

Misako OBA (Visual Artist)

※Page 1 to 3 is English. 日本語は同 PDF の英語 P3. の後をご覧ください.

Biography

Misako Oba was born and raised in Japan. She studied photography and other media in a graduate program in the United States and did additional studies in France and Japan. Oba's artworks have been exhibited at galleries and in art fairs internationally such as in France, Belgium, Germany, Japan and the U.S., including prestigious *AIPAD Shows* in New York, *Photo l.a.* in California, and *Salon d'Automne* in Paris. Her works are in private and corporate collections as well as in public collections such as in the Bibliotheque Nationale de France in Paris as a part of their national permanent collection. Magazines and newspapers have interviewed her and published articles about her life and art. Received several awards including some first prizes (*Please see the list below*). She was also awarded to the Artist-in-Residency, and was invited to spend a month at the studio in Pennsylvania (U.S.A.) to create the series of encaustic mixed-media work.

Oba's work explores human life as a journey and is a metaphor for our lives. It is both a deep examination of our soul and an exploration of universal experiences such as human emotions. It also depicts the beauty of life with its transient nature.

Her limited editioned monograph (artbook: fine art photography and some mixed-media works with poem-like her text in bilingual) "*FAUSTUS*" was published by Sokyusha, a fine art photobook publisher in Tokyo, Japan. It became internationally available in 2015 including the Museum shop in the Centre Pompidou in Paris and other art specializing book stores in Europe and the U.S. besides Japan. She was invited to have exhibitions and the Artist Talk at State University of New York and did lecture to the MFA students, professors and general public as well as in Seattle with her book signing event. Prior to this publication, two fine art photobooks "*PACTUM*" and "*The Gift of Loss*" were published in the U.S and are available as well as the original artworks. As for other recent book publications, her encaustic work was included in the book, "*Encaustic Revelation*," published by North Light Book in 2014 in the U.S.

She originally started her arts career specializing photography including traditional gelatin silver prints and toning, and as she continues pursuing art, she has expanded her practice to mixed media painting since around 2008, especially, incorporating encaustic, text, printmaking, and sometimes photo images (archival pigment/ink transfer) that based on the individual concept of each series.

Her early career was in broadcasting, as a reporter/news anchor on Japanese television in NYC and in Japan. After that, she worked as a photographer/writer for Japanese magazines. Her responsibility involved film/photo direction and editing that first gave her an appreciation of the power of visual imagery. This became the basis of her visual arts career.

Honors/ Awards:

- 1995 Honorable Mention for a B&W and a color in Photographer's Forum Magazine. Published in their annual book. (U.S.A.)
- 2000 First Prize (Grand Prix) in the International Professional Photo Fair Contest. Cash, Travel, Exhibition Award. (Japan)
- 2005 "Blue Fire Flies" series was selected for Salon d'Automne 2005, Paris. Catalog published. (France)
- 2007 Merit Award for two black and white photography portfolio, "El Camino" series and "Journey of Life & Light" series in B&W Magazine for Collectors of Fine Photography. Published in a collector's special issue. (U.S.A.)
- 2010 Selected as an artist for PAA Artist-in-Residence Program, PA (U.S.A.)
- 2011 First Prize in The Pollux Awards, The Worldwide Photography Gala Awards (World wide/ Headquarter U.K.)
- 2015 "FAUSTUS" was selected for the annual collection from Japan for the museum Maison Européenne de la Photographie, Paris (France)

Selected Publication /Review / Interviewed:

- More than 20 newspapers in 2015: Articles in People section and Art section featured Oba's life, art, and the book *FAUSTUS*.
- "NY ARTS Magazine" - "New York Magazine" - "Wisdom New York" - "New York Walker" - "North Central PA" (magazine)
- "NY Japion (newspaper)": Her artwork and her life are featured. - "Sun Gazette, PA (newspaper), 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014
- "North American Post" Seattle 2013: Featured her biographical article, her work and philosophy. - Interviewed on German radio.
- "The Jersey Journal": Interviewed, article about behind her *FAUSTUS* series. - "New York Weekly Life": Review for her solo show.
- "COSMOPOLITAN" Japan: Biographical article of the interview with Oba featuring her career and photographs in the magazine.
- "Black&White Magazine for Collectors of Fine Photography" - "Blue Fire Flies" are featured in "Photo Life Magazine"
- Her fine art photograph became a book cover "*Bunkai*" (novel published in 2010). - "Photo Annual," from 2006 through 2016.

