

# TERUKO YOKOI

横井照子

*1924, Tsushima, Aichi Prefecture, Japan - 2020, Bern, Switzerland*

## Artist CV

Emerald Room | Emerald Editions serves as an Estate partner gallery and lead archival, scholarly and institutional liaison for Teruko Yokoi. This CV is a living scholarly record: it will be refined and updated as new archival research is completed, reviewed and incorporated into the Estate's ongoing catalogue raisonné and legacy work.

### ARTIST OVERVIEW

Teruko Yokoi was a Japanese-born Swiss painter and printmaker whose career moved across Tsushima, Tokyo, San Francisco, New York, Paris and Bern. Trained first in Japan under Kouki Suzuki and Takanori Kinoshita, she entered the California School of Fine Arts in San Francisco in 1954 and later moved to New York to study with Hans Hofmann and Julian Levi at the Art Students League. Across painting, works on paper, egg tempera, lithography and later offset editions, Yokoi developed a deeply personal language of abstraction shaped by Japanese calligraphy, seasonal poetics, American postwar painting, European modernism and the remembered landscapes of childhood.

This CV is structured as a scholarly market standard for the artist: concise enough for collectors and curators, while preserving key archival markers needed for institutional due diligence, catalogue raisonné development and future object-level research.

#### Key identity fields

<b>Full name</b>	Teruko Yokoi / 横井照子
<b>Dates</b>	Born 2 April 1924, Tsushima, Aichi Prefecture, Japan. Died 28 October 2020, Bern, Switzerland.
<b>Nationality / citizenship</b>	Japanese-born; Swiss nationality and citizenship of Bern obtained in 1991.
<b>Primary media</b>	Oil on canvas; works on paper; watercolor; ink; gouache; egg tempera; collage; stone lithograph; offset lithograph; hand-finished print editions.
<b>Cities of formation</b>	Tsushima / Nagoya; Tokyo; San Francisco; New York; Paris; Bern.
<b>Estate and archive</b>	Estate of Teruko Yokoi; Emerald Room   Emerald Editions as Estate partner gallery and lead archival, scholarly and institutional liaison.

