland  
Graphic Workshop Gallery, Dublin, Ireland
- 1990 Vancouver Art Gallery, Vancouver, BC, Canada  
The Justina M. Barnicke Gallery, Hart House, University of Toronto, Toronto  
The Art Gallery at the Ottawa School of Art, Ottawa, ON, Canada  
Annex Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 1989-92 Gallery Tsutsui, Tokyo, Japan
- 1989 The McGill Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 1987 The City Hall Gallery, Naha, Okinawa, Japan  
Nihonbashi Takashimaya, Tokyo, Japan
- 1986 Philadelphia Print Club, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA  
Art Front Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland
- 1982 Capen Gallery, State University of New York, Buffalo, NY, USA
- 1981 Wako, Tokyo, Japan
- 1980 Embassy of Japan, Ottawa, ON, Canada
- 1979 Art Gallery of Hamilton, (retrospective show), Hamilton, ON, Canada  
Gallery Moos, Toronto, ON, Canada  
Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, USA
- 1978 Barbara Fiedler Gallery, Washington, D.C., USA
- 1978,80,84,86 The Tolmann Collection, Tokyo, Japan
- 1978, 9 Gallery Brand, Oakville, ON, Canada
- 1977 Suzuki Graphics Gallery, New York, NY, USA
- 1976, 77 'Mokuhan' travelling show: Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, BC  
University of British Columbia, BC  
Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, MB  
Glenbow Art Gallery, Calgary, AB
- 1975, 87 Gairloch Art Gallery, Oakville, ON, Canada
- 1975 Gallery Graphics, Ottawa, ON, Canada
- 1974 Hart House Gallery, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada
- 1971 Providence Athenaeum, Providence, Rhode Island, USA
- 1970, 71 American Cultural Centres: Kyoto, Sapporo, Fukuoka, Japan
- 1970 Galerie Colibri, Puerto Rico, USA  
Wiggin Gallery, Boston Public Library, Boston, MA, USA

- Ichibankan Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
 1969,71,74,77 Art/Asia, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA  
 1969 Haus Dornbusch, Frankfurt, Germany  
 Atelier Incontro, Vienna, Austria  
 1968 Pforzheim Museum, Pforzheim, Germany  
 1967, 74 The Campus Gallery, Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania, USA  
 1966 Wilburt Art Gallery, New York, NY, USA  
 1965 Galerie Viruly, Amsterdam, Holland  
 1962, 80 Hewlett Gallery, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 “Washi 和紙: Japanese paper art, connecting cultures, countreis and generations”  
 Naoko Matsubara and Alexa Hatanaka, Nikkei National Museum and Cultural  
 Centre, Burnaby, BC, Canada  
 2021 “Flowers That Last”, Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada  
 2018 “Abbozzo Gallery 25th Anniversary Group Exhibition,” Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto,  
 ON  
 “Spaces, Places, & Faces”, Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada  
 “The Future is Female: Prints by Women Artists,” Lehigh University Art Galleries  
 (LUAG), Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA  
 2017 “Celebrating Canada”, Abbozzo Gallery, Toronto, ON, Canada  
 “Visual Poetry”, Naoko Matsubara, Tom Hammick, Donna Ibing, Burlington Art  
 Centre, Burlington, ON  
 2014-15 “Breaking Barriers: Japanese Women Print Artists 1950 – 2000”, Portland Art  
 Museum, OR  
 2013 “Prints Today 2013”, (with members of RCA Ontario), Stewart Art, Pointe Claire,  
 QC  
 2012 Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON  
 “Xilogravura Matrice Stilistica 6”, Visual Art Museum, Galati, Romania  
 2011 “The Marguerite Michaels Collection: Japanese Prints of the 1960s and c1970s”, Art  
 Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL  
 2008 World Washi Summit, The Japanese Paper Place, Toronto, ON  
 Exhibition of self-portraits, Royal Canadian Academy members, Toronto, ON  
 2007 ‘Jazz on the Walls’, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON  
 ‘The Oakville Show’, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON  
 ‘Flowers that Last’, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON  
 ‘White’, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON  
 New York – Praha, Amerika Grafica of SAGA, Galerie HOLLAR, Praha, Czech  
 Republic  
 ‘On the Cutting Edge’, Library of Congress, Washington, DC, USA  
 Modern Japanese prints 1868-1989, Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh, PA, USA  
 2006 Print Show, Art Exchange, London, ON  
 “The Power of Two,” The Japanese Paper Place, Toronto; Maclaren Art Centre,  
 Oshawa, ON

