

Rice

Rice Farming

Many cultures have evidence of early rice cultivation, including China, India, and the civilizations of Southeast Asia. However, **the earliest archaeological evidence comes from central and eastern China and dates to 7000–5000 bce**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdQPRYM792I>(Japan)
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4K56w_88heo
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dcd6Pr39a3E> South Carolina
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iHFyIYnZTpo> (Thailand)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...>









Madhubani paintings

Madhubani paintings are made from the paste of powdered rice. Madhubani painting has remained confined to a compact geographical area and the skills have been passed on through centuries, the content and the style have largely remained the same.

Madhubani art (also **Mithila art**) is a style of [painting](#) practiced in the [Mithila region](#) of India and Nepal. It is named after the [Madhubani district](#) of [Bihar](#), India, which is where it originated. Artists create these paintings using a variety of mediums, including their own fingers, or twigs, brushes, nib-pens, and matchsticks. The paint is created using natural dyes and pigments. The paintings are characterised by their eye-catching geometrical patterns. There is ritual content for particular occasions, such as birth or marriage, and festivals, such as [Holi](#), Surya Shasti, [Kali Puja](#), [Upanayana](#), and [Durga Puja](#).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvH7xm8JfJ4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fz9Ukq6a4qs>







Terraced Rice Fields

Many cultures have evidence of early rice cultivation, including China, India, and the civilizations of Southeast Asia. However, **the earliest archaeological evidence comes from central and eastern China and dates to 7000–5000 bce**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LqAJoD-PpA> (Phillipines)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bGbL99N2blo>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3BmWOERYOxg> (Vietnam)







“Rice” Paper

Xuan paper, Shuen paper, or Rice paper, is a kind of paper originating in ancient China used for writing and painting. Xuan paper is renowned for being soft and fine textured, suitable for conveying the artistic expression of both Chinese calligraphy and painting.

Paper was first made in Lei-Yang, China by Ts'ai Lun, a Chinese court official. In all likelihood, Ts'ai mixed mulberry bark, hemp and rags with water, mashed it into pulp, pressed out the liquid and hung the thin mat to dry in the sun.

Xuan paper is made out of a specific type of mulberry tree bark (and other natural material) which is put through an extensive process which includes non-destructively harvesting the tree bark, washing, pulping, drying, and cutting. Xuan paper is still typically made by hand and requires incredible precision and skill from the workers.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjxf60zbX7Q>









“Rice Grain” Porcelain

"Rice grain" is a name of a decorative technique rather than actual rice grains or anything inserted in the walls. To make this kind of decoration the holes are pierced through the rather thick walls of the rough and unfired porcelain objects and the holes then filled with translucent glaze. When the entire unfired porcelain piece have dried enough to be handled, the walls are thinned down manually until the walls are as thin as the potter dares to make them.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wvv0KeZnMsw>





Zhuang Hong Yi

Zhuang Hong Yi is a contemporary Chinese artist, best known for his lush, layered “flowerbed” paintings created by folding countless pieces of painted rice paper into tiny blossoms. Born in Shichuan, China on May 22, 1962, Zhuang went on to study at the SiChuan College of Fine Arts in China and the Academy Minerva in the Netherlands. He makes his work with many traditional Chinese materials, including ink, rice paper, porcelain, and wood. About his work, “you see the flowers, it’s like you are looking at them from the sky,” Zhuang has said. “And when you see flower fields in Holland, you cannot forget about it. I told myself I had to reproduce it... for me, it’s like meditation.” His work has been the subject of solo exhibitions at Keszler Gallery in New York, Seasons Gallery in Den Haag, and Gallery Krijger Katwijk in Amsterdam, among others. The artist currently lives and works in the Netherlands and Beijing, China.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nWlaYQKL9k>

