



Gathering  
of Wishes  
and  
1000 Paper  
Butterflies

sumgallery.ca

## SUM gallery unveils its fall exhibition Oct 28: An Origami and Kintsugi installation from artists Eva Wong and Naoko Fukumaru, curated by SD Holman.

### For Immediate Release

Vancouver BC, Oct 12, 2021 | Vancouver's premiere queer-mandated art gallery opens its fall exhibition, *Mass Reincarnation of Wish Fragments* 願片大量転生 (*Ganhen Tairyō Tensei*) Oct 28 with an in-person reception from 6 - 8pm at SUM gallery (Suite 425 – 268 Keefer Street).

Artists Eva Wong and Naoko Fukumaru's collaborative exhibition brings together the traditional Japanese art practices of Origami and Kintsugi to tell a tale of Queer transformation. *Mass Reincarnation of Wish Fragments* reflects themes common in Queer and Trans experience as Origami butterflies emerge from a Kintsugi cocoon to symbolize rebirth.

Kintsugi, long considered a metaphor for the embracing of one's imperfections, is the art of repairing broken porcelain pottery by mending the cracks with gold. The exhibit features 1000 individual paper butterflies created through a series of community workshops, each one inscribed with a secret wish from its maker. This mass transmigration of broken fragments into colourful and beautiful wishes carries participants' hopes into a new age of diversity and acceptance.

The exhibition is on view until Dec 15. Registration for opening night is required and is available in 15-minute timed entry slots. To book your by-donation appointment, visit <https://bit.ly/massreincarnationofwishfragments>. Masks are mandatory inside the gallery.

### About SUM gallery [sumgallery.ca](http://sumgallery.ca)

One of the only permanent spaces worldwide dedicated to the presentation of queer art, SUM gallery brings diverse communities together to support artistic risk-taking, incite creative collaboration and experimentation, and celebrate the rich heritage of queer artists and art. As the year-round programming arm of the Queer Arts Festival, SUM produces, presents and exhibits challenging, thought-provoking multidisciplinary art that pushes boundaries and initiates dialogue.

### About Eva Wong

Eva is an artist and game developer known for her strong creative vision. She is an open advocator for transgender rights and takes an active role supporting people within the online transgender community. She often takes inspiration from both modern and traditional Japanese culture, as well as a wide array of casual interests including mathematics, physics, linguistics, music, literature, sociology, astrology, computer science and more.

### About Naoko Fukumaru [naokofukumaru.com](http://naokofukumaru.com)

Fukumaru was born in Kyoto, Japan to a third-generation antique auction house family, the business beginning with her great-grandfather collecting unwanted broken objects by wheelbarrow and repairing at home. Growing up surrounded by fine arts and antiques, she began to experiment with broken objects at an early age, a passion she built into a career. She graduated from West Dean College, Chichester, England in 2000, with a post-graduate diploma in Ceramics, Glass and Related Materials Conservation and Restoration which led her to more than two decades of working as a professional ceramic and glass conservator at the Detroit Institute of Arts Museum, Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and other institutions in the USA, Europe, Egypt and Japan. Working with international museums and cultural heritage has honed her restoration skills to expert levels. She applies her experience of Western and European invisible restoration towards the more artistically creative methods of traditional Japanese Kintsugi. Instead of hiding restorations, she showcases them, allowing imperfection, impermanence and incompleteness to be featured and embraced.

*SUM gallery is closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and acting accordingly by implementing precautions aligned with public health advisories. We acknowledge that event details may change at any time to reflect provincial health recommendations. Please refer to our website [sumgallery.ca](http://sumgallery.ca) for the most up to date information on COVID safety protocols.*

[30]

For media & interview requests, please contact: **Tanya Commisso**,  
Communications Coordinator | [tanya@queerartsfestival.com](mailto:tanya@queerartsfestival.com) | 604-992-8619