

## KYOKO IMAZU

*Kyoko Imazu is a Melbourne based artist born in Japan whose dreamlike work encompasses a range of mediums including printmaking, papercut, puppetry, bookbinding, ceramics and installation. Inspired by the tiny creatures of our natural world, as well as characters from Japanese folklore, Kyoko tells whimsical stories of exploration and adventure. As she says, "I'm interested in paying attention to our tiny neighbours: the weeds, bugs and pebbles that fill our everyday lives. When you look closely, it's incredible to realise how everything is so different – every petal, leaf and wing is miraculously unique. These beings and objects all have their own stories and universes within themselves, containing many states of life, death and regeneration." The intriguing nature of her work draws the audience in, opening up new worlds and perspectives.*

*Kyoko graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Printmaking from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in 2007. In the last decade she has been included in over 100 exhibitions throughout the Asia-Pacific region and the USA. Kyoko has undertaken numerous residencies and, in 2017, she was awarded a fellowship by the State Library Victoria to undertake a residency at Baldessin Press & Studio. In 2019, she was a finalist in the Geelong Acquisitive Print Awards, Megalo International Print Prize and the Fremantle Arts Centre Print Awards. Her works are held in several public collections including the National Gallery of Australia, National Library of Australia, State Library of Queensland and State Library of Victoria.*

### BIOGRAPHY

- 2007 Bachelor of Fine Art (Printmaking), RMIT University, Melbourne
- 2013 Artist in Residence, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne  
Artist in Residence, The Art Vault, Mildura, NSW
- 2014 Bookbinding workshop, Australian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne  
Drawing and bookbinding workshops, Japanese School of Melbourne  
Artist in Residence, Melbourne Athenaeum Library  
Artist in Residence, The Art Vault, Mildura, NSW
- 2015 Printmaking workshops at University of Visual and Performing Arts and Mullegama Art Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- 2016 Puppetry training workshop, Spare Parts Puppet Theatre, Melbourne  
Book illustration for a published picture book 'Following' Episodic Press / Jeff Maser Booksellers, Berkeley, USA  
Tutor, 'Following a rabbit', artist books and paper-cut workshop, Signal, Melbourne  
Tutor / Artist in Residence, St Monica's College, Melbourne
- 2017 Tutor, Puppetry workshops, Artplay, Melbourne  
Tutor, Puppetry workshop, Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
Tutor, Ceramic workshops, Northcote Pottery Supplies, Melbourne  
Artist in Residence, Baldessin Press and Studio, Vic
- 2018 Print studio technician, RMIT University, Melbourne  
Tutor, Puppetry workshops, City of Dandenong, Melbourne

### SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2022 "Small big things", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Hiding spots", Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2021 "Mayflies and stars", Artspace at Realm, Maroondah City Council, Vic  
Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2019 "In the neighbourhood", West Gallery, Thebarton, Adelaide
- 2017 "The Wild Things", Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
"Secret Stories", Solander Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
"Still-Summer", AG Gallery, New York, United States  
"Come out to play", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne
- 2016 "Autumn Moon", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne  
"Storytellers", Megalo Print Studio + Gallery, Canberra  
"Small gathering", Consulate General of Japan, Melbourne
- 2015 "Call of the Wild", Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
"World of Kyoko Imazu", AG Gallery, New York, USA
- 2014 "Tunnel books and Other Illuminations", Melbourne Athenaeum Library, Melbourne
- 2013 "Feathers and Fur", Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
"Animalis", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne  
"Adore", Bird's Gallery, Melbourne  
"Mammals from Melbourne Museum", Consulate General of Japan, Melbourne
- 2011 "In the Neighbourhood", Brunswick Street Gallery, Melbourne