- 2005 Toronto International Art Fair, Toronto, ON  
 “Made in Japan: The Postwar Creative Print Movement”, Milwaukee Art Museum, Milwaukee, WI, USA
- 2004 “Honoring Tradition, Perspectives of Three Asian American Artists: Indira Johnson, Naoko Matsubara and Komelia Okim” Ball State University Museum of Art, Muncie, IN, USA  
 Oakville Galleries, Oakville, ON
- 2003 “10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Exhibition”, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON  
 ‘Water’, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON An exhibition in conjunction with The Water Project initiated by The Ontario Society of Artists
- 2000 “Paperworks”, Invitational Group Paperworks Exhibition, Burlington Cultural Centre, Burlington, Ontario
- 1999 “Through the Medium of Wood”, woodcuts by Matsubara, wooden sculpture by Sandy Van Ginkel, the Japan Foundation, Toronto, Ontario  
 “Seven Contemporary Japanese Women Print Artists”, sponsored by CWAJ (American Club Gallery), Tokyo
- 1998 “les Femmeuses ’98.” Pratt and Whitney Canada, Québec  
 “Earth” (RCA Members). John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON
- 1995 ‘Tradition Made Modern’, Princeton University Library Gallery, Princeton, NJ, USA  
 Yale University Art Gallery, New Haven, CT, USA
- 1994 ‘Japan Now: Three Women Printmakers’ (Toko Shinoda, Reika Iwami & Naoko Matsubara), Charlotte NC, USA  
 ‘Celebrating Ontario’, The Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System Art Collection, Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery, Owen Sound, ON  
 ‘Modern Japanese Prints 1912-1989’, British Museum, London, England
- 1993 ‘Trees’ (Matsubara and Sunderland) (travelling exhibition):  
 Bishop's University, Artist's Centre, Lennoxville, Que  
 Stewart Art Centre, Pt. Claire, Que  
 ‘Canadian Historical Prints’, Abbozzo Gallery, Oakville, ON
- 1992 ‘Three Women Artists’ (dePedery Hunt, Kirwin, Matsubara), John B. Aird Gallery, Toronto, ON  
 ‘Works from the Permanent Collection’, Meguro Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 1990 ‘Contemporary Japanese Prints’ (Matsubara and Fudezuka), The Art Gallery, at The Ottawa School of Art, Ottawa, ON  
 Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati OH, USA
- 1989 ‘Modern Japanese Prints’, Portland Museum of Art, Portland OR, USA
- 1987 ‘Royal Canadian Academy of Arts Exhibition’, Academy House, Toronto, ON
- 1983 Seoul International Print Biennale, Seoul, Korea  
 ‘Japanese Prints since 1900’, British Museum, London England
- 1980 ‘4 Artists in Wood’, City of Brampton Library and Art Gallery, Brampton, ON
- 1978 ‘The Japanese Prints’ from The James Austin Collection, Carnegie Institute of Art, Pittsburgh PA, USA
- 1977-78 ‘The Japanese Canadian Centennial Art Exhibition in Ontario’ (travelling exhibition)  
 The Macdonald Gallery, Toronto, ON

- S.A.W. Gallery, Ottawa, ON  
 Algoma Art Gallery, Sault Ste. Marie, ON  
 Kitchener-Waterloo Gallery, Waterloo, ON  
 Lindsay Gallery, Lindsay, ON  
 Thames Gallery, Chatham, ON
- 1977 'Moderne Japanische Grafik', Stadtischen Museum, Gottingen, West Germany  
 1976-77 'MOKUHAN, Woodcuts of Munakata & Matsubara' (travelling exhibition):  
 Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria, BC  
 Art Gallery, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC  
 Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, MB  
 Glenbow Art Gallery, Calgary, AB
- 1976 'Imprint '76', The Print and Drawing Council of Canada, Art Gallery of Ontario  
 Toronto, ON
- 1976 'Contemporary Relief Prints' (9 artists), Hiestand Gallery, Miami University,  
 Oxford OH, USA
- 1975 'Inaugural Exhibition' Grey Art Museum, New York University, New York, NY,  
 USA
- 1975 'Graphic Images of Japan' from The Tolman Collection, The Asia Foundation, San  
 Francisco Ca, USA
- 1973 'Japanese Artists in Americas', The National Museums of Modern Art, Tokyo &  
 Kyoto, Japan
- 1972 Exposicao de Cinco Gravadores Contemporaneos Americanos, Galeria Conizares,  
 Brazil
- 1971 'Three Generations' (Un'ichi Hiratsuka, Shiko Munakata, Naoko Matsubara),  
 Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati OH, USA
- 1970 'Three Contemporary Printmakers' (Omar Rayo, George Nama, Naoko Matsubara),  
 The Michael Berger Gallery, Pittsburgh PA, USA
- 1969 'Exposition Internationale de Gravure sur Bois XYLON', Musee D'Art et  
 D'Histoire, Geneva, Switzerland, & Kongresshalle Berlin, West Germany
- 1967-95 Society of American Graphic Artists Annual Shows, New York, NY, USA  
 1966 'Japanese Twentieth Century Prints', Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University,  
 Cambridge, MA, USA
- 1963-68, 70,  
 74,75,85, College Women's Association of Japan, Annual Show, Tokyo, Japan  
 1963 The Hangainten, Toyko, Japan