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- "PHP Specail": Biographical article about Oba's art and life, and review of the series/ show.
- "PhaT PHOTO": Biographical article about Oba's art and life, featuring the award, and review of the series/ show.
- Newspapers: "Asahi Newspaper", "Yomiuri Newspaper" and other newspapers. Articles, reviews and interviews about Oba's exhibitions and personal life and art. - "Nippon Camera": Introduced her works in several issues. - "Encaustic Revelation" (North Light Book).
- TBS-TV "Celebrity's Choice": Interviewed as an artist and was introduced her artwork/photographs on TV in Japan.
- Monograph (Art books): "PACTUM" (catalog version). "The Gift of Loss" (Journalistic edition). "FAUSTUS" (monograph/ Fine art edition)

Selected Exhibition:

- 1999 "Tokyo Now," Tokyo Zu Gast, in Leipzig, Germany.
- 2000 "Feeling at Night.", TPCC, Tokyo, Japan
- 2001 "Select 2001 Photo" and "Thanks" – both shows were at Gallery Jy, Tokyo
- 2001 Solo show "Cozy Place", Gallery 26 Moon, Tokyo. / "Chaos", Gallery Cradle, Yokohama
- 2002 Solo show "Peace in Your Mind", Gallery Jy, Tokyo / "Thanks", Gallery Jy, Tokyo / "My Blue Sky", TPCC, Tokyo
- 2003 "Images Against War", Gallery Lichtblick, Germany, and toured in Italy and Belgium. l'Usine Galerie, Brussels.
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- 2005.2 AIPAD (Association of Int'l Photography Art Dealers) show, New York, NY
- 2005.3-4 "Desperate Prayer" at Juried Exhibition of National Art, Union Street Gallery, Chicago, IL
- 2005 Photo San Francisco, CA Gary Edwards Gallery / Photo New York, Thinking Prints Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2005.10 "Blue Fire Flies," Salon d'Automne, Paris, France
- 2005.11 St'art, Strasbourg, France Thinking Prints Gallery, Brussels, Belgium
- 2005.12 Solo show "Peace in Your Mind," Hayato New York Gallery, New York, NY
- 2006. 2 AIPAD (Association of Int'l Photography Art Dealers) show, New York. Gary Edwards Gallery
- 2006.5 fotofestiwal – "Images Against War," in Lodz, Poland from Gallery Lichtblick, Köln, Germany
- 2006.7 "They might amputate my pinkie," Photo San Francisco, CA Gary Edwards Gallery
- 2006-07 "I.A.W." Chicago Peace Museum, IL and the exhibition toured at a gallery in Cincinnati, OH
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- 2009.4 "Altered State" show, carborundam unique prints, Manhattan Graphic Center, New York, NY
- 2009.4 Solo show "El Camino – Beyond the Tunnel –," Jennifer Jane Gallery, New Haven, CT.
- 2009.11 Gelatin silver print "La Seine" was sold/auctioned in the Auction House Bloomsbury Auction in New York, NY
- 2009.10-2010.1 "I Harvest" art exhibition, New York, NY Printmaking "Ki and Bi"
- 2010.5 International Drawing& Printmaking Exhibition (Solarplate etchings from "Ki and Bi" series), Rogue Space Chelsea, New York, NY.
- 2010.7 "Factory Fresh" Artist-in-Residency 2010 group exhibition, (encaustic mixed media works), PAA Gallery, Williamsport, PA
- 2010.9 "CloseUP" Art Exhibition, (encaustic mixed media works), The BAG Gallery, Brooklyn, NY
- 2010.11-12 "FAUSTUS," Invited to the exhibition "Shadow," Marin-Mullen Art Gallery, State University of NY, Oneonta, NY.
- 2011.3 Exhibited "Pactum" (encaustic mixed media) by Trade School, Whitney Museum, New York, NY
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- 2011.7 "PACTUM," "The Gift of Loss" – Two photography books from FAUSTUS at Zine and Photo Books Fair, " at CCNY, NY
- 2011.8 "Water," Grey Art Gallery's grand opening exhibition, Williamsport, PA
- 2011.10 "Like Blueprints," (Blue Fire Flies series) Abrazo Interno Gallery, New York, NY
- 2011.11 "Small Works" from "FAUSTUS" series (mixed media) in Lana Santorelli Gallery, Hoboken, NJ
- 2011.11 "bookMARKS" photo-based book exhibit (- Shown Oba's book "PACTUM" and "The Gift of Loss"), Menschel Gallery, NY
- 2012.2 "El Camino -Beyond the Tunnel" and "Peace in Your Mind," and "FAUSTUS/ PACTUM" series at Grey Art Gallery, PA
- 2012.8 "Currents: Seattle Print Arts 2012" Jacob Lawrence Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2012.9 Two persons show (photographic work) at Barrel 135, PA, curated by Converge Gallery, Williamsport, PA