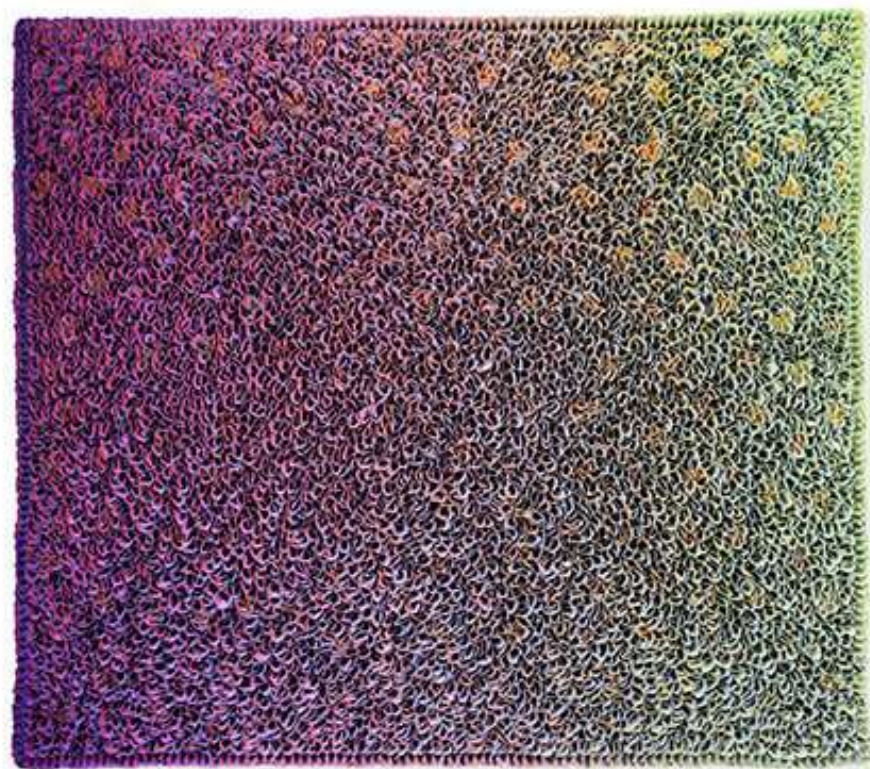
Zhuang Hong Yi

Donnalynn Patakos

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[Features](#)[Interviews](#)[Whats New](#) 📅 July 26, 2021 10:44 pm 🌐 0







Rangoli Art

Before the first rays of sunlight stream across the rice fields and mud roads in the Nilgiri Mountains, before they force their way through the high-rises in the urban jungle of Chennai and Madurai, the women of Tamil Nadu are up for the day. In the dark, they clean the threshold to their home, and, following a centuries-long tradition, painstakingly draw beautiful, ritualistic designs called *kōlam*, using rice flour.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IL3jxCbF4IM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JwBAGaUlpk>



Rice rangoli







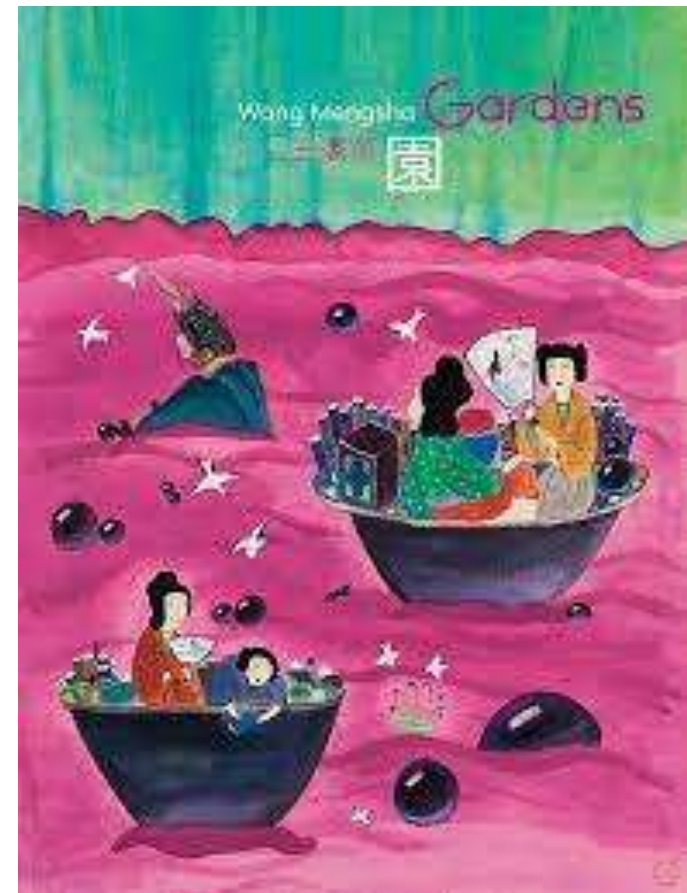


Wang Mengsha

Born in 1982 Wuxi, Wang Mengsha grew up in an artistic family. In 2006 she graduated from the Xi'an Academy of Fine Art, having studied animation. Since then she has completed advanced studies at Griffith University, in Queensland Australia, and the University of Southampton, in the United Kingdom. After returning to China, she became a full time artist. She currently lives and works in Beijing and Wuxi.

