

Artist: **Roslyn Kean**

Exhibition: *Along the Way* 21 June to 22 July 2023



Weaving Ancestral Voices, 2018, woodblock
two panels, each 75 x 55 cm



Shattered not Broken, 2020
woodblock, 75 x 55 cm

About the Artist

Roslyn Kean is a printmaker who specialises in the art of woodblock printing. Kean had a fascination with traditional Japanese print methods and from 1985-1987 she received a research scholarship to study in Japan. She perfected expertise in the richly coloured, visually dynamic woodblock technique, perfected during the 18th and 19th centuries, known internationally by the Japanese term *mokuhanga*. <http://roslynkean.com.au/>

From the artist

I have an empathy for Japanese values in the structure of form and space to express a quiet moment, lingering silence, a place in time through everyday shadows. From childhood, simple patterns have held fascination, the rhythm of repetition, simple lines gathering forms in nature over time. In particular I have used the triangle and square as symbols, repeatedly, consciously, and indirectly, using the closed forms to hold colour and find expression. Roslyn Kean 2023

Studying

- Read the quote by Roslyn Kean. Compare the two works illustrated above making reference to the artist's statement.
- Look up the term *mokuhanga*. Explain what the term means and make notes on how it differs from European style woodblock printing.

You may find these links useful:

<https://www.jacksonsart.com/blog/2019/04/26/relief-printing-japanese-woodblock-printmaking/>

<https://mokuhanga.org/>

Making

Kean has long been inspired by the composition and colour used in the Japanese Edo period. She also draws directly from the colour schemes in the famous series of prints by Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-1892) titled, *One Hundred Aspects of the Moon*.

Look at works from this series at <https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/artboards/yoshitoshi/> in the Art Gallery of NSW.

Create an artwork using patterns from one or more of these artworks and colour that you can see in just one work.