

On Ayako Miyawaki *Hari-e Nikki, Diary made from cut and pasted pictures: 1*

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Ayako Miyawaki (1905-1995) was an applique artist. She married Haru Miyawaki (1902-1985) and spent her life as a housewife. After the World War II, she made simple yet unique applique works using old cloths and remnants found around her. Since her first solo show in 1952, she continued exhibiting in and out of Japan until her very last days, and dedicatedly taught and nurtured many younger artists and devotees.

Toyota Municipal Museum of Art has 192 works from the artist in the collection, including folding books containing various appliques made over several years. *Hari-e Nikki, Diary made from cut and pasted pictures* (1972-90) is one of those kinds, consisting of 70 diaries in the form of folding books. While the media of the appliques are mainly cloths and paper, other materials touched her subtleties are also used, such as fallen leaves and tendrils, just as her other applique works. Although the artist called the diaries '*hari-e* (collage)', drawing in watercolour, pen and coloured pencils are seen here and there. The pages of the diaries evidence that she captured and cut out seasonal plants, flowers, vegetable, fish and abundant nature around her holiday house in Gifu prefecture. The attraction of the diaries is that they show us not only the record of interactions with family and friends and memorandums but also the artist's thoughts on her practice.

In this essay, the written part in the volumes 1 to 3 of the diaries are transcribed, alongside the images on the corresponding pages, to investigate the inner self of the artist Ayako Miyawaki as well as the details of the diaries for further understanding of her other applique works.