

Abstract expression in Woodblock print dyeing



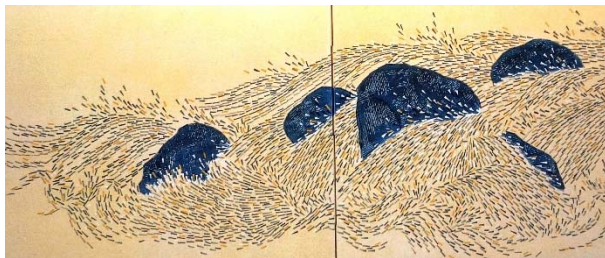
Why abstract expression?

In Japan, visual expressions on kimono fabrics are often taken as an equivalent of abstract paintings; Kimono fabrics with their beautiful colours and conceptual shapes evoke exciting feelings in viewers in the same way fine paintings do. Also, images on kimonos tend to be more ambiguous

than realistic paintings so, when they are worn as garments, they flatter human faces and bodies. Kimono fabric making artists have been passionate about creating the most beautiful and new abstract imageries on fabric and have developed



techniques that interpret their visions. Master Koyama established his own abstract style by evolving ancient Japanese dyeing techniques.



Tetsuo encourages the students to make their own designs by exploring their frames of mind, imagery and themes; he says that each person will naturally discover their own expression using just a small number of woodblocks.



Contents of the workshop

Date: September 22nd, 23rd and 30th 10 am - 5 pm

Day 1: After the final discussion of your design with Tetsuo, trace the design onto 15" x 23" fine cotton fabric using a brush and spiderwort extract. Trace the patterns onto yellow cedar and then carve woodblocks.

Day 2: Mix colours of the pigments and print patterns with woodblocks. Mask the patterns with rice glue.

Day 3: Apply base coat and background dye.

Prior to the three-day workshop, registered participants will be provided one orientation meeting with Yuko Yamamoto, Tetsuo's former student and teaching assistant. Yuko will guide each person in preparing individual designs to bring to the first day of the workshop.

On October 1st (1 pm to 3 pm), all the participants are invited to the closing event where we will appreciate each other's accomplishments at Judy Brayden's beautiful house and garden



Fee and registration

- **Participation fee: \$395 includes the materials, rental tools and home-made Japanese-Canadian lunches.**

- **Location: Yuko's home studio (1576 Escarpment Way, Duncan, BC, V9L 5W7).**

- **Email yuko@sewyuzen.com to register and send \$100 cheque to Yuko Yamamoto. If you do not hear from Yuko within a couple of days after sending your email, please call her at 778-422-1955.**