

Masako Nunokawa (布川 雅子)

Artist / Researcher



Background

Born to parents who both studied oil painting at Musashino Art University, Masako Nunokawa grew up surrounded by art from an early age. After graduating from Kuwasawa Design School, she briefly assisted in her father's architectural design office. In 1989, she moved to New York, where she studied design and illustration at a design university while running her own production company. There she worked in editorial writing, editorial design, and graphic design. Returning to Japan in 1995, she became a marketing director in international corporations, overseeing print and web design as well as event and spatial design. She received several company president's awards during this time. Though she continued private creative work, she did not participate in competitions or exhibitions, but the desire to return to the art world steadily grew.

After semi-retirement in 2015, she pursued further academic study:

- B.A. in Architecture, Aichi Sangyo University (licensed Second-Class Architect, Japan).
- M.A. in Cognitive Neuroscience of Creativity, Graduate School of Human Sciences, University of Tsukuba – researching brain activity during creative processes.
- Ph.D. (Media and Cultural Studies), Graduate School of International Media, Communication, and Tourism Studies, Hokkaido University.
Doctoral dissertation: “Artistic Value in the NFT Market from the Perspective of First-Person Research” – exploring the trajectory from traditional art to contemporary NFT and AI-based art markets.

After completing her doctoral program in 2023, she traveled extensively in Japan, visiting temples and shrines in Kyoto, Nara, Ise, Izumo, and Takachiho, culminating in the Shikoku 88-temple pilgrimage in December 2024. Inspired by the beauty of Japanese art and heritage, as well as fellow artists, she established her own studio in January 2025 and has since been dedicated full-time to her creative practice.

Solo & Group Exhibitions

- 2025 Dec – Red Dot Miami Art Fair (Art Basel Week), with Perseus Gallery, Miami, USA
- 2025 Oct – Affordable Art Fair London, with Gallery G-77, London, UK
- 2025 Oct – *Affordable Art Fair Singapore*, with Artaflo Collectives, Singapore (dates TBD)
- 2025 Oct – *The Pop-Up Gallery Amsterdam Exhibition*, NDSM Art District, Amsterdam, Netherlands
- 2025 Sep – Affordable Art Fair New York, with Gallery G-77, New York, USA
- 2025 Aug – *26th Japan-France Contemporary Art World Exhibition*, The National Art Center, Tokyo (Gallery 3A/3B), Japan
- 2025 Jul – “*Japanism*” Exhibition (by JCAT), Noho m55 Gallery, Chelsea, New York, USA
- 2025 Mar – *AXIS NORTH*, Lilac Gallery, Sapporo, Japan (2 acrylic works, F30)

Public Competitions / Juried Exhibitions

- 2022 Oct – *66th Shindo Exhibition*, Sapporo Citizens Gallery, Japan (Acrylic painting, F50)
- 2022 Sep – *76th Zendo Exhibition*, Sapporo Citizens Gallery, Japan (Acrylic painting, F50)
- 2022 Jun – *78th Genten Exhibition*, The National Art Center, Tokyo, Japan (Acrylic painting, F60)
- 2022 Jun – *2nd Kansai Art Competition*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Japan (Acrylic painting, F6)
- 2022 May – *Platinum Art Award 2022*, Japan (Selected, Acrylic painting, F6)
- 2022 May – *25th Hakata Town Memory Painting Exhibition*, Hakata Machiya Furusato-kan Museum, Fukuoka, Japan (Acrylic painting, F6)

- 2022 Apr – 8th Amateur Art Museum Public Art Exhibition, Online Exhibition (Acrylic painting, F6)
- 2022 Apr – *9th Autism Awareness Day Art Exhibition*, Hakodate City Arts Hall, Hakodate, Japan (Digital painting, F3)