

## MAI OSAWA

*Artist, Illustrator, Author*

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### STATEMENT

I studied graphic design at the College of Art, Nihon University, in Tokyo, and after graduating I joined a TV and theatre design company and became a set designer. I have a particular passion for architecture, honed from my early years growing up with my architect father, and so designing different buildings on stage was a dream job for me.

Since moving to the UK my passion for architecture, particularly old buildings, has grown. I have written a Japanese book on the British church architecture using my watercolour drawings published in 2012 and at same time, I have begun making prints, mostly drypoint etching and inspired by the many lovely old buildings in Britain.

Being trained as a set designer, my works are a bit like a scene without actors and I want people to conjure up their own stories.

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### Education

1992-1996 Collage of Art, Nihon University in Tokyo, Japan  
Degree: Visual Communication Design (BA)

### Experience

**1996 – 2001** Joined FUJI ART INC in Tokyo, Japan

+ Dealing with publication media for Public information section of TV production

+ Designing sets for TV programs such as Chat shows, Comedy plays, Dramas, Exhibitions, Conferences and Dinner shows

**2001** Became a freelance and continued the work with previous contacts

**2002** Moved to the UK

+ Studied English at Stanton School Of English, London

**2002** Assistant design 'Macbeth' by Jack Shepherd and Mehmet Ergen at the Arcola Theatre, London

**2003** Design 'Revolving Door' by Kate Sargeant at the Theatro Technis, London

**2004-2006** Art management 'Ancestral Voices' by Hugh Montgomery Massingberd, at the Jermyn Street Theatre and UK&Ireland country tour

**2013-2016** Exchange artist at Ochre Print Studio

+ Helping of running the studio and assisting one day a week in art classes for adults with learning difficulties at Ochre Print Able (Lockwood Centre, Guildford)

**2017** Artist-in-Residence at Ochre Print Studio

## **Exhibition**

- 2004 'The original drawings of I Never Knew That' book series at the Savile Club, London
- 2006 'The original drawings of I Never Knew That book series' at the Savile Club, London
- 2014 Ochre Print Studio Summer Exhibition, Guildford
- 2015 'Spring To Summer : 12 Printmakers' at Baker Tilly, Guildford
- 2016 Ochre Print Studio Summer Exhibition, Guildford
- 2017 'Infused' Ochre Print Studio group exhibition, Harvey Gallery, Guildford

## **Illustrations : Books**

- 2004- 'I Never Knew That About...' series by Christopher Winn (Publisher : Ebury Press)
- 2008 'The English House' by Clive Aslet (Publisher : Bloomsbury)
- 2009 'Great British Weapons' by George Courtauld (Publisher : Ebury Press)
- 2011 'Young Herriot' by John Lewis-Stempel (Publisher : BBC Books)
- 2015 'The Trains Now Departed' by Michael Willams (Publisher : Preface)
- 2015 'Bricks and Mortals' by Tom Wilkinson (Publisher : Bloomsbury)
- 2016 'See London By Tube' by Christopher Winn (Publisher : Ebury Press)
- 2016 'Carols From King's' by Alexandra Coghlan (Publisher : BBC Books)

## **Illustrations : Other commissions**

### **- Magazines**

'The Mayfair' Magazine / 'Kensington and Chelsea' Magazine / 'Fulham Residents' Journal' / 'Belgravia Residents' Journal' / 'Vantage' Magazine / Royal Automobile Club 'Pell-Mell & Woodcote Magazine

### **- PR**

Finchatton, Kensington, London / The Yeoman's Row, London / The Glebe, Chelsea, London / Chelsea Barracks Project, London

## **Book**

- 2012 'Igirisu no chisana kyokai' (Publisher : Shoshi kankanbo, Japan)

## **Prize**

- 2014 Ochre Print Studio Prize
- 2016 Printmakers Council Prize

## **Membership**

- 2013- Ochre Print Studio, Guildford
- 2016-present Printmakers Council