

# Akemi Nakano Cohn

[www.akemistudio.com](http://www.akemistudio.com)

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**EDUCATION** Cranbrook Academy of Art, MFA, Fiber Art, 1989  
Tama Art University (Tokyo, Japan), BFA, Graphic Design, **Certificate of Art Teaching**  
Oregon College of Arts and Crafts (Portland, OR), Natural Dyes, Weaving, Screen Printing  
Haru Izumi (Master) Private Study for ten years (Yokohama, Japan), Traditional Japanese printing and dyeing: Katazome, Indigo, Nassen, Shibori

## SOLO/ GROUP EXHIBITIONS (current, selected)

Trace/Memory: Akemi Nakano Cohn, Fort Lewis College Art Gallery, Durango, CO, 2016  
Beyond Indigo Norm, Fishcake Gallery, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2015  
New Flora, Lillstreet Art Center Gallery, Chicago, IL 2014  
Material Matters. Union Street Gallery Julied by Joan Livingstone. Chicago, IL. 2014  
Cycle of Renewal, Gallery Uesuto, Tokyo, Japan, 2011  
Creation and Co-Existence : The Respectful Interdependence of All That Is, .  
 Mary-Frances and Bill Veeck Galley, Chicago, IL, 2011  
Session: Textile Art Miniature Exhibition, KCC Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, 2010  
Ancient Modernity: New Culture, The Art Center, Highland Park, IL, 2009  
Coexistence: Akemi Nakano Cohn, Gallery Uesuto, Tokyo, Japan, 2008  
Akemi Cohn's Work, Orland Park Public Library, Orland Park, IL, 2008  
Fiberart International, Museum of Arts & Design, New York, The Bellevue Arts Museum touring Seattle, WA. Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Pittsburgh, PA, 2004-2006  
ON/OFF: Illinois Women Artists and Contemporary Fiber Art, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago, IL, 2007  
New Fibers 2006, touring: Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts, Grand Rapid, MI., DeVos Art Museum, Marquette, MI., Alfred Berkowitz Gallery (University of Michigan) Dearborn, MI., 2006  
Fiber Focus 2003, St. Louis Design Center, St. Louis MO, 2003  
Trace, Gallery Uesuto, Tokyo, Japan, 2005  
Memory, Gallery Uesuto, Tokyo, Japan, 2002  
Urban Prairie, Gallery Uesuto, Tokyo, touring Art Life Mitsuhashi, Kyoto, Japan 2000  
Beyond Thread: (a)mending social thought, Braunstein/Quay Gallery, San Francisco, CA, 2000

## AWARDS & GRANTS

Scholar-in-Residence Program, SEEDS Arts and Education Inc., Laguna Beach, CA, 2016  
The Best-of-show award, New Fibers 2006 exhibition, Curated by Cynthia Schira, 2006  
Chicago Community Arts Assistance Program, Special project Grant, 2001  
Artist in Residency Program, Anderson Ranch Art Center, Snowmas, CO, 2001  
Artist in Residency Program, Ragdale Foundation, Lake Forest, IL, 1999 & 1998  
First Award in Kimono Exhibition curated by Yoshiko Wada, Textile Arts Centre, Chicago, IL, 1990  
Art-in-Education Residency Program, Illinois Arts Council, 2001

## REVIEWS/ PUBLICATIONS

"Story for the REAL HEROS - Akemi Nakano Cohn". Real Life Heroes By Manvi 2017.  
<https://readtoempower.com/2017/05/11/akemi-nakano-cohn-the-trip-to-india-made-a-big-change-in-my-entire-direction/>  
New Flora, Catalogue. Lillstreet Art Center Gallery, Chicago, IL 2014  
1000 Artisan Textiles, Contemporary fiber art, quilts, and wearables. Quarry Books, 2010  
Turkey Red Journal, vol. 15 issue 2 Spring 2010 "Nature's Gallery" <http://www.turkeyredjournal.com/>

"Meditation in Structure and Light", Fiberarts Magazine, Exhibition review by Dinah Ryan, Summer 2001  
Fiber Art Design Book Five Six and Seven, Altamont Press, 1999.  
 "Exhibition Review" Surface Design Journal, Winter, 1995, 1999  
 "Cross Currents" Surface Design Journal, Fall, 1999  
 "Innovations in Textile Art" Fiberarts Magazine, by Carol Ferring Shepley, Nov/Dec 1999  
The Best of Silk Painting, Diane Tuckman & Jan Janas, North Light Publishing Co., March '97  
 "Profile" American Craft Magazine, "Dec.'96/Jan.'97

#### COLLECTIONS AND COMMISSIONS

Unitarian Church of Evanston	Evanston, IL
American Embassy	Manila, Philippine (loaned)
Loyola University Medical Center	Maywood, IL
Restaurant Isabella	Yokohama, Japan
International Investment Services	Honolulu, Hawaii
Konzoin Temple	Yokohama, Japan
Image Science Co., Ltd.	Tokyo, Japan
At Home Co., Ltd.	Tokyo, Japan
Hollywood Cosmetic Co.	Tokyo, Japan
Heitman Properties	Chicago, IL
Dr. Harada, Dentist's office	Glenview, IL

#### TEACHING

**The School of The Art Institute of Chicago**, Chicago, IL, 2000 – 2002

Surface Design class in the Fiber and Material Studies Dept.

