

**Misako OBA** (Visual Artist)

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

**Biography**

Misako Oba was born and raised in Japan. Her 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 among others. Her works are in private and corporate collections as well as in public collections such as in the Maison Européenne de la Photographie and 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 Artist-in-Residency, and was invited to spend a month at the studio in Pennsylvania and more recently in Wyoming to create the series of encaustic mixed-media work. The latest residency was offered by Brush Creek Foundation of the Arts (USA) in summer 2017.

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.

She initially launched her art career specializing in photography including traditional gelatin silver prints and toning. However, her professional repertoire has since expanded to mixed media painting, in which she often incorporates text, encaustic, oil, Japanese paper, and sometimes her own photographic images (using transfer and other related photo techniques) in compositions relevant to each series' overall concept.

Oba's limited editioned monograph (artbook: fine art photography and some mixed-media works with her poem-like text in English/Japan bilingual) "*FAUSTUS*" was published by Sokyusha, a fine art photobook publisher in Tokyo, Japan. It became internationally available in 2015 including galleries and the Museum bookstore in the Centre Pompidou in France and other part of Europe and at notable bookstores such as Dashwood Books in New York among others for collectors.

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. Recent publication includes *Nippon Shashin Nenkan 2017* that was published in Tokyo, Japan. Oba's encaustic work was included in the book, "*Encaustic Revelation*," published by North Light Book in the U.S.

She enjoys an artist talk and did lectures to the MFA students, professors and general public at State University in New York as well as at other places in Seattle, South Korea and Japan. She studied photography and other media in a graduate program in the United States and did additional studies in France and Japan.

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 and the importance of communication. 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)
- 2017 Selected as a visual artist for Brush Creek Foundation of the Arts Artist-in-Residency in summer 2017. (USA)

**Selected Publication /Reviews / Interviewed:**

*Please see the next page.*

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**Selected Publication /Review / Interviewed:**

- Articles: Being featured in "People" and/or "Art" section about Oba's art and the artbook in more than 20 newspapers such as "Sankei Newspaper" and "Tokyo Newspaper" among others in 2015. - "Photo Annual," from 2006 through 2017.
- Interviewed by Kyodo News Wire Service. - "NY ARTS Magazine" - "New York Walker" - "New York" Magazine
- One of fine artworks became a book cover "Bunkai" (novel). - Being interviewed on German radio.
- "NY Japion (newspaper) : Artwork and her life are featured. - "North Central PA" (magazine)
- Sun Gazette, PA (newspaper), 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014 about solo shows and group shows.
- "New York Weekly Life": Review for solo show. - "The Jersey Journal" NJ: Interviewed, article about behind her FAUSTUS series.
- "North American Post" Seattle 2013: Featured her biographical article, work and the philosophy.
- "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"
- "Asahi Newspaper", "Yomiuri Newspaper" and other papers: Articles includes reviews and interviews about Oba's exhibitions.
- "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.
- "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.

**Monographs/Artbooks:** "PACTUM" - English. "The Gift of Loss" - English. "FAUSTUS" - English /Japanese.

**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.
- 2003 Selected Japanese best 80 photographers exhibition, TPCC, Tokyo.
- 2005.1 Photo L.A. (International Photo dealer show), CA. Gary Edwards Gallery (Washington D.C.)
- 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
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- 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
- 2007.4 AIPAD Photo show, Gary Edwards Gallery (Washington D.C.), New York, NY
- 2008.1 "FAUSTUS – Remembrance of a Thing Lost –" Gary Edwards Gallery at Photo I.a., Los Angeles, CA.
- 2008.7-9 From the solarplate photo-etching series "Ki and Bi," Annual Invitational Show, Exposure Gallery, New Haven, CT.
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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
- 2011.4 Japan Earthquake Relief exhibition (encaustic mixed media), Excy Gallery, New York, NY
- 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) Abraço Interno Gallery, New York, NY

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- 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  
 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 Holiday Show (encaustic mixed media from her Stars and Desert series), Dacia Gallery, New York, NY  
 2017 Exhibition and Talk at Open Studio, Brush Creek Foundation of the Arts, Saratoga, WY  
 2017 "Contemporary Encaustic 2017," Royal Contemporary, Florence, CO  
 2017.12 "Holiday Small Work Exhibition" is scheduled, Limner Gallery, Hudson, 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>

***Some works also can be viewed at a gallery's website :***

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

***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。  
海外レポートなど、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、近年は蜜蝋（みつろう）を使ったエンコースティック画（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の要素の両方を織り込んだ、空気感のある準抽象(semi-abstract)的な作風が特徴。

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、写真転写とエンコースティック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）。2017年にはアメリカのブラッシュ・クリーク芸術財団より招聘を受け、滞在制作、現地でプレゼンテーション等も行う機会に恵まれた。

展覧会以外にも、アート作品が書籍となり出版され、日本では『分解』（筑摩書房 酒見賢一著）の表紙に起用された他、自身の著書、モノグラフ(作品集)にメッセージ性のある『FAUSTUS』（ファウストス：2014年11月蒼穹舎刊。文：日本語・英語）がある。また関連シリーズには写真集『PACTUM』（パクトム）～Contract with Angel～、『The Gift of Loss』（ギフト・オブ・ロス）（米国）。

このほか、エンコースティック作品の分野で革新的な技術を使った作品を紹介した書籍『Encaustic Revelation』（エンコースティック・リベレーション：米国ノースライト出版）には、大庭のミクストメディア作品も取り上げられた。

これまで米国や韓国にて、大学の教授や大学院生（ニューヨーク州立大学大学院主催ほか）、一般の人向けに、講演・講義、アーティストトーク、書店主催のサイン・イベント等もこなす。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、コミッション制作にも対応している。

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。日本写真協会会員。

## 〈Honors/Awards/Residency: アワード、レジデンシー受賞関連〉

- 1995 年 Honorable Mention for a B&W and a color in Photographer's Forum Magazine. Published in their annual book. (米国)
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- 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)
- 2017 Selected as a visual artist for Brush Creek Foundation of the Arts Artist-in-Residency in summer 2017. (米国)

## 〈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)〉

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著書・作品集: "PACTUM" - English. "The Gift of Loss" - English. "FAUSTUS" - English /Japanese.

## &lt;主な展覧会(写真/美術作品の個展、グループ展、招聘企画展)&gt;

- 1999 "Tokyo Now," Tokyo Zu Gast, in Leipzig, Germany.
- 2000 "Feeling at Night.", TPCC, Tokyo, Japan
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- 2011.8 "Water," Grey Art Gallery's grand opening exhibition, Williamsport, PA

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- 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  
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 2017 "Contemporary Encaustic 2017," Royal Contemporary, Florence, CO  
 2017.12 "Holiday Small Work Exhibition" is scheduled, Limner Gallery, Hudson, NY

## &lt;学歴&gt;

- 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 マンタットン・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学ぶ。

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

作品の一部はギャラリーのウェブサイトでもご覧いただけます: <http://convergegalleries.com/?artwork-artists=misako-oba>

フェイスブック: [www.facebook.com/MisakoArt](http://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)のウェブサイト: <https://aboutfaustus.wordpress.com/>