

# Aiko Tezuka

Born 1976, Tokyo, Japan  
Live and works in Berlin, Germany

- 1999 BA in Painting, Musashino Art University, Tokyo, Japan
- 2001 MA in Painting, Musashino Art University, Tokyo, Japan
- 2005 Ph.D in Painting, Art Research Department, Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto, Japan



Photo: Oliver Mark

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2013 *Rewoven*, Galerie Michael Janssen, Berlin, Germany
- Ghost - Suspended Organs*, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany
- Ghost - Suspended Organs*, Mikiko Sato Gallery, Hamburg, Germany
- 2011 *Prism Lag*, Asahi Beer Oyamazaki Villa Museum, Kyoto, Japan
- 2009 *Fragile Surface - Cat's Cradle*, KENJI TAKI Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008 *Aiko Tezuka*, Dai-ichi Life Insurance Company South Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2007 *Sewing up, in between Ghosts*, Fuchu Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- Thin Film, Underground Forest*, SPIRAL/Wacoal Art Centre, Tokyo, Japan

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2014 *Japanische Gegenwartskunst und Textil*, Mikiko Sato Gallery, Hamburg, Germany
- Installation View / Installationsansicht*, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, Wiesbaden, Germany
- In Search of Critical Imagination*, Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan
- 2013 *To Open Eyes*, Art and Textiles from the Bauhaus to Today, Kunsthalle Bielefeld, Germany
- Disruptive Patterns. Plots, Plans and Movements. (Prelude)*, Altes Finanzamt, Berlin, Germany
- The Empire of Folds*, Museum für Gestaltung, Zürich, Switzerland
- Embracing the land: reframing textiles*, Echigo-Tsumari Satoyama Museum of Contemporary Art KINARE, Niigata, Japan
- STOFF Sammlung Textile Skulpturen*, Kreisparkasse Rottweil, Germany
- BLUMEN*, Galerie Mikael Andersen, Berlin, Germany
- How to become who you are*, BWA, Tarnów, Poland
- Home Stories*, Villa 102, Bockenheimer Landstrasse 102, Frankfurt am Main, Germany
- MOT Collection, Our Ninety Years: 1923-2013 Afterimages of tomorrow*, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan
- 2012 *The New Contemporaries*, KCUA Gallery, Kyoto Art University of Arts, Kyoto Art University of Arts, Kyoto, Japan



- 2010 *SHOW in the project space*, Royal College of Art, Sculpture, London, UK
- Celebratory Textiles - from Edo to the present day*, Contemporary Art Museum Kumamoto, Japan
- 2009 *City\_net Asia*, Seoul Museum of Art, Seoul, South Korea
- Stitch by Stitch*, Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- New power! New collections in 2008*, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Aichi, Japan
- 2008 *MOT annual 2008, Unraveling and Revealing*, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
- 2007 *Painting as Forest: Artist as Thinker*, Okazaki Mindscape Museum, Aichi, Japan
- 2006 *Echigo - Tsumari Art Triennial 2006*, Tokamachi, Niigata, Japan

## Public Collections

- The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
- Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Aichi, Japan
- Okazaki Mindscape Museum, Aichi, Japan
- Contemporary Art Museum Kumamoto, Kumamoto, Japan
- Takamatsu City Museum of Art, Kagawa, Japan
- The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama
- TOYOTA MOTOR CORPORATION, Aichi, Japan
- The Palace Side Hotel (Room 439), Kyoto, Japan

aiko tezuka  
CERTAINTY | ENTROPY

9 May to 27 July 2014



541 Orchard Road, Liat Towers, Singapore



An exhibition produced by the FONDATION D'ENTREPRISE HERMÈS





"I endeavor to weave the fabric of our time into my fabric with both a sense of timelessness and temporariness. Therefore, though it may seem transient and ephemeral, I hope the presence of my pieces will be felt far beyond our time."

Aiko Tezuka, 2014

Our lives are often likened to a piece of fabric - a complex web of interactions, layered in various textures, colours and patterns. The unique experiences and events that entwine collectively determine, from many possibilities, the single outcome of each rich tapestry.

