

Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper

October 4th, 2025 - January 11th, 2026

Exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

Washi ("Japanese paper"), a 1,000-year-old cultural cornerstone of Japan, blends traditional production with innovation. Valued for strong natural fibers, translucency and malleability, it traditionally served calligraphy, painting and printmaking. Modified via oiling or lacquering, it now spans architecture, fashion and art, thanks to Japanese artists who craft textured art, sculptures and installations. The exhibition "Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper" showcases 30+ works by 9 artists, highlighting washi's vast potential and its role in connecting past, present and global cultures.



Taekyeom Lee: Designed, Printed & Fired

November 15th, 2025 - March 8th, 2026

Exhibition, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

Taekyeom Lee's exhibition "Designed, Printed & Fired" merges 3D printing with traditional ceramics, redefining graphic design as inclusive, multisensory, and interactive—beyond flat, vision-centered media. Blending diverse materials, it showcases tactile, textured works exploring culture, identity, and memory, contrasting cutting-edge tech with hands-on craftsmanship to question if human-technology collaboration negates "man-made." Born in South Korea, the Indiana University Bloomington Associate Professor (M.F.A., UIUC; B.A., Keimyung University) uses digital fabrication for tangible typography/graphics. His practice, shaped by technical curiosity and a health challenge, promotes accessible, playful, material design that invites sensory engagement.



Meditation and Mindfulness

Each Tuesday and Friday, Noon - 12:45 p.m.

Online Workshops, Asian Art Museum

[Registration required](#)

Meditation helps us build a relationship to a place of inner quietude. Whether you're a beginner or a skilled practitioner, join us for free online meditation sessions each week led by DC-based meditation teachers on Tuesdays and Fridays. Friday sessions take inspiration from art in our museum's collections. All are welcome! No previous experience is required.



Arts of China

[Tuesday, December 2nd, 1 – 2 p.m. Registration required](#)

[Tuesday, December 16th, 3 – 4 p.m. Registration required](#)

Virtual Tour, Asian Art Museum

Examine the diverse artistic and cultural traditions of one of the world's oldest civilizations in this virtual tour. Learn about Chinese artworks such as ritual bronze vessels, calligraphy, brush paintings in ink and color, and exquisite ceramics.

[Wonder Walk: Technology and Art](#)

Wednesday, May 5th 11:00 - 11:45am

In-person Event, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts,

[Registration encouraged](#)



Come along for a guided stroll of Taekyeom Lee:

Designed, Printed & Fired Discover how the artist uses

unusual materials and digital tools such as 3D printers to create letters, graphics, and objects that invite visitors to engage with design through touch, sight, and play.

Take a Wonder Walk through the galleries! The walk will include close looking at a few artworks as well as gallery games and activities. This is a great way to introduce your little one to art and the museum. Wonder Walks is for children 2-4 years old (but all are welcome) and is free with the cost of admission. Caregivers must stay with their children at all times. Preregistration is encouraged. Adults, remember to register your children!

[Celebrating the Winter Solstice, with docent Kasey Yang](#)

Tuesday, December 9th, 3 p.m. (noon PST)

Online Talk, the Asian Museum of Art

[Registration required](#)

“Take out” a taste of art! Join museum docents and fellow art lovers for interactive lunchtime encounters with selected artworks from the collection.

Gathering on Zoom to look closely at compelling works using high-resolution images and uncover fun facts. Each weekly session explores a different topic; unmute to join the conversation.





[Gallery Gathering: Washi Transformed: New Expressions in Japanese Paper](#)

Thursday, December 11th, 5:30 - 6 p.m.

In-person Event, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

[Preregistration is encouraged](#)

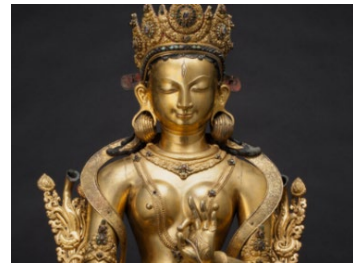
The Washi Transformed exhibition includes an exciting variety of works in paper by contemporary Japanese artists, ranging from delicate two-dimensional pieces to dramatic installations. During this Gallery Gathering, we'll take a closer look at a selection of artworks from this breathtaking exhibition.

[White Tara - a Second Look, with docent Larry Mock](#)

Tuesday, December 16th, 3 p.m. (noon PST)

Online Talk, the Asian Museum of Art

[Registration required](#)



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[Everything She Touched: The Life of Ruth Asawa by Marilyn Chase](#)



Wednesday, December 17th, 2 – 3 p.m.

Book Discussion, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts

[Preregistration is encouraged](#)

This biography of Japanese American artist Ruth Asawa traces her journey from internment camps during WWII to becoming a renowned sculptor. The book explores her resilience, innovative wire sculptures, and dedications to arts education. Through personal stories, Chase illuminates how Asawa's identity, experiences, and vision helped her transform prejudice and hardship into creativity and public impact. Please note that the author will not be in attendance for this event.