

A Lost Art Revived

Tsujigahana, Itchiku Tsujigahana and Itchiku Kubota

A talk by Dr Jacqueline M. Atkins



Date: 15 May 2015, from 6:30pm

Venue: The Art Workers Guild

6 Queen Square, London WC1N 3AT

Translated literally as “flowers at the crossroads”, *tsujigahana* refers to a sophisticated stitched- and tied-resist dyeing technique that was especially popular from the late Muromachi (1338–1573) to early Edo (1603-1868) period. This complicated and time-consuming decorative process was a way of creating magnificent visual imagery and resulted in fabrics that were exceptionally beautiful, very expensive, and highly revered.

In this illustrated talk, **Dr Jacqueline M. Atkins**, will introduce the history of this very special design technique and expand on its development and subsequent mysterious disappearance around a hundred years after its inception. Dr Atkins’ discussion of *Itchiku Tsujigahana*, a rejuvenated contemporary version of this ancient art created by kimono artist Itchiku Kubota as he sought to replicate the technique’s elusive beauty, will also focus on Kubota’s documented style and reflect on how his methods encouraged an evolution in the traditional *tsujigahana* processes for application in the 20th century.

Dr Atkins curated the exhibition *Kimono Transformed: The Textile Artistry of Itchiku Kubota* that travelled to Moscow and St. Petersburg last year and is now a consultant for the museum in Japan named after the artist. She recently completed *The Textile Artistry of Itchiku Kubota*, a volume featuring many of the most important kimono designed by Kubota, who died in 2003.

This event is free to attend but booking is essential. To reserve a place, please e-mail your name and the title of the event you would like to attend to event@jpf.org.uk

This event is co-organised by IndigoRose Project, and supported by the International Chodiev Foundation

Image: Three sequential kimono from *Symphony of Light*, The Kubota Collection. © The International Chodiev Foundation 2015