"Six Realms", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne

**SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS**

- 2023 "Small works", Beaver Galleries, Canberra
- 2021 "Kyoko Imazu x Naoko Tsurudome", Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
"MONO", (online) Australian Galleries, Melbourne
- 2020 "Megalo International Print Prize", Megalo Print Studio and Gallery, Canberra
- 2019 "Paper: cut, stain, fold, press", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Place less", M16, Canberra  
Historia Print Exchange, Queenscliff Gallery & Workshop, Vic  
"About the land", Australian Galleries, Melbourne  
"Wings", Falkner Gallery, Castlemaine, Vic  
Megalo International Print Prize, Megalo Print Studio+Gallery, Canberra  
"Beyond reason", QUT Art Museum, Brisbane
- 2018 "Small works 2018", Beaver Galleries, Canberra  
"Turn three times before laying down", Gallery 152, York Western Australia  
"Odile", Heritage Hill Museum and Historic Gardens and various locations in City of Dandenong, Melbourne  
"Through a glass darkly", Collins Place Gallery, Melbourne  
"Editions 18", Tacit Contemporary Art, Melbourne
- 2017 "Eight Victorian Printmakers", West Gallery Thebarton, SA  
"Imagined Worlds", City of Glen Eira Gallery, Melbourne  
"Drink", Wishart Gallery, Melbourne  
"Restless Nature", Collins Place Gallery, Melbourne  
"Home", shadow puppetry installation, City of Glen Eira Gallery, Melbourne  
"Travelling Home", Lulu Gallery, Melbourne  
"Memento Mori", In.cube8r gallery, Melbourne  
"Paradise", Peanut Gallery, Adelaide  
"Editions 2017", Tacit Contemporary Art, Melbourne
- 2016 "From a Home to a Home", Brunswick Street Gallery, Melbourne  
"Outside the Box", No Vacancy Gallery, Melbourne Australia  
"Of Land and Sea", Peanut Gallery, Adelaide  
"Introductions 2016", Davidson Galleries, Seattle, USA  
"Draw me a story", Blarney Books and Art presented by Customs House Gallery, Melbourne  
"House of Dreams (Museum installation)", Johnston Collection, Melbourne  
"Joker's Wild", Quirky Fox, Taranaki, New Zealand  
"Retrospective", Printmaker gallery, Melbourne  
"Awake", Off the Kerb Gallery, Melbourne  
"Animal Instinct", Metropolis Gallery, Geelong, VIC  
"Editions 2016", Tacit Contemporary Art, Melbourne
- 2015 "Made by Hand", Solander Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
"Core", Waiheke Community Art Gallery, Waiheke Island, New Zealand  
"Zodiac and 2 x 2", Solander Gallery, Wellington, New Zealand  
"Zodiac", Sofitel Sydney, Sydney  
"Curious Arrangement", Australian Print Workshop, Melbourne  
"Zine scene", Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
"Editions", Tacit Contemporary Art, Melbourne
- 2014 "HiBird", Bird's Gallery, Melbourne  
"Flyway Print Exchange", Adelaide Festival Centre and No Vacancy Gallery, Federation Square, Melbourne  
"Along the River", Sofitel Hotel, Melbourne  
"13 Melbourne Printmakers", Rathdowne Galleries, Melbourne  
"Words for missing types", Minna no ie Cadatte, Iwate, Japan  
"Along the River", Aesop Kawaramachi, Kyoto, Japan  
"Fertile Ground", Australian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne  
"Life Along the River", Odd One Out, Hong Kong  
"Women in the Arts: Booked", Knock Knock Contemporary Artists' Initiative, Cairns, QLD  
"Editions", Tacit Contemporary Art, Melbourne  
"Along the River", Aesop Shibuya store, Tokyo

- 2013 "Tiny Universes", Tooth + Nail Studio Gallery, Adelaide  
"Words for missing types", Bakurocho Art+Eat, Tokyo, Japan  
"The Bird room", Faulkner Gallery, Castlemaine, VIC  
"Along the river", Art Vault, Mildura, NSW  
"New Bestiarum", Boom Gallery, Geelong, VIC  
"5 Press on!", Printmaker Gallery, Melbourne  
"Editions", Tacit Contemporary Art, Melbourne  
"Meet in the middle", Sofitel Hotel, Melbourne
- 2012 "Fremantle Print Award", Fremantle Arts Centre, Melbourne  
"Calacas International Print Exchange", Expressions Graphics, Illinois, USA  
"Flora, Fauna, and Fantasy", Gordon Edgerton Gallery, Gordon, VIC  
"100 Works on Paper", Kentler Gallery, New York USA  
"Talking of a Chameleon", Perimeter Books, Melbourne  
"7th Annual Artist Book Exhibition", Artisan Books, Melbourne  
"Pursuit Delhi", India Art Fair  
"Collaborate", Japan Foundation Gallery, Sydney
- 2011 "Installation and Exhibition", Aesop Aoyama, Tokyo, Japan  
"A Happy Medium", Solander Works on Paper, Wellington, New Zealand  
"Damon Kowarsky & Kyoko Imazu Collaborate", Port Jackson Press, Melbourne  
"Manly Library Artist Book Award", Manly Library, Sydney
- 2010 "Carbon Co-Dependence", Platform, Melbourne  
"Insert Coin Here", CBD, Melbourne
- 2009 "Geelong Acquisitive Print Awards", Geelong Gallery, Melbourne  
"35th Anniversary Showa Bijutsu-kai", Kyoto Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan  
"Art Mirai", National Art Centre, Tokyo, Japan  
"Second Nature", Bus Projects, Melbourne