In her unique 'Xieyi' style of paintings, Wang adopts a sense of humor to innovatively combine aspects of traditional paintings of court maidens and beauties with landscape paintings. Akin to the eminent artist Walasse Ting, with whom she shares a hometown, Wang is associated with bright colours and calligraphic strokes. However, as a female artist she applies a feminine perspective to examine the past and look at the future in ways that redefine contemporary ink art in history and modern culture.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tadb7KmZrtE>





Shanye Huang

Shanye Huang is a Chinese-born American professional artist. He currently resides in Washington DC metropolitan area.

I create artwork to foster joy, hope, meaningful connections and conversations. Inspired by Chinese yin-yang philosophy, calligraphy, and woodblock prints, as well as elements of my native folk art such as embroidery and textiles.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ifwixqFJkpE>







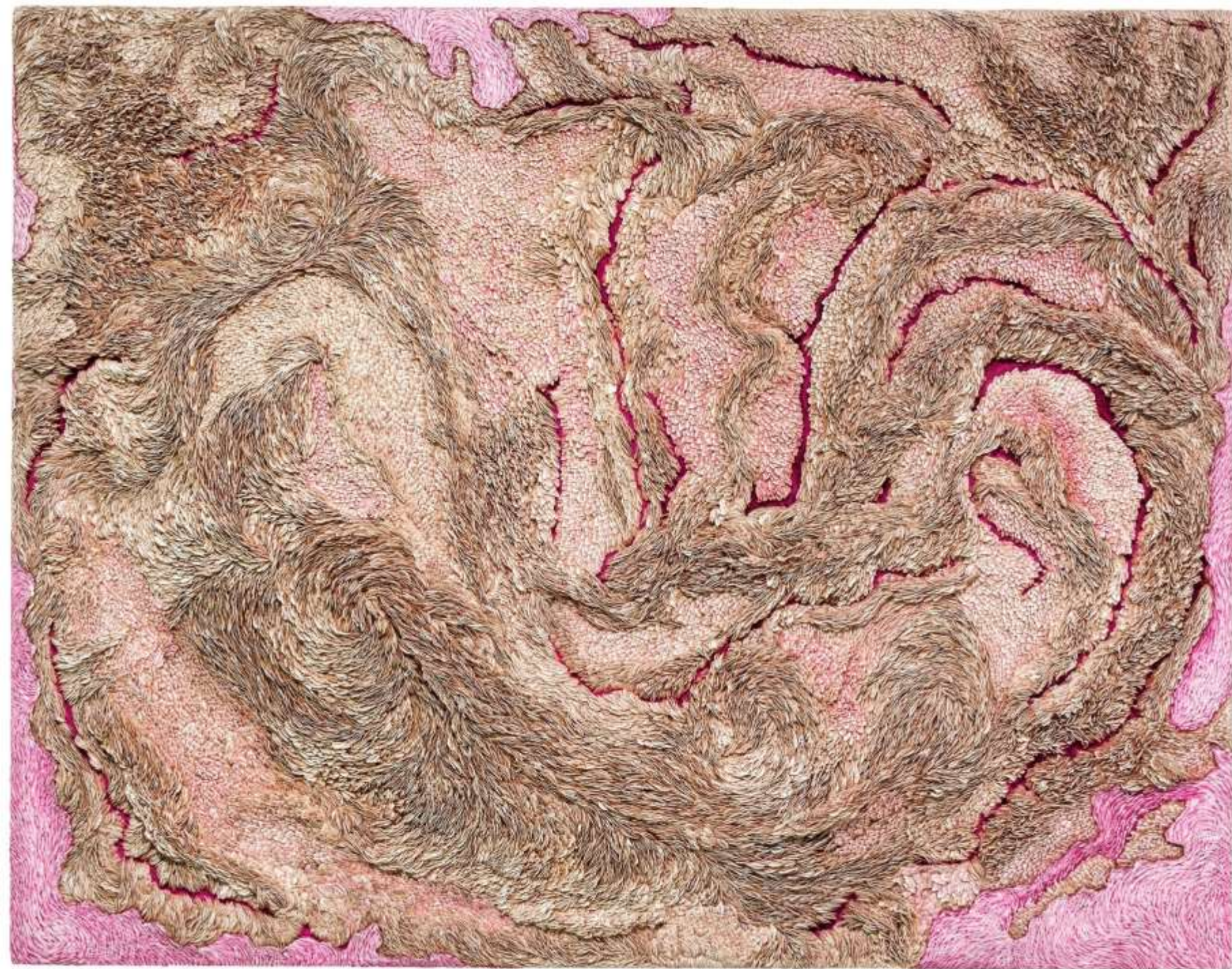
©Shanye Huang



Hayoon Jay Lee

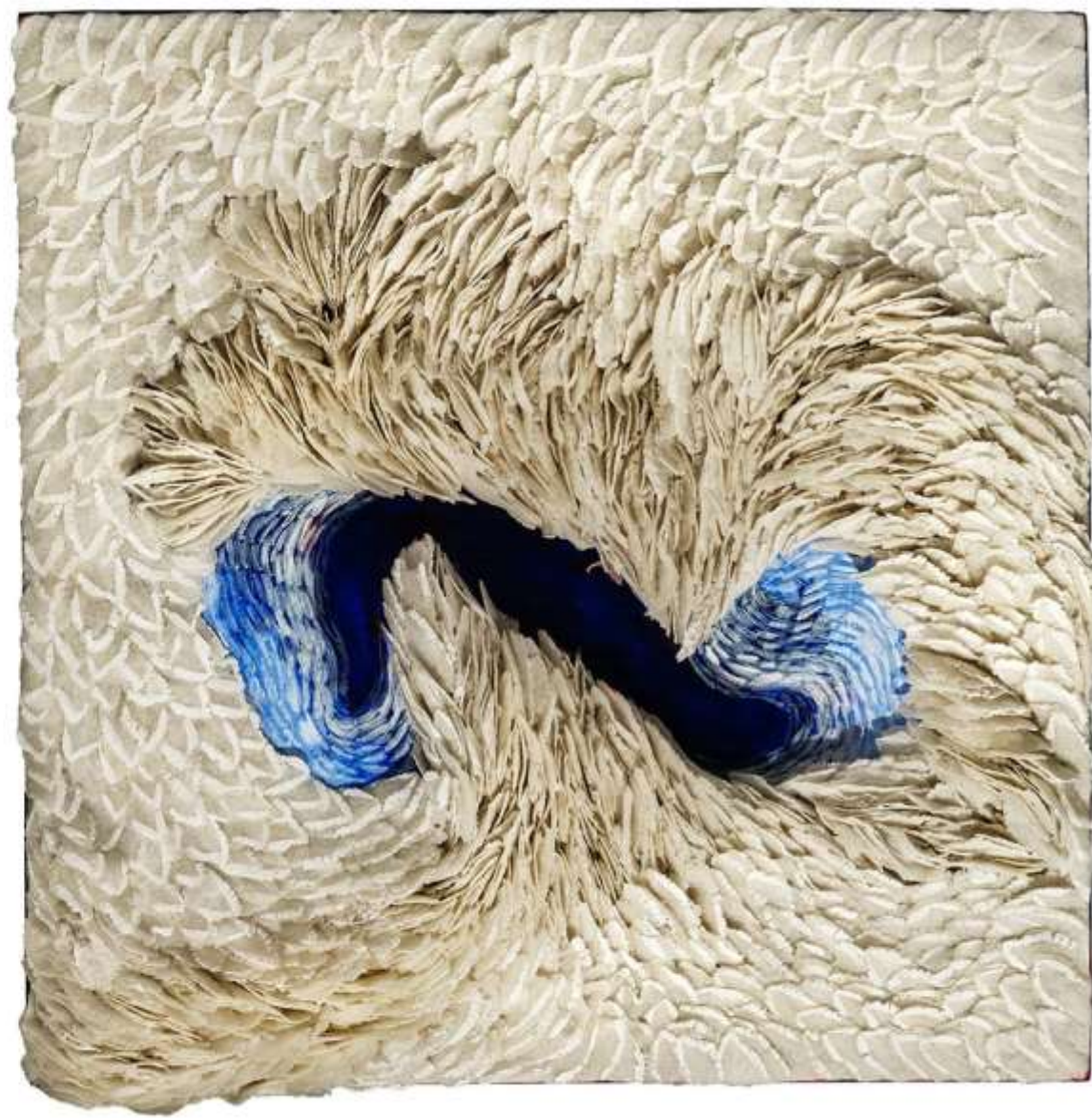
First documented in China in 2,500 B.C., the [earliest evidence](#) of the cultivation of rice has been found in archaeological sites dating back more than 5,000 years earlier. A versatile crop that can grow in numerous climates, the plentiful grain plays an integral role in cuisine and folkloric traditions and underpins artist [Hayoon Jay Lee](#)'s intricate wall reliefs.