## **AWARDS, COMMISSIONS, APPOINTMENTS**

- 2018 Premier's Awards for Excellence in the Arts Laureates, Visual Arts Recipient  
 2014 Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan  
 Oakville Arts Council Lifetime Achievement Award
- 2011 'Aquatic Movement', commissioned for the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre by the city of  
 St. Catharines, Ontario
- 2010 Distinguished Career Award, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
 2009 Honourary Doctorate, Chatham University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

- 2008 Canadian Smooth Jazz Award, commissioned by Abbozzo Gallery and WAVE 94.7 Smooth Jazz radio, Hamilton, Ontario
- 2007 Three large panels commissioned by the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, for long-term display in the Bloor Street window of the new Asian Galleries  
Canadian Smooth Jazz Award, commissioned by Abbozzo Gallery and WAVE 94.7 Smooth Jazz radio, Hamilton, Ontario
- 2006 Canadian Smooth Jazz Award, commissioned by Abbozzo Gallery and WAVE 94.7 Smooth Jazz radio, Hamilton, Ontario
- 2005 Canadian Smooth Jazz Award, commissioned by Abbozzo Gallery and WAVE 94.7 Smooth Jazz radio, Hamilton, Ontario
- 2004 Sponsorship Award for the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, Oakville, ON  
'Lakeside Icicles', Community Spirit Award, Town of Oakville, ON
- 2002 Mural Commission, lobby, new YMCA, Oakville, ON
- 2001 Donor Recognition Wall, commissioned by the Oakville Y.M.C.A.
- 1993 'Christmas Kite', woodcut Christmas Card commissioned by Abbozzo Gallery
- 1990 Tree Spirit, 30 minute documentary video, produced by CBC TV
- 1983 30 minute Documentary, New Jersey Educational Television
- 1982 Ontario Arts Council Grant
- 1981 Elected Member, Royal Canadian Academy of Art.
- 1976 Canada Council grant for travelling exhibition and publication of catalogue
- 1970 30 minute Documentary Film by Boston Educational TV Station
- 1967 Award, Annual Exhibition, Society of American Graphic Artists (invited member)  
Commission by UNESCO for the Geneva Peace Conference Graphic Show, Switzerland
- 1964 30 minute Documentary Film, CBC TV (in Kyoto, Japan)
- 1963 Kegot Awards, Nihon Hangainten, Tokyo
- 1962 Invited Special Student, Royal College of Art, London, England
- 1961-62 Graduate Assistantship, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA
- 1961-63 Fulbright Travel Grant, USA
- 1960 Mural Commission: Cafeteria, Kyoto University Hospital, Kyoto, Japan

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 "In Praise of Hands: Woodcuts by Naoko Matsubara with poems by Penny Boxall", Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford
- 2007 "A Crystal Clear Woodcut Collage" (Peter Goddard), *The Toronto Star*, Toronto ON  
"Living in Canada for 35 years, Recent Works by Matsubara at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo" (Norio Iromoto), *The Nikka Times*, Toronto, ON
- 2006 'Deep Groove', enRoute Magazine, February 2006
- 2005 "Artscene. The Art of Naoko Matsubara" (by Mandi Hargrave). *The Oakville Beaver*, Oakville, ON  
"Nihon gendai hanga-ten ni manekarete... supēsu no omoshirosa, tanoshisa, kōsai no utsukushisa ni kyōtan – Miruuōkī Bijutsukan." *The Nikka Times* (Toronto)

