



GAIA SYMPHONY

Hanna Yokozawa Farquharson

September 7 — October 21, 2021

About *Gaia Symphony*

This exhibition invites the viewer to listen to the symphony played by Gaia, our planet earth. Viewing this presentation of Gaia with our eyes, we are enabled to hear the music of Gaia as if with our ears and ultimately our inner being. This is related to 観音 (Kan-Non), meaning see the sounds. Kannon is a Bodhisattva who sees the sounds, listens to the voice of the universe, and conveys it to the ground.
(HYF)

The works in this exhibition use antique kimonos that are carefully taken apart and reconstructed. Rigorously produced in serial formats, they are substantially allied to the minimalist tradition; the artist writes about her great admiration for the Saskatchewan-born artist, Agnes Martin. These beautiful, meticulously crafted works draw on the artist's deep respect for, and knowledge of Japan's iconic garment. As a young woman, she attended kimono classes and recalls how beautifully her mother's hands moved when folding and caring for her own kimonos.

The aesthetic spirits that guide Hanna Yokozawa Farquharson's approach to work include *wabi-sabi* (embracing transience and imperfection) and *mono no aware* (the pathos and measured surprise ["ahh-ness"] of things).

*My Art is never negative but full of Happiness within.
My Art is based on Happiness.
Happiness is not superficial,
it is about serenity and harmony, belonging and knowing purpose and place.*
(HYF)

Hanna emigrated from Japan in 2011 and lives in Saltcoats, SK with her husband and children. She started producing textile work in 2016. Although her first solo exhibition was shown quite recently (Godfrey Dean Art Gallery, Yorkton, SK, 2020), a groundswell of admiration and recognition for her work is quickly building. She has shown her quilts at festivals and exhibitions around the world, and she was recently short-listed for the 2021, RBC Emerging Artist Award, Saskatchewan.

Image: installation view of *Gaia Symphony* in the Project Space