



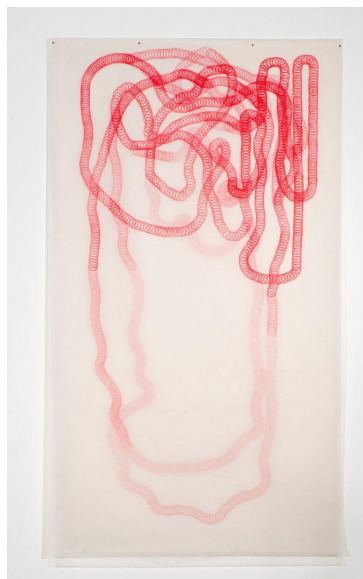
## IMC Newsletter: 2021 Fall Mokuhanga Exhibition News

### 2021IMC Nara Board Chair Annu Vertanen

[Annu Vertanen – Porous Matrix](#)

[Lappeenranta Art Museum](#), Lappeenranta, Finland

25 September 2021 – 16 January 2022



Annu Vertanen is a visual artist and woodcut printmaker whose retrospective presents us with her work over the course of three decades. The name of the exhibition refers to the item in printmaking that holds the image, known as a matrix, and the porous role matrices take on in Vertanen's work. The internal movement, space and colour of the works set the stage for visual reflections of the experience of existing within this world. The exhibition is held in cooperation with the Jyväskylä Art Museum.

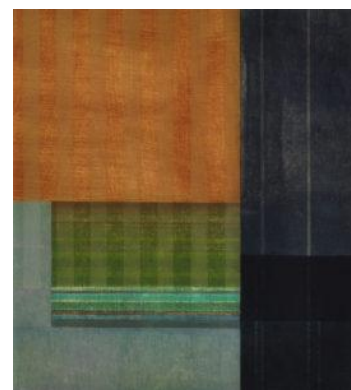
### Mokuhanga Artist Paul Furneaux

[PAUL FURNEAUX: MADO 目の戸](#)

**Royal Scottish Academy, Academicians' Gallery, Scotland, UK**

Exhibition Dates: 28 October – 21 November 2021

The Academicians' Gallery is pleased to present a solo exhibition by acclaimed Scottish artist Paul Furneaux RSA this autumn. Titled Mado 目の戸, meaning 'eye's door,' or 'window' in Japanese, the exhibition considers the act of looking, especially from an interior outwards. Celebrated for his work with the Japanese woodblock printing technique of Mokuhanga, Furneaux will be exhibiting new works that take inspiration from the colours, shapes and textures of both the urban and rural Scottish landscape. The exhibition will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue.



**2021IMC Sponsor: Southern Vermont Arts Center, Manchester, VT, USA**

**A Mokuhanga Exhibition of Artists and Teachers**

presented by the Southern Vermont Arts Center and the Mokuhanga Sisters

11 December 2021 – 27 March 2022

**In memory of Keiko Kadota and Tetsuo Soyama, our mentors who inspired us to devote our art practices to Mokuhanga.**

The Mokuhanga Sisters, a print collective, met at the Mokuhanga Innovation Laboratory, in the shadow of Mt Fuji, Japan, and bonded through their practice of mokuhanga.

Mokuhanga, literally meaning “wood print” in Japanese, is a process of printing that originated in China and was developed into a popular art form in Edo Period, Japan (1603-1867). The images of this time, known as ukiyo-e, captured the interest of European artists in the 1800s, and, since that time, mokuhanga processes have been dancing between both Asian and European traditions and is now gaining popularity among international artists.

Because it is time-consuming to produce, the practice of mokuhanga develops the intimacy between the artist and the print, revealing the poetry and soul of the artist at every step of the process. The artist will gauge by “feel” the depth of the carving, the dampness of the paper, the ratio of rice glue to pigment, the pressure placed on the baren (tool for rubbing). The artist is paying attention all the time to the senses, particularly to the sense of touch. Mokuhanga prints are produced in harmony with nature and do not leave a negative impact on the environment.

In this exhibition, the Mokuhanga Sisters invited teachers and friends to demonstrate the versatility of this ecologically-sound medium. Although it is possible to create a print after a one-day workshop, mastering this art form takes many hours of practice. In that way, everyone who practices mokuhanga needs at least one teacher.

*The World Between the Block and the Paper* will be on view in Yester House simultaneously with Hiroshige and the Changing Japanese Landscape in the Wilson Museum. We invite the viewer to notice the techniques in both exhibitions and to compare how the tradition of mokuhanga has continued as well as how it has been updated. The goal is to create a conversation around this medium and to realize its full potential for artistic expression by dialoguing with its history.



**Exhibiting Artists:**

Katie Baldwin invites Chihiro Taki  
Patty Hudak invites Louise Rouse  
Mariko Jesse invites Hidehiko Gotou  
Kate MacDonagh invites Katsutoshi Yuasa

Yoonmi Nam invites Matthew Willie Garcia  
Mia O invites Terry McKenna  
Lucy May Schofield invites Ayao Shiokawa  
Melissa Schulenberg invites Brendan Reil

