

# ANITA JENSEN

1957 Helsinki, Finland

Independent visual artist and printmaker

## STUDIES

- 2002 Non-Toxic Intaglio Printmaking Workshop at Grafisk Experimentarium Studio in Copenhagen, Denmark  
1994-2000 Advanced studies in photography, printmaking, bookbinding and papermaking in the Academy of Fine Arts and University of Art and Design UIAH, Helsinki, Finland  
1997 Washi Papermaking Workshop, Tosa Washi Village, Kochi, Ino, Japan  
1981-86 Finnish Academy of Fine Arts, Printmaking department

## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2023 Fieldwork to the heart, MUJI Small Gallery Helsinki, Finland  
2021 Memoirs of one japanomaniac, Gumbostrand Konst & Form, Sipoo, Finland  
2020 Unfolding the scrolls of life between the times and places 3. Youkobo Art Space, Tokyo, Japan  
2020 Unfolding the scrolls of life between the times and places 2. Tokyo Metropolitan Central Library, Tokyo, Japan  
2019 Unfolding the scrolls of life between the times and places 1. Gallery G, Helsinki, Finland  
2018 IMPACT 10th International Printmaking Conference Exhibition:  
Folding and unfolding The Scrolls of Life – Between times and places, Santander, Spain  
2017 The beauty of tragic elegance, Kuntsi Museum of Modern Art, Vaasa, Finland  
2016 Slices of life, The Icelandic Printmakers Association The IPA Gallery, Reykjavik, Iceland  
2016 Lingering in the garden of gaze, Gallery G 12, Helsinki, Finland  
2015 IMPACT 9th International Printmaking Conference Exhibition at Henglu Art Gallery, Hangzhou, China  
2014 Memoirs of The Mirror and Curtain, Gumbostrand Konst & Form, Sipoo, Finland  
2013 Mono no aware / Slices of Life, Gallery G, Helsinki, Finland  
Kakyo – A Mirror Held to The Flower/Galleria Uusitalo/Interior Design Helena Karahtila, Helsinki, Finland  
2012 Touch of Distances, Awagami Factory/Exhibition Gallery Yoshinogawa-shi, Tokushima, Japan2010 Gallery Aino, Helsinki, Finland  
2009 IMPACT 6th International Multi-Disciplinary Printmaking Conference in Bristol, UK  
2008 Gallery Uusitalo, Helsinki, Finland  
Gallery Pictor, Nummela, Finland  
2006 Gallery Uusitalo, Helsinki, Finland  
Gallery Orton, Helsinki, Finland  
2004 Atelier 31 Gallery, Seattle USA  
Malkki Museum, Tampere, Finland  
2001 De Crescenzo & Viesti, Galleria D'arte Contemporanea, Rome, Italy  
2000 Gallery Uusitalo, Helsinki, Finland  
1998 Gallery G, Helsinki, Finland

## GROUP EXHIBITIONS / SELECTION

- 2014 Festen, 15th anniversary exhibition of Gallery Forum Box, Helsinki, Finland  
2013 Gumbostrand Konst & Form, inaugural exhibition, Sipoo, Finland  
2012 Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Willa Mac Museum of Finnish Contemporary Art, Tampere, Finland  
2011 Punctum<sup>2</sup> / Pigment – Prints from Japan and Finland, with Hideyuki Igarashi, Willa Mac Museum of Finnish Contemporary Art, Tampere, Finland  
2010 XV Mänttä Art Festival, Mänttä, Finland  
2010 Secret – an exhibition of the Cooperative of Artisan, Designers and Artists in Fiskars, with Erja Huovila, The Granary of Fiskars Willage  
2006 Association of Finnish Printmakers, Lahti Art Brewery, Lahti, Finland  
Light and Shadow, Mirror Images of Northern Sky, Viinistu Art Museum, Estonia  
2005 The Flower of Death, Graphic Artists' Association of Lahti, Lahti Art Brewery, Lahti, Finland  
Passing Energy, Open Air Gallery, UIAH and the Association of Finnish Printmakers, Helsinki, Finland  
Echoes from East, Kisko Kivimakasiini, Kisko, Finland  
Gallery Echo, Academy of Fine Arts, Helsinki, Finland  
2003 Northern European Print Art Exhibition, Chiak Art Hall, Wonju Hanji Festival, South Korea  
Northern European Print Art Exhibition, Kim Nae Hyun Art Gallery, Seoul, South Korea  
2002 KIAF – Korea International Art Fair 2002, Pusan, South Korea, Gallery Uusitalo and Gallery Pyo in Seoul  
2001 Little-Big-Little, 70th anniversary of the Association of Finnish Printmakers, Helsinki, Finland  
Axis, 40 Finnish Photographers and Printmakers, portfolio exhibition in Media Center UIAH, Helsinki, Finland  
Graphia Borea, Prints from Finland, Finnish National Gallery, Helsinki, Finland  
Highlights in Nordic Photogravure, Gallen-Kallela Museum, Helsinki, Finland  
Hockey Flowers, Works from The Jenny and Antti Wihuri Foundation Collection at Gallery Forum Box, Helsinki, Finland  
1999 Tunne, group exhibition, BIO -99, House of Science, Helsinki, Association of Finnish Artists  
Photopolymer gravure exhibition, Museum of Photography, Helsinki, Finland  
1998 What is Real, Finnish Photography Triennial, Kunsthalle Helsinki and Mikkelin Art Museum  
1997 Exhibition of the Artists' Association of Helsinki, Finland  
1996 Gallery Kaj Forsblom, Helsinki, Finland  
1995 Nightmare, gravure exhibition, Into Gallery, Helsinki, Laterna Magica, Helsinki; Victor Barsokovitch  
Photographic Center, Kuopio; Nyky aika Photographic Center, Tampere; Iisalmi Photograph Biennial;  
Rantagalleria, Oulu; Zebra Gallery, Karjaa; Gallery Artie, Vaasa, Finland  
1994 Gallery Sirius, Jyväskylä, Finland  
Stone, Wood and Paper, exhibition, Hyvinkää, Finland  
Publishing exhibition of Art Graphic Collection of Repola, Helsinki, Finland

## INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / SELECTION

- 2015 GraN, Graphic Nordica, Kunstmuseum Akureyri, Iceland  
2014 16th Tallinn Print Triennial, Art Museum of Estonia Kumu, Tallinn, Estonia  
2009,-10,-11,-12,-13 International exhibition of Art and Design, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Kyoto  
2011 Interbifep XIV, International Biennial, Bosnia-Herzegovina  
2009-10 International exhibition of Art Gallery Kei-fu, Kyoto, Japan  
2008 21st Kyoto Art Festival, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Japan  
2002 10th International Print Triennial, Graphica Creativa, Jyväskylä, Finland  
12th Space International Print Biennial Seoul, South Korea

2001	Relativities, 4 <sup>th</sup> British International Miniature Print Exhibition, Bristol UK Highlights in Nordic Photography, Photographic Festival of Houston, Winter Street Art Center and Southeast Museum of Photography, USA 6 <sup>th</sup> International Biennale of Graphics of the Baltic Sea Countries/Kaliningrad-Königsberg
1998	2 <sup>nd</sup> World Festival of Art on Paper, Ljubljana, Slovenia 12 <sup>th</sup> Tallinn Print Triennial, Tallinn, Estonia 4 <sup>th</sup> Sapporo International Print Biennale, Sapporo, Japan 11 <sup>th</sup> Print Triennial of Tallinn, Estonia
1997	Højlys & Dybtryk III-Fotogravyren i Norden, Museum of Photography, Odense and Copenhagen, Denmark, and in Oslo, Norway
1996	3 <sup>rd</sup> Kochi International Triennial Exhibition of Prints, Japan
1995	Sand and Stone, II Baltic Sea States Triennial of Graphic Art, Gdansk, Poland.....

#### FINNISH ART EXHIBITIONS ABROAD / SELECTION

2000	Finnish Contemporary Graphic Art Exhibition, Kiev, Ukraine
1999	Finnish Contemporary Graphics, Residence of Finnish Foreign Office, Windhoek Museum, Namibia
1998	Appointments, Finnish-Japanese Art Exhibition, Kyoto International Community House Gallery, Japan Finnish Contemporary Art, Museum Judetan Teleorman, Aleksandria, Romania
1997	Finnish Contemporary Graphics, Residence of Finnish Foreign Office, Cape Town, South Africa
1997	Kaiku/Echo, group exhibition of the teachers of the Department of Art at University of Art and Design, UIAH, Helsinki, at Tallinn Art Hall, Estonia Meetings, Finnish Contemporary Graphics, Gallery Tosa Washi Village; Tosa, Ino, Japan.....

