



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (May 15, 2025)**

**TSUNEKO KOKUBO**

**“AT MOUTH OF RIVER: WHAT STONE REMEMBERS”**

*Artist in Conversation with Visual Artist Cindy Mochizuki*

**SUNDAY JUNE 8, 2025**

Doors open: 2:00 pm

Public Talk: 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Room: Theatre

Langham Cultural Centre

447 A Avenue, Kaslo, BC V0G 1M0

Free public event, all welcome

Tsuneko Kokubo's enigmatic artistic and creative practice spans over 70 years of painting, dance performance, costume design, and theatre. Born in 1937 in Steveston, B.C. and raised in Japan, Kokubo brings a dynamism of life's complex beauty by being in-between states of time, memory, and place. She is revered as an artist with deep symbolic interconnectedness to her lived surroundings which often includes the trees, rivers, oceans to the plants in her garden. Her visionary art-making brings to the surface the life forms and energies caught in the folds of insightful observation and play.

In conversation with interdisciplinary artist, Cindy Mochizuki, Kokubo will discuss what has influenced and carried her as one of the early and pioneer Japanese Canadian artists of her time to 'here'. Speaking through select artworks and processes, stories, and events, Kokubo's talk will weave together estuaries and rivers of concepts, abstractions, symbols that have marked her multifaceted career. The event is hosted by the Langham Cultural Society and co-organized with the Asian Canadian Studies Society with funding from the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society. It will also be live-streamed.

**Please register to attend the event [here](#)**

**To receive a live-stream link, please register [here](#)**

We recognize that this event takes place within the unceded lands of the First Nations in which the Village of Kaslo is situated, including the Ktunaxa, Sinixt, and Syilx people and Indigenous and Metis residents of our community.

Image Courtesy of Artist



## Biography

**Tsuneko Kokubo** was born in Steveston, B.C. in 1937 and raised in Japan. She returned to Canada in her late teens and studied Fine Arts for four years at the Vancouver School of Art (now Emily Carr University of Art + Design) and focused on drawing and painting. She has worked extensively in theatre as a performer (physical theatre and dance) and costume designer, and continues to do so. In 1990 she returned to painting full time and works mainly in oils and acrylics. She draws inspiration from her garden, the nearby forests, creeks and lake, and her life memories. She has presented numerous exhibitions and has paintings in private collections in Canada, Europe, Japan, Mexico, and the USA.

*"A moment of beauty appears suddenly, like a breeze. I try to capture that fleeting moment on canvas or paper before it is gone". (TK)*

[www.tsunekokokubo.ca](http://www.tsunekokokubo.ca)

Image Courtesy of Artist

## Biography

**Cindy Mochizuki** creates multi-media installation, audio fiction, performance, animation, drawings, public art, and community-engaged projects. Her works explore the manifestation of story and its complex relationships to site-specificity, the transpacific, invisible histories, archives, and memory work. She has worked extensively on a large body of work that is informed by and within Japanese Canadian communities in B.C. and Japan. In these projects she works with members of these communities and often includes her paternal family's history both within the internment camps and their experiences as repatriated Japanese Canadians in Japan in the post war. She has exhibited, performed and screened her work in Canada, USA, Australia, and Japan. She is the recipient of the Vancouver Mayor's Arts Award in New Media and Film (2015) and the Jack and Doris Shadbolt Foundation for the Visual Arts VIVA Award (2020). She received an MFA in Interdisciplinary Studies from the School For Contemporary Arts at Simon Fraser University (2006).

Photo by Jessica Jacobson Photography



Tsuneko Kokubo's talk is part of the Japanese Canadian Legacies Artist Talk Series II, a website project run by the Asian Canadian Studies Society (ACSS). The website will be launched in 2026 and will share the ACSS's interviews with contemporary Japanese Canadian artists who have made major contributions to the community, and more widely, Canadian society and the art world. The website will also include material that highlights their innovative techniques, conceptual approaches and socio-political concerns, including artistic responses by members of the younger generation. We gratefully acknowledge the support and financial assistance from the Japanese Canadian Legacies Society and the Langham Cultural Society.

For more information, please contact Cherry Wen Wen Lu (Production Coordinator) at:  
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