

# BURNABY ART GALLERY

For Immediate Release  
October 27, 2015

## ***LAYERS: Print & Beyond***

**Gillian Armitage, Kim Mi Hyang, Marie Price**

November 20, 2015 – January 24, 2016

Guest Curator: Susan Gransby



Image Credits: (left) Kim Mi Hyang, *For Her* (detail), image courtesy of artist; (middle) Gillian Armitage, *Letters from Japan* (detail), photo: Scott Massey; (right) Marie Price, *Outside of Time* (detail), photo: Scott Massey

**BURNABY, BC** – The Burnaby Art Gallery (BAG) is pleased to present *LAYERS: Print & Beyond* from November 20, 2015-January 24, 2016. This exhibition features works by three highly accomplished artist/printmakers: Gillian Armitage, Kim Mi Hyang and Marie Price and is guest curated by professional printmaker and artist, Susan Gransby. The artists have been strongly influenced by their time in Japan as lecturers, visiting artists and exhibitors. Each artist incorporates handmade Washi and Hanji papers into their prints, paintings and sculptural

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installations.

Most of the work by Gillian Armitage is inspired by the story of Sadako Sasaki and her thousand paper cranes. Two-year-old Sadako survived the horrific A-bomb attack on Hiroshima on August 6, 1945 but sadly succumbed to leukemia 10 years later. During her eight-month battle with cancer she valiantly made paper cranes in the belief that this may affect a cure. Armitage also conveys visual embodiment of specific places or areas in Japan with *'Letters from Japan,'* printed on fine mulberry paper. With hundreds of photographs to prompt her memory, those travel experiences motivated her textless 'letters'.

Kim Mi Hyang creates prints that explore her relationship to the natural world and to her daily experiences through her unique printing process that combines woodcut engraving and paper casting. Most of her work begins by drawing freely on a wooden block with ink, charcoal and pencil. She then engraves the image by carving every detail into the wood, inking the woodcut and then casting it with several sheets of very thin, natural coloured Hanji paper.

For Marie Price, her subject matter is personal yet universal. Each piece comprises a mixture of print techniques in describing her figure-based imagery. The focus is on humanity's search for consciousness and peace. The layering of the Washi papers is a physical gesture that mirrors the layering of experience that each human absorbs over their individual lifetimes.

All three artists are members of Vancouver's Malaspina Printmakers Society and have exhibited internationally. The public is invited to the opening reception on Thursday, November 19 at the Burnaby Art Gallery. No cost and low cost public programming is available during the exhibition for the community to learn more about the artists and their work.

## **PUBLIC PROGRAMMING**

### **Opening Reception: Thursday, November 19, 7-9pm**

Join us for the opening reception at the Burnaby Art Gallery. The evening features opening remarks, followed by a reception in our Fireside Room. **FREE.**

### **Curator's Tour: Saturday, November 28, 2pm**

Join guest curator and professional printmaker Susan Gransby for an exploration of the exhibit's technically complex prints. Works include chine collé techniques, origami constructed from etchings and woodcuts on cast paper. **FREE.**

### **Lift Prints & Chine Collé: Artist Led Workshop, Sunday, November 29, 1-4:30pm 16 yrs & up, \$15.00.**

Gillian Armitage and Marie Price, artists whose work is on exhibit in the gallery, lead a demonstration and workshop to explore lift prints and chine collé. Experienced and new printmakers will be inspired by the subtleties possible with layers of thin chine collé papers and inks. Barcode: 381928. Call 604-297-4422 to register.

## **In the B.A.G. Family Sundays: Sunday, December 13, 1-4pm**

Join us for an interactive experience that combines the current gallery exhibit with a free, hands-on studio activity. Drop in, all ages. **FREE.**

## **BACKGROUNDER**

**Gillian Armitage** is an exhibiting artist at the Burnaby Art Gallery. She has exhibited regularly for more than 30 years, including at San Francisco's Museum of Modern Art, Cracow's Biennial of Graphic Art, China's National Academy of Arts and the Smithsonian's Travelling Print Exhibition, among many international venues. Most relevant to this show, Armitage has exhibited in Japan at the University of Kanagawa, Studio Om in Yokohama and Saint Paul Gallery in Gunma in 2005. The following year she was invited to speak at the Nagasaki Peace Museum and the Incho Paper Museum in Kochi.

**Kim Mi Hyang** is an exhibiting artist at the Burnaby Art Gallery. She divides her time between Seoul and Vancouver. She holds a BFA (1986) from the Hong Ik (Hongdae) University in Seoul, South Korea and earned a Master of Printmaking at the Graduate School of Fine Arts, Hong Ik University in 2001. She has had solo exhibits in South Korea and Japan, and group exhibitions in Japan (2001 International Print Biennial, Kanagawa – Prize of Excellence, 2001), South Korea (20th Grand Art Exhibition of Jangang, Prize of Excellence), Canada (three BIMPE awards; First Prize, Open Print Show), Taiwan and the U.S. Her works are in the collection of the Kyoto Seika University of Japan and the Yokohama Museum.

**Marie Price** is an exhibiting artist at the Burnaby Art Gallery. Her work has been exhibited locally and internationally in print shows in Canada (Award of Excellence, Federation Gallery's Open Print Show) and Japan (visiting artist, Gallery Om, Yokohama), the U.S., Australia, Finland and Peru.

**Susan Gransby** is a guest curator of this exhibition. She is an independent curator, artist, writer and editor. She was born in London, England and graduated with Honours in Printmaking from the Vancouver School of Art after obtaining her degree in Philosophy from the University of B.C. After working as a journalist for several years, she joined the Malaspina Printmakers Society, serving on its board and as president of the Educational Society as well as on the board of the Burnaby Art Gallery. She has exhibited across Canada, in the U.S., Europe, South America and Japan.

*\*A selection of high resolution images and artist statements available upon request. An exhibition catalogue will be available in November.*

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## **MEDIA CONTACT**

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The Burnaby Art Gallery (BAG) is dedicated to collecting, preserving and presenting a contemporary and historical visual art program by local, national and internationally recognized artists. The BAG acts as a leader in the collection, preservation and exhibition of artists who choose to work on paper – we are the only art museum in British Columbia dedicated to works of art on paper. Through our collection and exhibition practices the BAG endeavours to represent the best and most promising artists within the Canadian print culture community. The BAG cares for and manages over 5,000 works of art in the City of Burnaby's Permanent Art Collection.

For more information about the gallery's exhibitions, programs, and tours, call 604-297-4422 or visit [www.burnabyartgallery.ca](http://www.burnabyartgallery.ca). Located in the beautiful surroundings of Deer Lake Park, the Burnaby Art Gallery is open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am to 4:30pm and on Saturday and Sunday, 12noon to 5:00pm. Admission is by donation; suggested donation \$5. Parking is free. The Burnaby Art Gallery acknowledges the generous support provided by: the City of Burnaby; the British Columbia Arts Council; the Province of British Columbia, its patrons and visitors.

