

GALLERY SITKA REPRESENTED ARTIST

## YANA FILKOVSKY-SAITO

For questions about purchasing the artwork, please call 978.425.6290 or contact office@gallerysitka.com.

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View all artwork online at GALLERYSITKA.COM

# Support The Arts

### **PRINTS BY**

# YANA FILKOVSKY-SAITO



### **Red Dress**

by Yana Filkovsky-Saito Digital Print in Frame 26" x 40" \$800

### 365 Day Nonstop

by Yana Filkovsky-Saito Digital Print in Frame 26" x 28" \$700



### ARTIST'S BIOGRAPHY — YANA FILKOVSKY-SAITO

April 3, 1978 — August 2, 2015

riginally from Western Asia, Yana Filkovsky immigrated to the United States around age 12. Spending most of her life in the New York City area gave her a richly diverse cultural experience and range of perspectives. She had started drawing as well as writing poetry and prose in her early childhood, but it was in high school that she discovered painting and sculpture. She then realized that Art was her true passion and decided to dedicate her life in its pursuit. She studied painting for a few semesters at Hampshire College in Massachusetts, until she fell ill with what turned out to be a lifelong, disabling form of a severe, chronic depression. Nevertheless, after a year's hiatus, she returned to study at the State University of New York at Purchase College. She earned her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree with Honors, with a concentration in Printmaking (intaglio, lithography, woodcut, silkscreen, as well as book arts), along with a Minor degree in Art History, and a second Minor in Psychology, a subject which is integral to the content of much of her artwork.

During those years she had also began SCUBA diving, learning various specialties, such as underwater photography, to eventually earn the title of a Master SCUBA Diver. Sometimes there are elements in her work that exist solely thanks to her experiences under the sea. After College, she exhibited in solo and group shows in Brooklyn and in New York City. Among other things, she volunteered in NYC's Center for Book Arts, worked in a Textile Design Studio, and as an assistant to contemporary multimedia artist Josely Carvalho.

Eventually, the ideas triggered by printmaking around multiple images, and especially those of book arts around visual narrative, led her to decide to add a temporal dimension to her work. She enrolled in the Master of Fine Arts program in the Department of Digital Art at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, where she focused on motion graphics, video, and animation. During her time there she also learned digital imaging in general, which became the medium of most of the work she has produced over the years since then.

In 2008 she moved near Boston, Massachusetts, and in 2010 she married Zen Saito, a fellow artist, sculptor, and painter.

#### **ARTIST'S STATEMENT**

"My artwork is borne of and intended to convey various aspects of the human experience, in simultaneously universal and individually subjective terms. Whether the medium is traditional or digital, still or in motion, whether the work is strictly visual or incorporates words, and whether the style is surreal, abstract or representational, my work strives to express inner experience with layers of meaning ranging from the perceptual through the emotional/cognitive to the spiritual. I work across a wide range of media which include traditional printmaking and artist books, motion graphics, video and animation, digital photo-montage, as well as sculpture, painting, collage, drawing, and mixed media. Each medium allows me to create work that either expresses entirely different concepts, or similar ideas but in extremely varied perspectives.

"Vertipology, my most recent work, is a series of digital photomontage images which are each composed of dozens of photographs which I had meshed together, distorting perspectives, distances, and details, hours, seasons, etc. No such landscapes exist. Those vistas are, rather, depictions of a subjective experience of those whereabouts.

"In the artist's book Year of the Mad Bird, I alternated pages of free-verse with pages of intaglio & aquatint etchings, some with watercolor, using motifs such as a bird character as a metaphor for a soul, to express subjective abstractions of general concepts, such as 'language,' 'specimen,' 'shadow,' 'war,' 'elevation,' etc.

"These two examples describe what probably appears as a wide variety in types of artwork I create, but I think they explain the essence of what all my work holds in common. My hope is that my work would resonate with a viewer regarding their own experience, which may be deeply personal, yet simultaneously universal in its essence. If it evokes a reassuring sense of strange familiarity, or familiar strangeness, in even just one of all viewers, then it has struck that chord."

READ MORE AT GALLERYSITKA.COM/YANA-FILKOVSKY-SAITO

#### HISTORY OF GALLERY SITKA

Gallery Sitka<sup>™</sup> opened in May 2014 and was part of Sitka Creations®, a design studio. We adopted the name Gallery Sitka<sup>™</sup> in August of 2015.

We opened another location on Friday, July 8, 2016, in downtown Fitchburg, MA. Our Ribbon Cutting was at 10 AM on July 8th and our Grand Opening and Solo Reception for Gosha Karpowicz was on July 9th from 1-4 PM. On December 1st, 2018 we closed our Fitchburg location. On June 15, 2019 we opened a tiny gallery in Shelburne Falls, MA which we closed on November 1, 2019. We currently operate out of our Shirley, MA mill space at The Phoenix Park.

We hold art exhibits in our space in Shirley. We also manage the Artist's Walkway at The Bull Run in Shirley, MA, as well as a number of other restaurants and offices in New England and in NYC.

#### **MISSION**

Our mission is to support the arts, to be part of the creative economy and provide a space for emerging artists to be seen and to have the experience of showing their work in a gallery-style atmosphere.

In terms of the style that we wish to share with the public, we feel like one of our favorite artists, Ilse Buchert Nesbitt, that "art should uplift". To that end, the work that we carry enhances and beautifies spaces. Generally, the shows we host do not attempt to create conversation relating to political or social situations in our world today. The style we focus on is abstract contemporary.

In terms of policies on work that we accept, as we are a family-friendly gallery, we limit the amount of nude work that comes in the door. We also do not wish to display work that makes grand political, religious or social statements, preferring to beautify our walls and provide refreshment to viewers, than to engage in deep conversations via the work about the state of the world. We hope you will find the work we display encouraging and uplifting.



GALLERYSITKA.COM

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