

**Washi: the Art of of Japanese Paper**  
**A One-Day Conference at Norwich University of the Arts**  
**Saturday 16 March 2013, Norwich (UK)**

Japanese handmade paper, or *washi*, represents more than 1400 years of craft traditions. Famous for its beauty and its strength, *washi* is both a practical material and an inspiration to artists worldwide. This conference provides a rare opportunity to learn about papermaking and paper history in Japan, and about the reception of *washi* in the West. It will be of interest to historians, conservators, artists and papermakers, as well as all who love the arts of Japan. The event forms part of a six-week festival of Japanese paper in Norwich, and the day includes private views of two special exhibitions, one on *washi* between 1870-2010 held at The Gallery at NUA, and one showing contemporary responses by paper artists to *washi* held at Anteros Arts Foundation.

Fee: £35 including lunch; special rate of £55 for conference, papermaking workshop and papermaking demonstration

Booking: by 8<sup>th</sup> March; email name and title of event to [washi@nua.ac.uk](mailto:washi@nua.ac.uk)

**Conference Programme**

10.15 Registration

11.00 Introduction by Neil Powell, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Student Experience), NUA

Session 1 Chair: Dr Simon Kaner, Head, Centre for Archaeology and Heritage, Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures

11.10 Washi: Making Paper and Collecting Paper in Japan, by Sakata Yoshie, member of Washi: The Soul of Japan Committee, Kyoto

11.50 Making Washi in Japan: film and discussion, by Elaine Cooper, papermaker, artist and Cultural Ambassador for Mino, Japan [www.washiartist.com](http://www.washiartist.com)

12.30 Japanese Paper in Britain, by Rob Shepherd, managing director, Shepherds Bookbinding [www.bookbinding.co.uk](http://www.bookbinding.co.uk)

13.00 Lunch (included in conference fee and provided at NUA), bookshop and book signings, including the book *Washi: the Art of of Japanese Paper* published to mark the exhibition.

Session 2 Chair: Dr. Mark Nesbitt, curator, Economic Botany Collection, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

14.00 The Parkes Collection of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Japanese Paper, by Nancy Casserley, Sainsbury Fellow and author of *Washi: The Art of Japanese Paper*

14.40 An Artist's Response to Washi by Rebecca Salter, British contemporary artist trained in Japan in the technique of Japanese woodblock printing [www.rebeccasalter.com](http://www.rebeccasalter.com)

15.20 Dyeing Washi with Natural Dyes by Tatiana Ginsberg, dyer trained at one of the oldest studios in Kyoto, papermaker and instructor at Mount Holyoke College, USA [www.tatianaginsberg.org](http://www.tatianaginsberg.org)

16.00 Tea, bookshop and book signings

16.45 Private views of exhibitions: *Washi: the Art of Japanese Paper* at the Gallery at NUA, and *The Art and Soul of Paper* at Anteros Arts Foundation; both exhibitions are a short walk from the conference location.

19.00 Exhibitions close, conference ends

Location: Norwich University of the Arts, Duke Street Lecture Theatre