## CHRONOLOGY

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- 1924** Born on 2 April in Tsushima, Aichi Prefecture, Japan; early art education begins under Kouki Suzuki, a member of the Shunyo-kai Art Society.
- 1930s** Childhood in the landscape of the Kiso River region; her father, a calligrapher and teacher, encouraged haiku, calligraphy and close observation of nature.
- 1939** Selected for the Tokai Art Exhibition near Nagoya.
- 1949** Moves to Tokyo; studies at Joshibi University of Art and Design and studies with Takanori Kinoshita. Wins prizes in the Issui kai Exhibition and Nitten Exhibition.
- 1954** Moves to San Francisco and enters the California School of Fine Arts, now San Francisco Art Institute. Receives a Top Honor Scholarship and begins a decisive shift toward abstraction.
- 1955** Wins fourth prize at the San Francisco Museum of Art's Seventy-Fourth Annual Painting and Sculpture Exhibition; receives a Japan Society scholarship; holds a solo exhibition at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor; moves to New York in September to study with Hans Hofmann.
- 1956** Studies with Julian Levi at the Art Students League of New York; participates in a special exhibition in San Francisco at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor connected to the fiftieth anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.
- 1957** Wins a prize at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts annual exhibition; meets Sam Francis at a Matisse exhibition opening in New York; develops friendships in the postwar New York circle including Mark Rothko, Kenzo Okada and Joan Mitchell.
- 1958 / 1959** Marries Sam Francis in 1958; she and Francis live at the Chelsea Hotel in New York. Their daughter Kayo is born in 1959.
- 1960** Moves to Paris; participates in the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London group exhibition *The Mysterious Sign*, arranged by Robert Melville; visits Jean Tinguely's studio with Sam Francis and Yoshiaki Tono; works in the Paris studio documented by Charles Gimpel.
- 1961** Returns temporarily to Japan; holds a major solo exhibition of works on canvas at Minami Gallery, Tokyo.
- 1962** Moves to Bern, Switzerland, and opens a studio.
- 1963** Divorce from Sam Francis. Arnold Rüdinger writes to Bern immigration authorities in support of Yokoi's residence permit and recognizes her as an important contemporary artist.
- 1964** Exhibits with Walter Bodmer and Otto Tschumi at Kunsthalle Basel, curated by Arnold Rüdinger; archival letters document strong sales and institutional support.
- 1967** Galerie Bernard, Solothurn solo exhibition; archival photographs show Yokoi at the opening with Max Fueter and other guests.
- 1969** Kunstmuseum Winterthur exhibition with Benito Steiner and Italo Valenti; early print production begins around this period.
- 1970s** Expanded work in egg tempera and lithography; works handled by Swiss galleries and by Martha Jackson / David Anderson networks in New York.
- 1975** Participates in II. Berner Kunstaussstellung: Grossformate at Kunsthalle Bern.
- 1976–1990** Works with Nik Hausmann, Atelier de Lithographie, Montavon / Séprais, on stone lithographs printed on BFK Rives in editions often of 40 plus artist's proofs.
- 1984** Works with Ernst Hanke in Thun/Ringgenberg on three hand-printed stone lithograph editions.
- 1986** Seibu Art Forum, Tokyo and Mie Prefectural Art Museum, Tsu exhibitions; publication *Comme un petit coquelicot*.
- 1991** Obtains Swiss nationality and citizenship of Bern.
- 1998–2003** Works with Franz and Eliane Wittwer in Schüpfen on offset lithographic editions
- 2004** Teruko Yokoi Hinageshi Art Museum founded in Ena, Gifu Prefecture, Japan.
- 2008** Yokoi Teruko Fuji Museum of Art founded in Fuji, Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan.
- 2009** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern presents the retrospective *Schnee Mond Blumen*.
- 2015** Koumi-machi Kougen Museum of Art, Koumi, Japan presents *70 Years Artist Life of Teruko Yokoi*.
- 2020** Kunstmuseum Bern presents *Teruko Yokoi: Tokyo – New York – Paris – Bern*. The exhibition is extended after pandemic-related closure; the museum acquires *Peach Blossom Feast / Peach Blossom Festival*, 1961. Yokoi dies on 28 October 2020 in Bern.
- 2024** Marlborough Gallery, New York presents *Teruko Yokoi*, accompanied by the catalogue *Voyager: Teruko Yokoi's Landscape of Abstraction* by Anke Kempkes.
- 2025** Hollis Taggart, New York presents *Teruko Yokoi: Noh Theater*, co-curated by Tai Francis Wallace of Emerald Room | Emerald Editions; Restaurant Teruko opens at the Hotel Chelsea with a dedicated installation of Yokoi works.
- 2025–2027** Emerald Room | Emerald Editions advances research, catalogue raisonné planning and institutional coordination, including print and painting catalogue frameworks.

## SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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- 1955** California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco. Paintings by Teruko Yokoi; 19 oil paintings.
- 1956** California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco. San Francisco city views and wash drawings.
- 1961** Minami Gallery, Tokyo. 22 Works on canvas / oil paintings.
- 1967** Galerie Bernard, Solothurn. Oil paintings; archival photographs document exhibition context.
- 1968** Galerie Felix Handschin, Basel; Galerie Schindler, Bern. Oil paintings / watercolors.
- 1971** Galerie Ida Niggli, St. Gallen. Oil paintings and egg temperas.
- 1972** Galerie Atrium, Reinach; Berner Galerie, Bern. Egg temperas.
- 1973** Galerie Liatowitsch, Basel; Galerie Krebs, Bern. Egg temperas.
- 1974** Galerie 57, Biel. Egg temperas.
- 1975** Overbeck Gesellschaft, Lübeck; Galerie Krebs, Bern. Egg temperas.
- 1976** Art Shop, Basel. Egg temperas.
- 1977** Galerie 57, Biel; Galerie Liatowitsch, Basel. Egg temperas.
- 1978** Galerie Atrium, Reinach; Galerie Quadri, Lausanne; Galerie Plantahaus, Malans. Egg temperas and ceramic plate paintings.
- 1979** Galerie Krebs, Bern; Bücher Lang, Bern. Egg temperas; lithographs.
- 1980** Galerie Paul Bovée, Delémont; Art 11'80, Basel; Galerie Quadri, Lausanne. Egg temperas, lithographs, oil paintings.
- 1981** Galerie Art und Musik, Munich; Galerie Krebs, Bern. Oil paintings and egg temperas.
- 1982** Mitzi Landau Gallery, Los Angeles; Galerie Kornfeld, Zurich; Galerie Atrium, Basel. Egg temperas.
- 1984** Gimpel-Hanover & Andre Emmerich Galerien, Zurich; Bücher Lang, Bern; Wolfsberg, Ermatingen. Egg temperas, haiku pictures, oil paintings.
- 1986** Seibu Art Forum, Tokyo; Galerie Zimmermannhaus, Brugg; Mie Prefectural Art Museum, Tsu. Major Japan/Swiss exhibitions.
- 1988** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern; Galerie L'Embellie, Montreux.
- 1992** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern; Galerie Quadri, Ferlens; Galerie 63, Klosters.
- 1997** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern.
- 2002** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern; Rose Theatre, Fuji City Cultural Hall, Fuji.
- 2009** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern. Schnee Mond Blumen, retrospective 1941–2009.
- 2010–2011** Wolfsberg, Ermatingen. Mond Sonne Jahreszeiten, 2 Nov 2010 – 30 Jun 2011.
- 2012** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern. Schnee Mond Blumen II, 31 Oct – 15 Dec 2012.
- 2015** Koumi-machi Kougen Museum of Art, Koumi, Japan. 70 Years Artist Life of Teruko Yokoi.
- 2016** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern.
- 2019** Galerie Kornfeld, Bern.
- 2020** Kunstmuseum Bern, Bern. Teruko Yokoi: Tokyo – New York – Paris – Bern, 31 Jan – 10 May 2020, extended to 2 Aug 2020.
- 2023–2024** Teruko Yokoi Hinageshi Art Museum, Ena. Poetic Sentiment of Blank Space, 12 Oct 2023 – 21 Jul 2024.
- 2024** Marlborough Gallery, New York. Teruko Yokoi, 7 Mar – 20 Apr 2024.
- 2025** Hollis Taggart, New York. Teruko Yokoi: Noh Theater, 1 May – 14 Jun 2025.

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL APPEARANCES

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- 1950** Issuikai Exhibition, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo.
- 1951** Issuikai Exhibition and Nitten Exhibition, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo.
- 1955** Seventy-Fourth Annual Painting and Sculpture Exhibition, San Francisco Museum of Art.
- 1956** Special exhibition connected to the fiftieth anniversary of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, San Francisco / California Palace of the Legion of Honor.
- 1957** Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts Annual Exhibition, Philadelphia.
- 1957** Twenty-Fifth Biennial Exhibition of Contemporary American Paintings, Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.
- 1960** Martha Jackson / David Anderson Gallery, New York.
- 1960** The Mysterious Sign, Institute of Contemporary Arts, London; arranged by Robert Melville.
- 1964** Kunsthalle Basel, Basel. Walter Bodmer / Otto Tschumi / Teruko Yokoi, curated by Arnold Rüdinger; 33 Yokoi paintings in catalogue records.
- 1969** Kunstmuseum Winterthur, Winterthur. With Benito Steiner and Italo Valenti; exhibition dates recorded as 12 Oct – 16 Nov 1969.
- 1975** Il. Berner Kunstaussstellung: Grossformate, Kunsthalle Bern.
- 1980** Smith Anderson Gallery, Palo Alto.
- 1981** Haus der Kunst, Grosse Kunstaussstellung, Munich.
- 1984** Kultur Arena Wittigkofen, Bern.
- 2005** Trubschachen Kunstaussstellung, Bern.
- 2010** Kultur Arena Bern.

