



MITO MATSUMARU

Book, Paper, and Manuscript conservator (ACR)

EDUCATION

MA in Conservation of Books & Library Materials (Distinction)

University of Sussex, UK / West Dean College / Sep. 2015- Sep. 2017

MA in Conservation Science (Distinction)

Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan / April 2012- March 2015

1-year international exchange programme attending the MA in Conservation classes at the Camberwell College of Arts,

UAL/September 2012 - June 2013

BA in Art History and Aesthetics (First)

Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan/April 2008 - March 2012

WORK EXPERIENCE

The Royal Collection Trust (Windsor, UK)

Nov. 2023- Present: Senior Conservator of Archives Manuscripts and Books

The Cambridge Colleges' Conservation Consortium (Cambridge, UK)

May 2022- Oct. 2023: Book and Manuscript Conservator

Nov. 2017-April 2022: Book Conservator

Conservation of the University of Cambridge colleges' collections including 12th century manuscripts, bound books and modern archives. Studio deputy role. Training of junior staff.

Wellcome Trust (London, UK) Sep. 2017 – Oct. 2017 / Book Conservator. Early printed books collection rehousing, assessments, and repairs.

Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK (London, UK)

Jan. 2017 – Feb. 2017 Book Conservator placement. Work on a wide range of books including a miniature parchment Koran, an Indian miniature album and modern Picasso pamphlets. IPM and preventive conservation training.

Toyo bunko Oriental Library Museum (Tokyo, Japan)

Apr. 2015 – Sep. 2015 Part-time. Environmental monitoring and guide/translator for foreign visitors.

Art Innovation Centre at the Tokyo University of the Arts (Tokyo, Japan)

Dec. 2013 – Sep. 2015 Part-time Digital restoration (reversal of colour fading) of Ukiyo-e prints from the Spalding Collection (MoFA, Boston)

Bansei Tokko Peace Museum War Archive (Kagoshima, Japan)

Aug. 2014 – Sep. 2014 Lead Paper Conservator.

Condition assessment and conservation of WWII soldiers' letters.

Tokyo University of the Arts/National Museum of Modern Art (Japan)

Mar. 2014 – June. 2014 Book Conservation contractor.

Researcher for on-site XRF and IR analysis of Shunso Hishida's (Important Cultural Property) scroll paintings and folding screens.

Victoria and Albert Museum (London, UK) Aug. 2013 – Sep. 2013

Paper Conservator for Matcham map collection.

"Works on Paper" Fair Exhibition (London, UK)

Feb. 2013 Paper Conservator for display setup and handling.

National Research Institute for Cultural Properties (Tokyo, Japan)

Apr. 2011 – Mar. 2012 Part-time. Research, image documentation and cataloguing of the Umezu Jiro Scroll painting Collection.

PROFILE

I have a strong passion for the field of conservation and collection care in which I have been working for the last 10 years, both in the UK and in Japan. For the last six years, I have focussed on a number of precious library and archive collections in the UK. I am an organised, innovative, and detail-oriented conservator. My professional interests include the development of Western book and manuscript conservation, the materiality of Western books and media, conservation ethics and their application, and last but not least bridging the gap between the Western and Japanese conservation/craft fields.

PERSONAL DATA

DATE OF BIRTH 17 AUGUST 1989
NATIONALITY Japanese
UK/EU STATUS EU Family member
UK settled status

CONTACT

+44(0)7809575376 (UK mobile)

HOME ADDRESS

Flat 5, Mulberry House, 3 William Street, Windsor, SL41BB, UK

WORK ADDRESS

Cambridge Colleges' Conservation Consortium, Corpus Christi College, Trumpington St, Cambridge CB2 1RH

EMAIL ADDRESS

m.mito3@gmail.com (personal)

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES:

- ACR Icon Accreditation (2023)
- Japanese curator certificate(2012)

AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS

- Nicholas Hadgraft Memorial Scholarship recipient. 2019
- Professional Development Bursaries for my MA research by ICON Book and Paper Group, Apr. 2017
- The Worshipful Company of Arts Scholars award, Jan.2017
- Nick Johnson Prize, Jul.2016
- Ito Foundation for International Education Exchange, Full scholarship for my West Dean Conservation studies. (2015-2017)
- Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO), Student Loan Repayment Exemption for Outstanding Achievement.