Born in Daegu, South Korea, and currently based in New York City, Lee is interested in what she describes in a [statement](#) as the “fundamental tension between indulgence and abnegation”—the act of renouncing or rejecting something—in individual, social, and political dynamics. Contrasting ideas of attraction and repulsion, conflict and harmony, privilege and poverty, or East and West provide the groundwork for abstract compositions made by precisely placing thousands of grains into rippling patterns. The surfaces reference topographical overviews, shifting landmasses, swirling motion, and ruptures.









Wolfgang Laib

Wolfgang Laib's childhood travels with his family to Afghanistan, India, Iran, and Turkey instilled in him a lifelong interest in non-Western cultures. Before he became an artist, he studied medicine, but concluded that the field treated the body at the expense of the soul. To Laib, art is a form of transcendent spiritual healing and sustenance. Natural materials are important to the artist, who works with beeswax, milk, pollen, and rice, creating simple forms that strive to communicate at a universal level, transcending language.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ElIC4w1jBxY>









Rirkrit Tiravanija

Rirkrit Tiravanija is a Thai contemporary artist residing in New York City, Berlin, and Chiangmai, Thailand. He was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1961.

In 1992, Rirkrit Tiravanija created an exhibition entitled [*Untitled \(Free\)*](#) at 303 Gallery in New York. This landmark piece, in which the artist converted a gallery into a kitchen where he served rice and Thai curry for free, has been recreated at MoMA as part of the installation [*Contemporary Galleries: 1980–Now*](#) on view on the second floor. This back office curry kitchen has been replicated to scale, and the artist worked with MoMA to recreate the experience, with curry prepared and served by the Museum's restaurant staff daily from noon—3:00 p.m.

In this deceptively simple conceptual piece, the artist invites the visitor to interact with contemporary art in a more sociable way, and blurs the distance between artist and viewer. You aren't looking at the art, but are part of it—and are, in fact, making the art as you eat curry and talk with friends or new acquaintances.

- https://www.moma.org/explore/inside_out/2012/02/03/rirkrit-tiravanija-cooking-up-an-art-experience/