## PRINTMAKING AND EDITIONS

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Yokoi's printmaking should be treated as a distinct scholarly category within the artist's CV rather than as a secondary-market appendix. Her editions trace the migration of her visual language from direct stone lithography into later offset processes, with several printers, workshops and publishing contexts that remain important for catalogue raisonné work.

**c. 1969–1976** Early stone lithograph production, likely connected to Matthieu AG, Dielsdorf near Zurich and Stein- und Offsetdruckerei Casserini & Son, Thun. Lithographs were commonly printed on BFK Rives in editions of 20 or 40 plus artist's proofs. Early titles include Moss Garden, Midday, Iris, Herbstnebel, Vine, Abendrot, Frost, Promenade, Eisblumen, Morning Dew, Morning Glory, Camellia, Clover, and Ume. Printer attribution of specific editions remains under review.

**1976–1990** Nik Hausmann, Atelier de Lithographie, Montavon / Séprais. Hausmann's letter states that Yokoi drew each image by hand directly on stones rather than zinc plates; each printed color required a separate stone. Test prints in color variants were made according to Yokoi's instructions, with one chosen as Gut zum Druck. Formats were generally 50 x 65 cm or 65 x 50 cm, on BFK Rives, in editions of 40 with artist's proofs and one printer's archive proof. Titles include November, An Teich, Violet, Bach, Canna le Soir, Herbst 2 and Misty Day.

**1984–1995** Ernst Hanke, Thun / Ringgenberg. Three editions printed by hand. Yokoi again worked directly on stone. Hanke had worked at Matthieu AG from 1972 to 1983 before acquiring the Casserini stone printing company in Thun in 1984.

**1998 onward** Franz and Eliane Wittwer, Schüpfen. Later editions were offset lithographs rather than original stone lithographs. Yokoi painted on foil transferred to aluminum plate; she was present for the first printing, corrected extensively and determined final results. Editions included Pastoral Sonate in 12 Sätzen, Water Music and Silent Water. Many editions were hand finished in egg-tempera and metallic pigment paint, making each impression within these editions unique in its own right.

### Selected edition titles for print catalogue tracking

September / New Year; February; Summer Night; Midday; Promenade; Clover; June; Snow; Iris; Ume; Autumn-2; Frost; Morning Glory; Camellia; Vine; Herbstnebel; Moss Garden; Bach; Plum; Herbstblätter; In the Moonlight; Summer's Evening; Autumn Light; Summer Morning; Fuji Morning; Water Lilies; Marsh Marigold; Violet; November; Dawn; Pastoral Sonate in 12 Sätzen; Water Music; Silent Water.

## SELECTED INSTITUTIONAL COLLECTIONS AND PUBLIC SITES

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**Kunstmuseum Bern** Bern, Switzerland. Peach Blossom Festival, 1961, acquired after the 2020 retrospective.

**Teruko Yokoi Hinageshi Art Museum** Ena, Gifu Prefecture, Japan. Dedicated museum founded in 2004; central institutional holder and legacy site.

**Yokoi Teruko Fuji Museum of Art / Fuji Museum** Fuji City, Shizuoka Prefecture, Japan. Dedicated museum founded in 2008; institutional holder.

**California Palace of the Legion of Honor** San Francisco, California. Archive correspondence indicates acquisition of two ink-wash drawing related to the California Palace of the Legion of Honor and the Ferry Building.

**Nara Prefectural Museum of Art** Nara, Japan. Two major 1961 works on canvas from the Minami Gallery exhibition, including a large diptych and single-panel painting documented in Museum Catalogues and Estate installation images.

**Yale University Art Gallery** New Haven, Connecticut. Richard Brown Baker Collection; two works on canvas, including Autumn, 1957, and an untitled 1955 still life from the California Palace of the Legion of Honor Solo Exhibition, 1955.