The history of civilisations could similarly be traced from their textiles, which whisper its heritage through its motifs and designs. From medieval tapestries to fabrics intended for wear, artist Aiko Tezuka is fascinated by the stories that echo behind these beautiful creations. *Certainty / Entropy* is her exploration of these invisible narratives, various heritages and their motifs, and the evolving cultures in the world today. Through the act of meticulously unraveling fabrics by hand, Tezuka creates compelling compositions of loosened threads, offering a poetic transformation of industrially produced textiles into their constituent parts.

Nestled in Third Floor are four multicoloured fabric works, conceptualized and produced by Tezuka and her team of seven artisans at a textile lab in Holland. Inspired by the cultural diversity in Singapore, a vibrant assortment of birds, butterflies, flowers and fruit patterns are first to meet the viewer's gaze. But a closer look reveals something very different: silhouettes of nuclear warnings, environmental hazards and other modern-day iconographies are interlaced with the traditional ones. Like a curious cat unraveling yarn, Tezuka further pulls out threads from the compositions to expose their inner structures, creating a view of them physically collapsed within themselves.

These intriguing actions that pervade her practice resonate with her fascination with intercultural exchanges and alternative histories. The blending of motifs past and present embody the metamorphosis of societies, while the deconstruction process seeks to reveal the hidden stories beneath the fabric of life. Under Tezuka's meticulous hands, the woven motifs fade out gently into blurred images of what they once were, probing untold possibilities of the world we inhabit.

Breathtakingly intricate, the creative gestures behind *Certainty / Entropy* resonate with Third Floor's commitment to artistry and innovation. The exhibition itself finds strength in the tension between then and now, isolation and connectivity, construction and deconstruction. Considering "certainty" and "entropy" as time's arrows, Tezuka welcomes viewers into a contemplative space to ponder the narratives of life, and encourages them to muse upon their histories and the paths that were not taken.



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 Development and Production: TextielLab/Museum - Netherlands  
 Product Developer: Judith Peskens (TextielLab/Museum)  
 Digital compositing: Osamu Inami  
 Production research: Nanae Manabe  
 Technical support: Fan Tanming, Mariko Nakata,  
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### Third Floor

Launched at the beginning of 2006, Third Floor is a non-commercial art space that champions contemporary young artists by commissioning, producing and presenting works within its space.

Third Floor has to date presented the works of Yann Kersale, Jan Kopp, Takashi Kuribayashi (in conjunction with the Singapore Biennale 2006), Laurence Dervaux, Jinnie Seo, Heman Chong, Flavia Da Rin, Luis Terán, Rei Sato, Ming Wong, Yeondoo Jung, Ranjani Shettar, Christine Ay Tjoe, Shinji Ohmaki, Joo Choon Lin, Nadim Abbas and anothermountainman (a.k.a. Stanley Wong).

Other Hermès art spaces can be found in Brussels, Bern, Seoul, Tokyo and New York.

### Programme Director Emi Eu

"Year on year, Third Floor opens up its space to young contemporary artists, providing an avenue for them to realise their creative potentials beyond the confines of their studios. Introducing this year's theme of *Transition* is Japanese artist Aiko Tezuka, whose intricate fabric works make very compelling statements. Past themes include *Habitations* explored by artists Nadim Abbas and anothermountainman in 2013, and *Interactions* presented by artists Joo Choon Lin and Shinji Ohmaki in 2012."

Emi Eu is also the Director of the Singapore Tyler Print Institute.

### Fondation d'entreprise Hermès

The Fondation d'entreprise Hermès supports people and organisations seeking to learn, perfect, transmit and celebrate the skills and creativity that shape and inspire our lives today, and into the future. Guided by our central focus on artisan expertise and creative artistry in the context of society's changing needs, the Foundation's activities explore two complementary avenues: know-how and creativity, know-how and the transmission of skills.

The Foundation supports partner organisations across the globe. At the same time, we develop and administer our own projects in the contemporary visual arts (exhibitions and artists' residencies), the performing arts (the New Settings programme), design (the Prix Émile Hermès international design award), craftsmanship (the Skills Academy), and biodiversity.

The Foundation's unique mix of programmes and support is rooted in a single, underlying belief: *Our gestures define us.*

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