**Our teachers:**

Hidehiko Gotou  
Kyoko Hirai  
Shoichi Kitamura  
Tetsuo and Toshio Soyama

**Our community:**

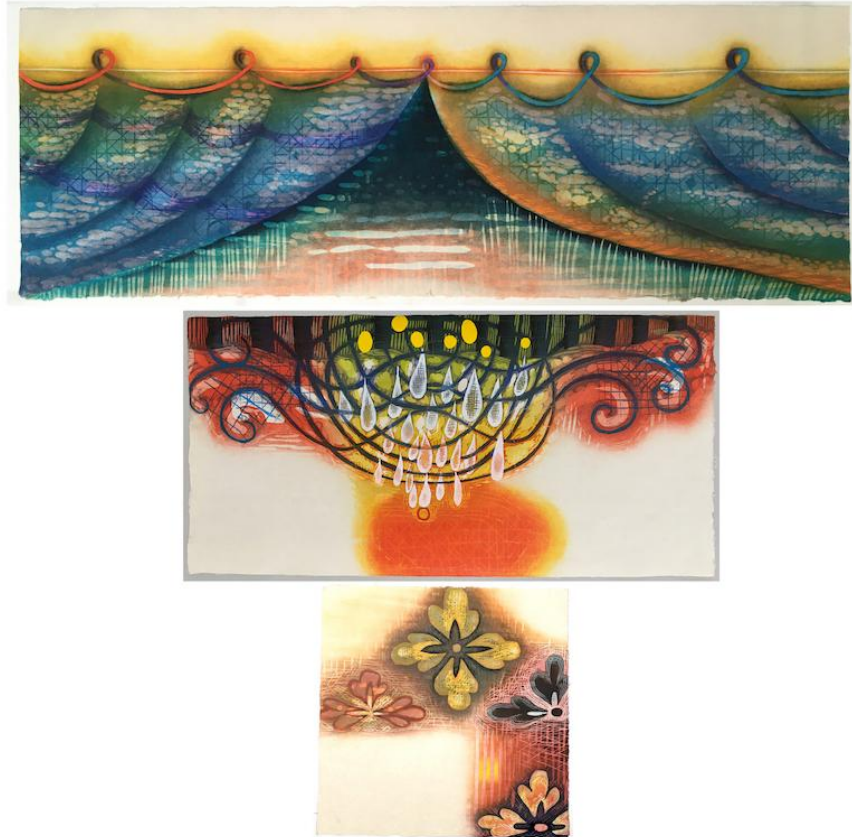
Annie Bissett  
Sarah Hulsey  
Jennifer Mack-Watkins  
Florence Neal  
April Vollmer

**IMC Sponsor: Constellation Studios, Lincoln, NE, USA**

**Release/Reveal: Karen Kunc Works in Process**

1 October – 30 November 2021

New works by Karen Kunc evoke the inexorable tension of our times and the realization of irrevocable change. Created after the personal loss of the artist's life partner, these striking images of waiting and potential transition offer a contemplative space. The pandemic years coincide with this time of grieving, causing isolation, loss, universal sadness, and greater possibility of change for all. These works-in-progress are the artist's response to this moment in time and offer a visual metaphor of such transition and a memorial to our loved ones passed.



Kunc's prints are created through the reduction woodcut process, from multiple blocks that were each printed and carved, then printed and carved again in an evolutionary process. Using selective inking and transparent-to-opaque ink qualities there are unique aspects of revealing and concealing that mirror the metaphoric meanings. Also showing will be new artist books, with etchings and eco-printing. Constellation Studios is a "laboratory" site for testing how these new printworks go together, and how to live with art. Catching sight, passing by, studying over time becomes an immersive awareness, and allows for seeing and knowing what feels right. Join in this experience – an explosion – of color, new forms, and poignant timing.

For further information: [www.constellation-studios.net](http://www.constellation-studios.net)

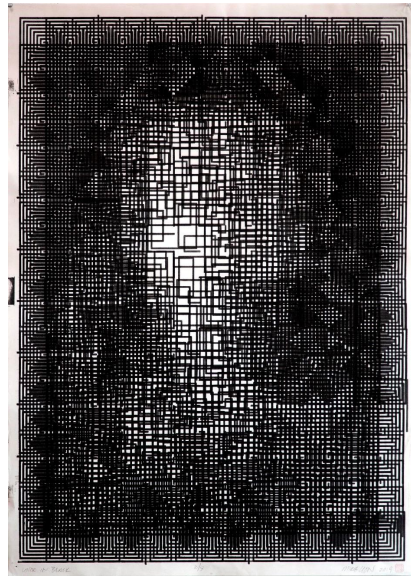
**Wichita Art Museum, Wichita, Kansas**

***The International Block Print Renaissance, Then and Now—1922–2022, Block Print Exhibitions in Wichita, Kansas***

February 26–August 7, 2022

This is a centennial celebration for one of the earliest block print exhibitions in America, held in Wichita, Kansas in 1922.

**Contemporary printmakers:** Mike Lyon, Karen Kunc, Timothy High, Jean Gumpert, Marc Sisson, Michell Martin, Linda Lee Boyd, Louise Fisher, Leon Loughridge, Gordon Mortenson, Walt Padgett, and Micah Schwaberow.



Mike Lyon, *Linda in Black*, 2019, 41 x 29 inches

**Historical Introduction:** Albrecht Dürer, Utagawa Hiroshige, Arthur Wesley Dow, Frank Morley Fletcher, Yoshijiro Urushibara, Hans Neumann, Walther Klemm

**Pioneers of block printmaking:** Helen Hyde, Bertha Lum, B. J. O. Nordfeldt, Walter Phillips, Gustave Baumann, Allen Lewis, Margaret Jordan Patterson, Ernest Watson, Tod Lindenmuth, Rudolph Ruzicka, Dean Babcock, Frances Gearhart, William Rice, J. J. Lankes, Birger Sandzén, C.A. Seward, Herschel Logan, and Lloyd Foltz.

Accompanying this exhibition will be a smaller show titled *Learning From the Japanese* including about 40 prints by both Japanese and European relief printmakers.

**The IMC Newsletter** is published as we receive mokuhanga related news.

Contributions can be submitted to [news@mokuhanga.org](mailto:news@mokuhanga.org)