**University at Buffalo Art Galleries / Martha Jackson and David Anderson Archives** Buffalo, New York. Eleven lithographs and overpainted lithographs; Moss Garden acquired from the artist. Placement of ten impressions facilitated by Emerald Room.

**The Museum of Modern Art** New York, New York. Print holding documented through Martha Jackson / David Anderson distribution records; verification of object details against museum catalogue under review.

**Cincinnati Art Museum** Cincinnati, Ohio. Print loan / collection record associated with Camellia; collection status under review.

**Novartis Collection** Switzerland. Corporate collection holding.

**Inselspital Bern / University Hospital Bern** Bern, Switzerland. Institutional holder.

**Lindenhof Clinic / Lindenhofspital** Bern, Switzerland. Institutional holder.

**University of Bern** Bern, Switzerland. Institutional holder listed in prior CV records.

**Embassy of Japan** Bern, Switzerland. Institutional holder listed in prior CV records.

**UBS Art Collection** Zurich, Switzerland. Corporate collection holder listed in prior CV records.

**Schlossberg Thun AG / Schloss Thun** Thun, Switzerland. Institutional holder.

**Restaurant Teruko, Hotel Chelsea** New York, New York. Publicly accessible installation of eight works, including five canvases and three works on paper; project coordinated in dialogue with the Estate and Emerald Room.

**Restaurant Tanaka / Bernapark** Switzerland. Publicly accessible painting on view.

**Tsushima City** Tsushima, Japan. Municipal collection holder.

**Chase Manhattan Bank; Bank of New York / BNY Mellon; New York City Health + Hospitals / Woodhull ; Metropolitan Structures / MetLife** New York. Historic print placements documented in Martha Jackson / David Anderson records; current successor collection status to be confirmed.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND CATALOGUES

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**1955** Seventy-Fourth Annual Painting and Sculpture Exhibition of the San Francisco Art Association. San Francisco Museum of Art.

**1956** Bulletin of the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, San Francisco.

**1960** The Mysterious Sign. Institute of Contemporary Arts (ICA) London, 26 Oct – 3 Dec 1960. 14 pp.

**1964** Walter Bodmer / Otto Tschumi / Teruko Yokoi. Kunsthalle Basel, 14 Mar – 26 Apr 1964. 64 pp.

**1968** Teruko Yokoi. Galerie Felix Handschin.

**1969** Benito Steiner, Italo Valenti, Teruko Yokoi. Kunstmuseum Winterthur, 12 Oct – 16 Nov 1969.

**1986** Comme un petit coquelicot. Seibu Art Forum, Tokyo. 138 pp.

**1990** Die fünf Jahreszeiten / Les cinq saisons / The Five Seasons. Teruko Yokoi, self-published. 108 pp.

**2009** Schnee Mond Blumen. Galerie Kornfeld / Teruko Yokoi. 144 pp.; retrospective 1941 to present.

**2010** Mond Sonne Jahreszeiten. Wolfsberg, Ermatingen. 64 pp.; 2 Nov 2010 – 30 Jun 2011.

**2012** Schnee Mond Blumen II. Verlag Kornfeld, Bern. 144 pp.; ISBN 978-3-85773-019-8.

**2015** 70 Years Artist Life of Teruko Yokoi: Japanese Poems in Switzerland. Koumi-machi Kougen Museum of Art. 50 pp.

**2020** Teruko Yokoi: Tokyo – New York – Paris – Bern. Kunstmuseum Bern / Hatje Cantz. 164 pp.; ISBN 978-3-7757-4682-3.

**2024** Teruko Yokoi. Marlborough Gallery New York. Anke Kempkes; 120 pp.; ISBN 978-0-89797-456-1.

**2025** Teruko Yokoi: Noh Theater. Hollis Taggart Gallery New York. Tai Francis Wallace; 34 pp.; ISBN 979-8-9902841-8-0.

**2025** Teruko Yokoi: Art in the Making. Scheidegger & Spiess. Kuniko Satonobu Spirig; 96 pp.; ISBN 978-3-03942-262-3.