LANGUAGES

- Japanese (native)
- English (Fluent)
- French (intermediate A2-B1)

OTHER SKILLS

- Translation and Interpretation (English-Japanese)
Events for Tokyo University of the Arts (2021), British Museum (2019), Society of bookbinding (2016)
- Event Manager
Event manager for ICON Book & Paper group. (2018-21)
- Digital Restoration (2008-2015)
- Crafts & Techniques
Teaching medieval illumination and painting techniques (2021-on going, UK)
- Teaching
Conservation demonstrations to general public (2017- on going, UK), Private tutoring for Middle school and High school students (English, Art and maths in Japan) (2008-2015)

HOBBIES

Going to Museums, eating nice food, Painting, Listening to Classic Music, Walking in nature and Travelling.

OTHER EXPERIENCES/TRAININGS

Icon Book and paper group - Event officer Jan 2018 - Dec 2021

Montefiascone Project, Italy July - Aug 2019. 3 weeks historical bookbinding masterclasses as a Nicholas Hadgraft Scholarship recipient.

Handa Kyuseido Studio, Tokyo, Japan. Feb 2015 - Aug 2015
Training in a traditional Japanese conservation studio accredited for the conservation of National Treasures.

Kochi Institute of Paper technology, Japan. March 2014
5-days Workshop on traditional Japanese paper making.

Setuo Kushige, Tokyo, Japan. March 2014. Japanese binding Workshop.

Western bookbinding trainings

Madoka Taira for fine binding (Feb. 2014 - Aug 2015, Japan), Studio 5 bookbinding for design bookbinding (UK. April - Aug 2013), Maureen Duke for historical binding (Petersfield, UK, June 2013)

Karen Vidler, Northampton, UK May 2013. Leather conservation workshop.

OUTREACH/LECTURES

Conference Talks/Lectures

- Iron Gall Ink Forum Online Talk (Oct 2023)'Conservation on Two manuscripts from Pembroke College, University of Cambridge'
- Guest lecturer at San Gemini Summer School (2023) on Japanese paper and paste making
- National Diet Library Online lecture (2022-23, Japan) 'Care and Use in conservation: Book Conservation of the Cambridge colleges' collection.
- Global Conservation Platform (2021, Japan) 'Book Conservation of the Cambridge colleges' library collection: why and how we conserve books'
- COREs Symposium: Between cherishing damage and cleaning up this mess (May 2018) 'Balancing the books - ethical decision in book conservation'
- Icon Book & Paper Group AGM talk 'wheat starch paste'(Mar 2018)


Publications:

- 'What Colour was the Corpus Pelican? A Brief Note on Bibliographical Research, Material Analysis and Conservation of the 'Grant of Arms' of Corpus Christi College, University of Cambridge' (Oct 2023 Journal of Paper Conservation)
- Conservation of Books (Routledge, 2023) Co-author of the Adhesives and Japanese Books chapters
- Journal of the Institute of Conservation Volume 44, 2021 - Issue 1
'Wheat starch paste: a study of cooking profiles and adhesive properties across preparation recipes'
- Corpus Christi College Blog: 'What colour were the first Corpus pelicans?' (2022)
- The "Book & Paper Gathering" blog:
-(2022) 'Japanese horsehair sieves: who makes them and how to use them?'
Posted 20th January.
-(2018) 'A spine-pocket wrapper for books with detached spines'
Posted 8th November.
-(2016) "Paste-Making Tips with Two Recipes." Posted 20th October
- 'Balancing the Book - Conservation decisions for a 17th century binding'
West Dean College blog (Posted on 3rd May 2017)

Conference Posters

 Co-presenter of:

-(2015) "The Development of Domestic Pigment Manufacturing in Japan: Material analysis and bibliographic research on postage stamp inks in early Meiji period"(in Japanese);



-(2015) "The Painting Materials Used for the Two Paintings in a Series of "Ochiba" by Hishida Shunso Owned By Eisei Bunko Museum and Fukui Fine Arts Museum" (in Japanese);
-(2015) "The Painting Materials for Kuroki Neko by Hishida Shunso Owned by Eisei Bunko Museum"
All for The Japan Society for the Conservation of Cultural Property 2015.