

Ryoko Endo

Education

2006–present	The Art Students League of New York Ronnie Landfield, Mariano Del Rosario, Peter Bonner, Frank O’Cain, Peter Reginato, (Abstract painting), 2016–2019 Kikuo Saito (Abstract painting), 2006–16 Nicki Orbach (Life drawing), 2011–15 James McElhinney (Life drawing), 2009–10 Barney Hodes (Sculpture), 2007–9 Michael Burban (Life drawing), 2006–7
2006–7	Shingai Tanaka, Lyon (Calligraphy)
2004–5	Masako Inkyo, New York (Calligraphy)
1972–73	Musashino Art University, Graduate Junior College of Art and Design, Tokyo
1970–72	Musashino Art University, Junior College of Art and Design, Tokyo

Exhibitions (all New York)

Solo:

2018	Cushman & Wakefield (Exhibition Outreach Program, Art Students League)
2017	Vartali Salon
2015	Squire Patton Boggs (Exhibition Outreach Program, Art Students League)
2014	Vartali Salon
2011	Pentomo Salon

Group:

2007–19	Phyllis Harriman Mason Gallery, Arts Students League
2019	“11 th National Juried Exhibition” Prince Street Gallery “Summer Exhibition” The Factory Gallery LIC
2018	“Annual Group Exhibition” Ossam Gallery Art Event at One Manhattan Square “7on7th” BBFL
2017	“Open house exhibition” 4W43 Gallery “Red Dot Exhibition” Phyllis Harriman Mason Gallery “7on7th” BBFL
2016	“Merit Scholarship Exhibition” Phyllis Harriman Mason Gallery “Works on Paper” The Manhattan Borough Presidents Office
2015	“2 nd Eleven persons Exhibition” Gallery onetwentyeight “Five Senses +1” Elga Wimmer Gallery
2014	“Red Dot Exhibition” Phyllis Harriman Mason Gallery “10 persons Exhibition” Tenri Cultural Institute of New York
2013	A. T. Kearney (Exhibition Outreach Program, Art Students League)
2011	Vartali Salon
2007	Buchman Tower (Exhibition Outreach Program, Art Students) “Red Dot Exhibition” Phyllis Harriman Mason Gallery

Awards and Honors

2015	The Trudy and Henry Gillette Painting Scholarship
2007, 2014, 2017	Red Dot Award (Best in Show, Abstract Art), Art Students League
2010	Fantasy Fountain Fund Scholarship Award, finalist
2007–18	Blue Dot Award (Abstract Art and Life Drawing), Arts Students League

Statement

In all of my painting I look to express human feeling and a sense of cheering on for each life. Because one painting saved me.

I focus on color! Color is the most important essence of my work. I want to pursue the possibility in color. There are many unexpected color combinations. Some discord and disharmony between colors. Layers of color harmony was beyond my expectation.

Movement is also important—the way I move an element empowers my pictures. Shapes dissolve and become meaningless.

Brushstrokes vary according to speed, thickness, density, and rhythm. Calligraphy requires complete concentration, as it is an unforgiving practice. There are no second chances. In this respect it becomes a type of meditation.

Color, movement, and stroke all of these elements ramble discursive works grow together. 'More color' Yes, I know color speaks, color has power.

Biography

Ryoko was born into a traditional family in Fukushima, Japan and went to catholic mission school. Her mother made her wear a glove on dominant left hand so that she would learn to use right—left-handed children brought shame on a family. To this day, she can paint with both hands.

She majored in graphic design and typography at Musashino Art University in Tokyo. She became the editor and art director for a food magazine, where she worked for twenty-two years.

In 1994, when she turned forty-three, one of her friend in New York asked if she would like to be a partner for a takeout sushi franchise. On the spur of the moment, she decided to join her. She wanted to challenge new and different things, forty-three years old her was still young and fulfilled energy. Although she had never visited, she decided to move alone to New York City.

She worked in the restaurant business many years, however she realized that she was not fulfilled and again found herself questioning her future.

This time she was fifty-four, in the autumn of life; she was determined to discover what would gratify and feed soul before the life winter season began.

One day in September 2006 she came upon the Art Students League. Entered the building and the smell of oil paint immediately brought her back to happier days as an Art student. The gallery had all instructors show, one of Instructor Kikuo Saito's brilliant vivid splashes of colors were so refreshing and so moving to her that it drove away her sadness. She was bursting from within and felt like she wanted to paint as he did. It was Kikuo's ONE painting that motivated her to begin painting abstract.

She had not picked up a brush in more than thirty-two years when began studying under Kikuo Saito. Six months later, her picture was receiving Red dot honors in the class show. Had it not been for her earlier misfortunes, she might never have realized potential as an artist. In all her paintings she tries to express a sense of gratitude, as painting saved her. She hopes her work encourages others to find their true path in life.