**Evanston Art Center**, Evanston, IL, 1997 – on going

Faculty: Teach various surface design techniques: Shibori, Nassen, Katazome, Stitching.

**The Art Center**, Highland Park, IL, 1996 - 2016

Teach various surface design techniques on fabric.

**Lillstreet Arts Center**, Chicago, IL, 2005 - ongoing

Faculty: Teach various surface design techniques: Natural Dyeing, Shibori, Felting, Stitching

#### WORKSHOPS (selected)

Penland School of Crafts "Katazome with Natural Dyes + Indigo Dyeing" Penland NC. 2017  
Maiwa School of Textiles "Katazome" "Nui Shibori with Natural Dyes" Vancouver, Canada 2016  
Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts "Katazome with Indigo Dyeing" Gatlinburg, TN. 2016  
Durango Arts Center "Katazome" "Indigo Dyeing with Shibori" Durango, CO. 2016  
SEEDS Arts and Education Inc., "Indigo and Shibori" Laguna Beach CA. 2016  
North Suburban Needle Arts Guild. "Indigo Shibori + Natural Dyes" Northbrook, IL. 2016  
Lurie Garden Millennium Park "Indigo Shibori" Chicago IL 2016  
Shakerag (St. Andrew's-Sewanee School) "Katazome with Natural dyes" Sewanee, TN. 2015  
Honolulu Museum of Art (organized by Temari) "Stitched Stories" Honolulu, Hawaii 2015  
Chicago Public Library "Maker Lab Project" Chicago IL 2015  
Maiwa Textile Symposium 2013 "Katazome with Natural Dyes" "Natural Indigo & Shibori"  
 Vancouver, Canada 2011, 2013  
Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts, "Sashiko Stitching" Cedarburg, WI 2013  
Zijdelings, "Katazome with Natural Dyes" Tilburg, Netherlands 2012  
Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts "Katazome with Natural dyes" Gatlinburg, TN 2011  
Indiana University, "Katazome" Bloomington, IN 2010  
Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts, "Nassen" Gatlinburg, TN, 2011, 07, 04, 01, '98, '96, '94  
Surface Design Int'l Conference, "Nassen" Kansas City Art Institute, MO, 2007, 2005, 2003  
Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, "Nassen printing technique" Maine 2005  
Anderson Ranch Art Center "Indigo and Katazome" Snowmas, CO 2004

Temari Center for Asian and Pacific Arts, Honolulu, HI, Indigo 2004  
Penland School of Crafts "Nassen" Penland, NC, July 2003  
Zijdelings "Nassen" Tilburg, Netherlands 2002

#### VISITING ARTIST & ARTIST TALK

"My Work" Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO 2016  
 "My Work" Southern Illinois University. Edwardsville, IL 2016  
 "Trace of Journey:Personal Expression Through Fiber" North Suburban Needle Arts Guild  
 Northbrook, IL 2016  
 "My Work with Katazome" Maiwa Textile Symposium 2013, Vancouver, Canada 2013  
 "Katazome in Japanese Arts and Crafts" North Suburban Needle Art Guild, Lake Forest, IL . 2012  
 "My Work" Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 2010  
 "Japanese Kimonos" Des Plaines Art Guild, Desplaine, IL 2007  
 "Japanese Kimonos and Design" Northshore Weavers Guild, Wilmette, IL 2005  
 "Kimono Expression" Int'l Women's Association, Japan Information Center, Chicago, IL 2005  
 "Japanese Kimonos" Design with Heart Fiber Conference, Santa Fe, NM 2004  
 "Japanese Textiles" Northwest Indiana Community Associates, Merrillville, IN, 2001  
 "Japanese Textile" South Chicago Weavers Guild, Chicago, IL 2001  
 "My Work and Fiber artists in the USA" Kyoto College of Arts, Kyoto, Japan 2000  
 "My Work" Women College of Arts, Tokyo, Japan 2000

#### PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Juror**, for "Under current" exh. Associated w/Surface Design Assoc. Conference. Kansas City, MO, 2000  
**Juror**, for "Rhythms of Nature: Eloquent Fiber Arts" Riverside Art Center, Riverside, IL, 2000  
**Consultant**, Consulted for the theater class Kabuki costumes at Lincoln Park High School, Chicago, IL, 2000  
**Board member**, Textile Arts Centre, Chicago, IL, 1997-2000  
**Gallery Committee member**, Textile Arts Centre, Chicago, IL, 1995-2000