- 2004 “Three Asian Artists. A View from the East” (by Erin Moody). *72 Hours*. Ball State University  
 “Munakata and Matsubara: An Artist’s Memoir.” *Impressions*. The Journal of the Ukiyo-e Society of America, Inc. (New York), No. 26. pp. 89 – 93.  
 “A Tribute to John Rosenfield from an Artist”. *Orientalions* (Hong Kong), Vol. 35, No. 1 (January/ February), pp. 70 – 71.
- 2003 “Tree spirit: the woodcuts of Naoko Matsubara”, Naoko Matsubara, Arlene Gehmacher, Klaas Ruitenbeek, Royal Ontario Museum.  
 “Tales of Days Gone By”, Woodcuts by Naoko Matsubara, English translation by Charles de Wolf, of selected tales of early Japanese folklore.
- 2002 “The Tales of Days Gone By.” Tokyo: Alis.
- 2000 “Oakville Woodcuts” a series of scenes and impressions of Oakville.  
 “In Praise of Hands”, a book of 22 original woodcuts of the hands series executed between 1974 and 1998, to be published by Mosaic Press.  
 “Konjakumonogatari”, 11<sup>th</sup> Century Japanese Folktales, 18 original woodcuts accompanied by Japanese and English text, Alis Publishers, Tokyo.
- 1999 “Tokonoma”, Limited Edition Portfolio of 20 original colour woodcuts accompanied by 20 verses by poet James Kirkup, The Old School Press, Bath, U.K.
- 1997 ‘Tibetan Sky’, (text by David Waterhouse & Pratapaditya Pal; forward by His Holiness Tenzin Gyatso, 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama of Tibet). Calgary, AB: Bayeux Arts Inc.  
 ‘In Praise of Hands’, (In course of publication.)  
 ‘Konjaku monogalari’, ALIS, Tokyo. (In course of publication.)
- 1986 ‘In Praise of Trees’, (text edited by Peter Heyworth) (Limited edition portfolio.) Oakville, ON: Mosaic Press.
- 1985 ‘In-Whan and the Peachtree’, (text by Caroline Garrett). (Limited edition, signed.) Columbus OH: Logan Press, Ohio State University
- 1984 ‘In Praise of Trees’, (text edited by Peter Heyworth). Oakville, ON: Mosaic Press.
- 1978 ‘Kyoto Woodcuts’, (text by Bunso Jugaku). Tokyo: Kodansha International Ltd
- 1971 ‘Solitude’, (text from Walden, by Henry David Thoreau. (Portfolio of twelve original woodcuts.) New York: Aquarius Press  
 ‘Insect Summer’, (text by James Kirkup). New York: Alfred A Knopf.
- 1970 ‘Boston Impressions’, (text by Sinclair Hitchings). Barre, Ma: Barre publishers
- 1968 ‘Nantucket Woodcuts’, (text by Fritz Eichenberg). Barre, MA: Barre Publishers  
 ‘Die Geschichte von Bambussammler und dem Madchen Kaguya’, (German translation by Hisako Matsubara). Munchen: Verlag Langewiesche-Brandt.
- 1967 Award, Annual Exhibition, Society of American Graphic Artists (invited member)
- 1966 ‘The Tale of the Shining Princess’, (text by Hisako Matsubara). Tokyo: Kodansha International Ltd.
- 1964 ‘Tu Tze-Chun’, (text by Akutagawa Ryunosuke; English translation by Dorothy Britton). Tokyo: Kodansha International Ltd.
- 1963 ‘My Woodcuts and Myself’, Texas Quarterly (Austin: University of Texas Press).

## SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Albertina, Vienna  
American Club, Tokyo, Japan  
Art Gallery of Greater Victoria, Victoria BC  
Art Gallery of Hamilton, ON  
Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia  
Ashmolean Museum, Oxford University, Oxford, UK  
Boston Public Library, Boston, Mass., USA  
British Museum, London, England  
Brooklyn Museum, New York, NY, USA  
Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA  
Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio, USA  
Columbia University, New York, NY, USA  
Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit, Michigan, USA  
DeYoung Memorial Museum, San Francisco, California, USA  
Embassy of Canada, Tokyo, Japan  
Embassy of Japan, Ottawa, ON, Canada  
Fogg Art Museum, Harvard University, Cambridge MA  
Gairloch Art Gallery, Oakville, ON, Canada  
Haifa Museum, Haifa, Israel  
Hamburg Museum of Arts and Crafts, Hamburg, Germany  
Klingspor Museum, Klingspor, Germany  
Kyoto National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Japan  
Library of Congress, Washington, D.C., USA  
McDonald Stewart Art Centre, Guelph, ON, Canada  
McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada  
Meguro Museum, Tokyo  
Metropolitan Toronto Library, Toronto, ON, Canada  
Museum fur Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg, Germany  
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Mass., USA  
National Library of Canada, Ottawa, ON, Canada  
New York Public Library, New York, NY, USA  
New York University, New York NY  
Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania, USA  
Pforzheim Museum, Pforzheim, Germany  
Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, PA  
Princeton University Library, Princeton, NJ, USA  
Public Works and Government Services Canada  
Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Canada  
The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.  
The Smithsonian Institute, Washington, DC  
The White House, Washington, D.C., USA  
Tokyo National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo  
University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI  
University of Toronto, Toronto, ON



Winnipeg Art Gallery, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
Worcester Art Museum, Worcester, MA  
Yale University Art Gallery

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

1965-2000	Burlington Art Centre, Burlington, ON	University of Victoria, Victoria, BC
	Inuit Art Workshop, Cape Dorset, NWT	University of Guelph, Guelph, ON
	Pratt Graphic Center, New York, NY, USA	
	University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI, USA	