

Aiko TEZUKA

Aiko Tezuka (b. 1976, Tokyo, Japan) is an artist whose practice engages with processes of deconstruction and reconstruction. Drawing on her background in painting, she probes the surfaces of textiles and images, as well as the narrative embedded within them. Exploring the layered relationships between time, memory, culture, identity, and global exchange, Tezuka works with historical and contemporary ready-made textiles, industrial fabrics, and self-designed garments, treating cloth as both image and object. Through the careful unravelling, loosening, and reconfiguring of individual threads, she intervenes in rather than replaces the image, revealing the material traces and cultural narratives woven into the fabric. Her works create a dialogue between past and present, foregrounding the continual transformation of objects and their meanings over time. By integrating fragments, motifs, and patterns from diverse geographies, her works forge connections across cultures, presenting textiles as vessels of transnational exchange and as records of the global networks of trade, migration, and industrial production.

Tezuka's solo exhibitions took place at Rijksmuseum (Asian Pavilion) (Amsterdam, 2022), Kunsthalle Mannheim (2021), Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art (Kobe, 2015), Ayala Museum (Manila, 2015), Dortmunder Kunstverein (2014), and Künstlerhaus Bethanien (Berlin, 2013), among others. She took part in group exhibitions at Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (2026, 2022 & 2019), TextielMuseum (Tilburg, 2026 & 2018), National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto (2025), Yokohama Museum of Art (2025), National Museum of Art, (Osaka, 2025), National Museum of Art of Romania (Bucharest, 2024), Peranakan Museum (Singapore, 2024), Museum für Asiatische Kunst (Berlin, 2023), Fourth Hangzhou Triennial of Fiber Art (2022), Fukuoka Art Museum (2020), Johann Jacobs Museum (Zürich, 2018), Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe (Hamburg, 2018), and Turner Contemporary (Margate, 2017), among others.

Tezuka currently lives and works between Berlin, Germany and Tokyo, Japan.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 2024 "AIKO TEZUKA", Hall Keiryu, Kyoto, Japan

- 2023 "March, 2023, Tokyo", MA2 Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

- 2022 "(Re)weaving Histories", Rijksmuseum (Asian Pavilion), Amsterdam, the Netherlands

- 2021 "STUDIO-Exhibition with Aiko Tezuka", Kunsthalle Mannheim, Germany

- 2015 "Stardust Letters", Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Hyogo, Japan
"Unravelling, Restoring", Ayala Museum, Manila, Philippines

- 2014 "Thin Membrane, Pictures Come Down", Dortmunder Kunstverein, Dortmund, Germany
"Certainty / Entropy", Hermès Singapore, Singapore

- 2013 "Ghost – Suspended Organs", Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany

2007 "Sewing up, in between Ghosts", Fuchu Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2026 "Soft Borders", Blindspot Gallery, Hong Kong
10th Biennial of Painting, Museum Dhondt-Dhaenens, Sint-Martens-Latem, Belgium
- 2026 "APK PUBLIC Vol. 2", TODA BUILDING, Tokyo, Japan
"MOT Collection: Art for Starters", The Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
"Man <3 Machine - 25 Years of TextielLab", TextielMuseum, Tilburg, the Netherlands
- 2025 "#WhereDoWeStand?—Art in Our Time", National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, Japan
"Collection Exhibition", Yokohama Museum of Art, Kanagawa, Japan
"The Expo 2025", Yumeshima-Osaka, Osaka, Japan
"Collection 2: Undo, Redo", The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
"Cut From The Same Cloth: Textile & Technology", Palo Alto Art Center, California, USA
- 2024 "Dissonance – Platform Germany #3", The National Museum of Art, Bucharest, Romania
"That is, someday, someone's, somewhere's, world", Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto, Japan
"Batik Nyonyas: Three Generations of Art and Entrepreneurship", The Peranakan Museum, Singapore
"Opening and Connecting – A Study of Incision and Suture", Okazaki Mindscape Museum, Aichi, Japan
- 2023 "Artists, Collectors, Scholars: Women's Contributions to the Japanese Art Collection", Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Berlin, Germany
- 2022 "Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams", the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan
"The 4th Hangzhou Triennial of Fiber Art", Zhejiang Art Museum, Hangzhou, China
- 2020 "Linking Transformations. Positionen japanischer und norddeutscher Gegenwartskunst", Stadtgalerie Kiel, Kiel, Germany
"Collection Highlights", Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan
- 2019 "MOT Collection: Pleased to meet you.", the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan
"4Weavers of Worlds – A Century of Flux in Japanese Modern / Contemporary Art", the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan
"This is our collection + Yinka Shonibare", the Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan
- 2018 "Cultural Threads", TextielMuseum, Tilburg, the Netherlands
"A Painting for the Emperor", Johann Jacobs Museum, Zurich, Switzerland
"Mobile Worlds or the Transcultural Museum of Our Present", Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe Hamburg, Germany
- 2017 "New Acquisitions 2013~16 Samramansang from KIM Whanki to YANG Fudong", National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Seoul, Korea
"Entangled: Threads & Making", Turner Contemporary, Margate, UK

- 2016 "Nightfall (LE RETOUR DES TÉNÈBRES)", Musée Rath, Geneva, Switzerland
 "Schnittmengen", Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Berlin, Germany
- 2015 "Artist File 2015 Next Doors", National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea, Gwacheon, South Korea
 "Artist File 2015 Next Doors", The National Art Center, Tokyo, Japan
- 2014 "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
 "The Empire of Folds: Fashion and Textile Art from Japan", Museum Bellerive, Ein Haus des Museum für Gestaltung, Zürich, Switzerland

Selected Awards

- 2010 Fellowship under the Japan Government Overseas Study Programme
 The award of Mr. I - 2nd prize
- 2009 The Gotoh Memorial Foundation - Annual award
- 2005 VOCA Exhibition Award - 3rd Prize
- 2002 Kyo-ten - 1st prize

Collections

The Peranakan Museum, Singapore
 The National Museum of Modern Art, Japan
 The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
 Yokohama Museum of Art, Japan
 BLUE NOTE PLACE, Japan
 TextielMuseum, Netherlands
 Johann Jacobs Museum, Switzerland
 Kunstmuseet Nord-Trøndelag, Norway
 Fukuoka Art Museum, Japan
 Museum für Asiatische Kunst, Germany
 National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea, South Korea
 Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe Hamburg, Germany
 The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Japan
 Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Japan
 Okazaki Mindscape Museum, Japan
 Contemporary Art Museum Kumamoto, Japan
 Takamatsu City Museum of Art, Japan
 The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama, Japan
 Toyota Motor Corporation, Japan