**AWARDS / COMMISSIONS**

- 2019 Finalist, Megalo International Print Prize, Megalo Print Studio+Gallery, Canberra  
Finalist, Fremantle Arts Centre Print Awards
- 2018 Garner Lane Light boxes, City of Dandenong, Melbourne  
Clifton Street Children's Centre mural (with Tom Civil), Melbourne
- 2017 Lightbox project, City of Yarra, Melbourne  
Gertrude Street Projection Festival, Melbourne  
Fellowship at State Library of Victoria Amor Residency at Baldessin Press Studio, Melbourne
- 2016 Johnston Collection House Museum installation, Melbourne  
ANZAC Centenary Commemorative Project, Melbourne  
Collaborative mural at Angliss Childcare, Melbourne
- 2014 Australian Print Workshop Dowd Foundation Scholarship
- 2013 Arts Victoria Arts Development grant (with Damon Kowarsky)
- 2011 Japan Foundation Sydney Facetate! New Visual Artists Grant
- 2008 Firestation Print Studio Award

**PUBLICATIONS**

- 2022 "Kyoko Imazu", Artist Profile, <https://artistprofile.com.au/kyoko-imazu/>
- 2019 "Many magical ways to use paper", Kerry-Anne Cousins, Canberra Times
- 2018 "Reconfiguring Familiar Worlds with Light Projection: The Gertrude Street Projection Festival", T. Edensor and S. Sumartojo, GeoHumanities Journal, 1 May
- 2016 "Storytellers by Kyoko Imazu at Megalo Print Gallery in Kingston is memorable", Sasha Grishin, Canberra Times, 8 July
- 2016 Interview on SBS Japanese radio Melbourne, H. Nagao, 18 February  
"Mural marks 25 years of Angliss Children's Centre" B. Miller, Star Weekly, 17 February
- 2014 "Artists inspired by Asian Culture", A. Brookes, Sunraysia Daily, 18 August  
"Art goes underground after dark", K. Northover, Sydney Morning Herald, 22 July
- 2013 "Pair share river vision", G. McLeod, Sunraysia Daily, 11 July  
"Drawn in by Kyoto", Stonnington Review, 6 March  
"Stuffed with love" and "Appropriate Vandalism", T. Noriko, GoGo Melbourne/Japan in Melbourne, February

- 2012 "Aesop: A Quiet Empire", D. Rule, Broadsheet, Melbourne, March  
"Appropriate Vandalism", D. Hagger, IMPRINT, Autumn  
"Collaborate" A. Ando, The-One, Sydney, April  
"Collaborate" JamsTV, 24 February  
"Street level with Damon Kowarsky and Kyoko Imazu", The Brag, Sydney, 22 February
- 2011 "Gambit" SJ Finch, [Ed] Dotdotdash 08, Summer pp16-17  
"Golem and the Sufi" M. Korp, New York, November  
Studio Voice, October  
"Printmakers heart Aesop", M. Coson, Broadsheet Melbourne 23 June  
Interview on SBS Japanese Radio Melbourne, H. Nagao, 21 June  
"Damon Kowarsky and Kyoko Imazu Collaborate" Y. Kohchi, GoGo Melbourne, May

**COLLECTIONS**

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra; National Library of Australia, Canberra; State Library of Queensland, Brisbane; State Library Victoria, Melbourne; Melbourne Athenaeum Library; RMIT University, Melbourne; Sydney College of the Arts; Gippsland Art Gallery, VIC