

In Harmony

ARTIST BIOS

Tomoko Amaki Abe is a multi-media artist based in the greater New York area. Born in Japan, Abe graduated from the Edinburgh College of Art with a BA in painting and First Class Honors. She also received an Erasmus scholarship to study at the Escuela de Bellas Artes in Salamanca, Spain. Abe seeks to “co-exist in harmony with nature” by collaborating with her varied materials from glass to found objects. Her art probes the line between decay and regeneration and prompts viewers to contemplate their relationship with our shared environment. She has exhibited widely both domestically and internationally, including recent shows at Odetta Gallery, New York, NY; Jean Jacobs Gallery, New Canaan, CT; A.I.R. Gallery, Brooklyn, NY; and Katonah Museum of Art, Katonah, NY. She has also been an artist in residence at Bullseye Glass, NY and Urban Glass, NY. Her work appears in prestigious publications like *500 Raku* and *Ceramics Art + Perception*.

Jack Elliott is an associate professor of design and environmental analysis at Cornell University, where he studies sustainability in the built environment. He holds a BA in physics with a minor in sculpture from the University of Alberta and two MAs, one in architecture and a second in product design, from the University of Calgary. Using only wood from trees that have been naturally felled or removed because of disease or construction, Elliott creates “Arborworks” that inspire reflection on environmental issues, shifting our focus from the anthropocentric to the biocentric in our understanding of the relationship between humans and nature. While sculpture only recently returned to Elliott’s practice, his art has already earned residencies at the American Academy in Rome and the Atkinson Center for Sustainable Futures at Cornell, a fellowship from the New York Foundation of the Arts, and awards from the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester, NY and Adkins Arboretum in Ridgley, MD.

Hisako Kobayashi is an abstract painter who lives and works in New York, NY. Having grown up in Japan, she moved to New York to earn an MFA in painting at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. Kobayashi employs color and gesture to achieve harmonious compositions with the emotional resonance of music. She explains, “I want a process in my work which harmonizes the disorder of nature, our nature – the way music can embrace the impulses that both fuel and disrupt our lives. To make a whole from these parts: that is what I am after.” Kobayashi has exhibited on five continents for more than three decades now, including exhibitions at Georges Bergès Gallery, New York, NY; Brooklyn Museum, Brooklyn, NY; State Museum of Munich, Munich, Germany; State Museum of Oriental Art, Moscow, Russia; Shanghai Biennale, Shanghai, China; and Setagaya Museum, Tokyo, Japan. Both private and public collections proudly hold her work.