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- 2012 Solo show "Peace in Your Mind" and "El Camino," curated by Converge Gallery, Williamsport, PA
- 2012 "Sinners & Saints," Converge Gallery, Williamsport, PA
- 2013 Square show (-shown encaustic mixed media works) at SpaceWomb Contemporary Art Gallery, New York, NY
- 2013.5-6 little x little: Miniature Print Exhibition at Columbia City Gallery, Columbia City, WA
- 2013 Icon exhibition (encaustic mixed media work) at Hanson Scott Gallery, Seattle, WA
- 2014 "Spring Art Market" (encaustic mixed media work) at SpaceWomb Contemporary Art Gallery, New York, NY
- 2014 Printmaking exhibition, Blackburn 20/20 gallery, New York, NY
- 2014 Solo show "Beyond the Journey of Light & Life" (encaustic mixed media/ printmaking/ photography) , Converge Gallery, PA
- 2015 "FAUSTUS" (Solo show and book signing, Talk event about my series) at Kinokuniya bookstore, Seattle, WA
- 2016 "Abstraction: Diverted Reality," (encaustic mixed media) Evelyn E. Jorgenson Gallery, Moberly, MO
- 2016 "Neoteric Abstract" (encaustic mixed media), Limner Gallery, New York
- 2016 Selected for "The Artist as Maker, Thinker, Feeler", Cade Art Gallery, John A. Cade Center for Fine Arts, MD
- 2016. Small Works Show (encaustic mixed media from her Stars and Desert series), Limner Gallery, Hudson, NY
- 2016. 12-2017.1/26 Holiday Show(encaustic mixed media from her Stars and Desert series), Dacia Gallery, New York, NY

Education:

Marshall University, WV, U.S.A.

– Graduate Level Coursework in Journalism (Photography)

Kanagawa University, Yokohama, Japan.

– B.A. degree Major in Spanish, Foreign Language

Speos, Paris, France

– Summer workshops for Fine Art Photography

International Center of Photography (ICP), New York, U.S.A.

– Workshops and seminars

Lower East Side Printshop/ Manhattan Graphic Center, New York, U.S.A.

– Printmaking

Art Student League, New York, U.S.A.

– Mixed Media Painting

*For more information, please visit the **websites** :*

<http://www.misakooba.com>

Portfolio can be viewed at the gallery's website as well:

<http://convergegallery.com/?artwork-artists=misako-oba>

[Facebook]: www.facebook.com/MisakoArt

Blog [Behind the Scene]: <http://misakooba.wordpress.com/>

The artbook FAUSTUS website : <https://aboutfaustus.wordpress.com/>

Misako OBA 大庭みさこ

< プロフィール >

静岡県浜松市生まれ。ビジュアルアーティスト（美術作家・写真家）。
外国語学部スペイン語学科卒業後、民放テレビ局アナウンサーを経て、米国の大学院で写真とジャーナリズムを専攻。海外リポートなど、日米のメディアで、取材、インタビュー、原稿執筆ほか、映像編集、TV カメラマンへのディレクションなど制作全般に携わった後、ライター、エディター、フォトグラファーとして雑誌や新聞等、紙媒体でのキャリアに転身。その後、アートの分野に幅を広げる。

ファインアート写真の他、近年は蜜ろう画 (encaustic) に、油彩やエッチングなどの版画技法等を融合させたミクスト・メディア作品に力を入れ、制作している。これまで、主に米国（ニューヨーク、ロサンゼルス、サンフランシスコ、シアトル等）やヨーロッパ（フランス、ドイツ、ベルギー等）で発表。個展、企画展、画廊出展のアートフェア等多数。各シリーズの創作コンセプトの根底には、人生のジャーニー（光と闇）、人間の感情、移りゆくものの儚さと美の本質・希望があり、古典的要素と現代の目撃者的要素の両方を織り込んだ、空気感のある準抽象(semi-abstractセミ・アブストラクト)な作風が特徴。

日米の新聞や雑誌より取材を受け、アート作品や背後のコンセプトほか、プライベート面でも様々なユニークな経験を持つため、記事で作品とともに、一部が紹介されることがある。コレクションで権威のあるパリのフランス国立図書館やヨーロッパ写真美術館などの公的機関に作品や作品集が収蔵されている他、企業・個人コレクターを持つ。