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

2015	GraN, Graphic Nordica, Kunstmuseum Akureyri, Iceland, Honourable mention
2011	International Art and Design Exhibition, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art Kyoto, Japan The Prize of Consulate General of China
2008	22 <sup>nd</sup> Kyoto City Art Festival, International Art and Design Exhibition, Japan The Prize of Kyoto City Mayor
2002	The 12 <sup>th</sup> Space International Print Biennial, Seoul, South Korea, in the series of space grand prize; Selected Prize
2001	Kaliningrad-Königsberg Graphic Biennial, Russia Honourable mention
1998	11 <sup>th</sup> Tallinn Print Triennial, 1 <sup>st</sup> Equal Prize, Estonia
1997	Finnish National Gallery, ex Libris competition, Finland, 1 <sup>st</sup> prize, Finland
1993	Finnish State Railways and WWF Art Competition, 1 <sup>st</sup> prize, Finland
1992	Pro Graphica Triennial, Gallery Mino, Lohja, 1 <sup>st</sup> prize, Finland
1989	Runner-up for Young Artist of the Year title 1989, Finland
1987	International Print Triennial of Young Artist, Vaasa, 1 <sup>st</sup> prize, Finland Exhibition of Young Artist, Helsinki, Saskia Scholarship, Finland

#### GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS / SELEKTION

Finnish Cultural Foundation, Arts Promotion Centre Finland, Frame Contemporary Art Finland, Alfred Kordelin Foundation, Greta and William Lehtinen Foundation, Greta and William Lehtinen Foundation and The Scandinavia-Japan Sasakawa Foundation 4 times during last 20 years.

#### MEMBERSHIPS

Association of Finnish Printmakers  
Helsinki Artist Society  
Forum Box Artist Society

***“My art draws attention to the transience of moments, to deformation and the forms and variations of Japanese beauty. It introduces new perspectives on the forms of presentation in visual art, its techniques and materials in the area of photography and graphic art.***

***“Combining elements of a foreign and faraway culture with personal and familiar photographs has allowed me to constantly acquire new perspectives in my own work,” says Anita Jensen, describing her work.***

#### PRACTICE

*“I have been a full-time visual artist since 1985. In the early years I focused on intaglio etching techniques, and was soon developing my own printmaking methods, which enabled me to produce large multicolored intaglio prints. From 1990 to 1993, I made what one might call ‘Rorschach tests’ for myself, very large copper plates that I etched with sugar lift and relief printed. The method is fascinating, it gives you endless variations of form from which to choose the ones that I am most interested in. They seemed like large simple forms from nature, mirrored images between the abstract and the figurative. They reminded me of Rococo, or mirrors...”*

*The prints of these mirrored forms started to grow, becoming very, very large, the size of the human body in fact. After my first working trip to Japan in 1994, I returned to the narrative. Using a camera, I began concentrating on the photo polymer and ImagOn gravure techniques, eventually spending six years studying and practicing these new printmaking possibilities. I emerged from the ‘dark room’ in 2000, and have since then focused on large-format pigment printing with inkjet technology. I have experimented with both Western and Japanese materials with the technique, and have presented my work with it for the last 20 years.”*

Jensen calls her works surreal photomontages. They are pigment prints of varying sizes that are printed on Western and Japanese printing papers as well as other materials. In exhibitions, the standalone artworks are also used to form spatial ensembles. Traditional Japanese hanging scrolls and hand scrolls have been a source of inspiration for Jensen as she combines old and new techniques and materials unexpected ways.

#### **MERITS**

Actively practicing visual artist working for 33 years in graphic fine art and photography and 30 years as teacher of graphic art at the University of Art and Design (today Aalto University).

See attached biography and CV for a detailed list of prizes and honors received at exhibitions in Finland and abroad. Anita Jensen lives and works at the Myllypuro Artist Village in Helsinki, Finland.

*“Anita Jensen succeeds in capturing the core of Japanese culture, arts and aesthetics. It appears in her work in fleeting moments and aesthetic climaxes, unfolding in lucid subliminality or perfectly controlled awareness, and in surprising forms of manifestation. Traditional Japanese aesthetic concepts – the beauty of the lean and withered, the union of the elegant and the grotesque – reoccur throughout her work. These aesthetic polar opposites, or their ‘juxtaposition,’ generate a particular tension in Jensen’s work, which is also manifested as open-mindedness and curiosity, enabling us to observe Japanese culture and art from new but also surprising angles.*

*On the other hand, Jensen’s works also emphasise the polarity between alien and familiar, and their natural unit, that is characteristic of Japanese culture and society as well. They open up Japanese culture and beauty for us in a new way, clear and unpretentious, yet nuanced with Jensen’s robustly Finnish, powerful expressiveness. The works are like peepholes into another time and place, other lived moments, in the moods of which the viewer can participate as an outside observer.”*

*Short quotation from essay by;*

*Minna Eväsoja, PhD, Japanese Studies and Docent in Japanese Aesthetics University of Helsinki in the book;*

*Unfolding the Scrolls of Life - Between Times and Places*

人生というドラマが明かされる瞬間

*Publishing House; Maahenki kustannus Helsinki Finland 2018*

More information:

[www.anitajensen.net](http://www.anitajensen.net)