米国ペンシルバニア州PAA アーティスト・イン・レジデンシーの招聘アーティストに選ばれた際、提供されたアトリエにて、写真転写と蜜ろう画を融合させたミクスト・メディアの新シリーズ制作に取り組み、展覧会で注目された他、The Pollux アワード（国際コンテスト：英国本部）において、ポートレート部門で「FAUSTUS」シリーズ内の作品が、第一位を受賞。その他、各賞を受賞している（下記参照）。

これまでの作品は、展覧会以外にも、日本では『分解』（筑摩書房 酒見賢一著）の表紙に起用されたり、メッセージ性のある作品集・著書『FAUSTUS』（ファウストス：2014年11月蒼穹舎刊。文は日本語・英語）となっている。このほか、ノースライト出版の書籍『Encaustic Revelation』（2014年）には、蜜ろう画ミクストメディア作品が、また、自身の作品集に『PACTUM』～Contract with Angel～、『The Gift of Loss』（テキストは英語のみ）。

米国では、書店主催や、美大の教授や大学院生（ニューヨーク州立大学大学院主催）、一般の人向けに、アーティストトーク・イベントもこなす。作風を生かして、装丁用のアート、CD アルバムジャケットのアートや、コミッション制作、毎年日本で出版される『日本写真年鑑』の米国関連ニュースの写真と執筆も長年担当している。

< Honors/ Awards/Residency: 受賞・入賞・レジデンシー関連 >

- 1995 年 Honorable Mention for a B&W and a color in Photographer's Forum Magazine. Published in their annual book. (米国)
- 2000 年 First Prize (Grand Prix) on the International Professional Photo Fair Contest. (日本)
- 2005 年 "Blue Fire Flies" series was selected for Salon d'Automne 2005, Paris. (フランス)
- 2007 年 Merit Award for two black and white series, "El Camino" series and "Journey of Life & Light" series in B&W Magazine for Collectors of Fine Photography. (米国)
- 2010 年 Selected as an artist for PAA Artist-in-Residence Program, PA (米国)
- 2011 年 First Prize in The Pollux Awards, The Worldwide Photography Gala Awards (国際/本社英国)
- 2015 年 "FAUSTUS" was selected for the annual collection for the museum Maison Européenne de la Photographie (フランス)

< 作品紹介や取材インタビューを受けたラジオ・テレビ番組、雑誌や新聞記事の一部（日欧米） >

- More than 20 newspapers in 2015: Articles in People section and Art section featured Oba's life, art, and the book FAUSTUS.
- "NY ARTS Magazine" - "New York" Magazine - "Wisdom New York" - "New York Walker" - "North Central PA" (magazine)
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- Art books: "PACTUM" (catalog version). "The Gift of Loss" (Journalistic edition). "FAUSTUS" (monograph/ Fine art edition)

<主な展覧会(写真/美術作品の個展、グループ展、招聘企画展)>

- 1999 "Tokyo Now," Tokyo Zu Gast, in Leipzig, Germany.
- 2000 "Feeling at Night.", TPCC, Tokyo, Japan
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- 2001 Solo show "Cozy Place", Gallery 26 Moon, Tokyo. / "Chaos", Gallery Cradle, Yokohama
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<学歴>

- 神奈川大学外国語学部スペイン語学科 卒業
- 米国ウエストバージニア州立マーシャル大学 大学院 専攻：ジャーナリズム（写真）
- 早稲田セミナー ライター講座修了
- ニューヨークICP 国際写真センター ワークショップ・セミナー受講
- パリ スペオス アート写真、サマーワークショップ受講
- ニューヨーク マンタタン・グラフィックセンター、アートステューデントリーグ他、
米国のアートスクールや専門スタジオで、エッチングやコラグラフ等の版画、ミクストメディアを体得。

<Languages: 語学>

English (Fluent), Japanese (Native), Spanish (Intermediate), French (Basic), Portuguese (Basic)
 日本語（母国語）、英語（ビジネスレベル：会話及びプレゼンテーション、文書作成、交渉）。
 フランス語・スペイン語（基本会話） ポルトガル語（おまけ：浜松市では日本語の次の第2言語）

Misako OBA (大庭みさこ) ウェブサイト：www.misakooba.com

フェイスブック：www.facebook.com/MisakoArt

ブログ [Behind the Scene] (アートの舞台裏)：<http://misakooba.wordpress.com/>

作品集/著書『FAUSTUS』(ファウストス) ウェブサイト[Story of FAUSTUS]：<https://aboutfaustus.wordpress.com/>