ASIANS
MUST
EAT
RICE





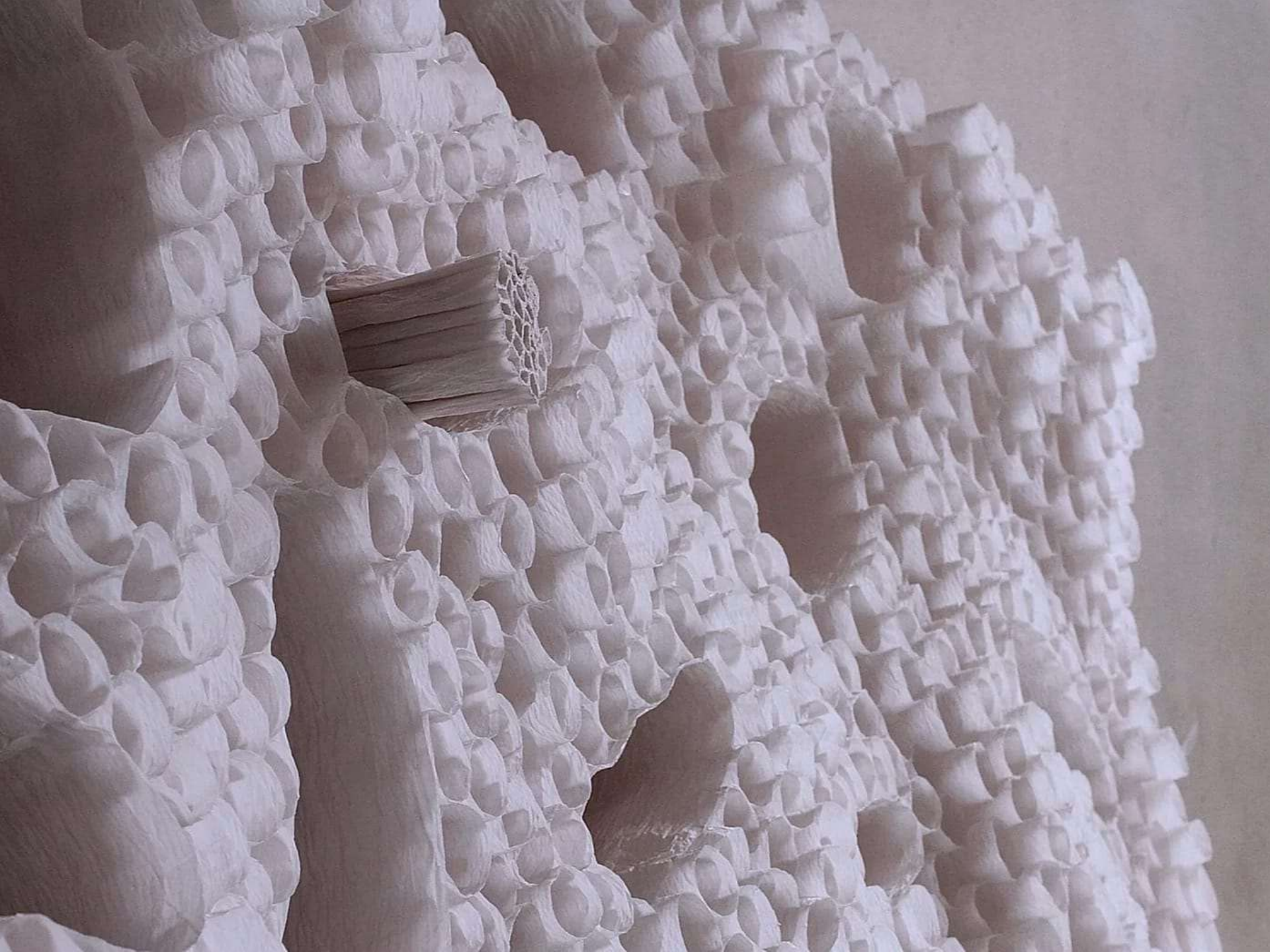


Pao Hui Kao

When Eindhoven-based designer [Pao Hui Kao](#) realized she was allergic to some of the pigments and coatings used in household furnishings, she decided to construct her own minimalist collection. The result is a line of tables, seats, shelves, and a light fixture made almost entirely of tracing-paper tubes soaked in rice water.

To ensure the sturdiness of her mostly-white designs, Hui Kao varies the size of her paper rolls. As they dry, the rice water binds each wrinkled piece together. In [a statement](#) about the wrinkle-filled project, the designer noted that she hoped to reconsider paper's functionality and explore its potential. "Water is usually not welcome in the world of paper. I realized, however, that when water is absorbed by paper, it brings power to the inner structure," she said.











Peng Wei

Beijing-based artist [Peng Wei](#) places traditional Chinese painting on rice paper to create contemporary sculptures of human legs, shoes, and torsos. These paper-cast works display scenes of the natural and domestic, including lush gardens, animals, and interiors of Chinese homes. Peng has been troubled by the adoption of Western styles of clothing by Chinese women. By painting classical Chinese motifs on Western shoes and other fashion-related items, Peng aims to deny the decline of China's cultural heritage to rapid globalization.

Peng was born in Chengdu in 1974 and graduated from the Eastern art department of [Nankai University](#) with a BA in Literature and an MA in Philosophy. Her works have been collected by the National Art Museum of China, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco, the Guangdong Art Museum, and many more international collections.

<https://www.ora-ora.com/video/4-the-works-peng-wei-at-art-basel-hong-letters-from-a-distance/>







Alice Lin

Illustrator [Alice Lin](#) uses watercolor and pigment on rice paper and silk to create intricately detailed worlds. Human and animal figures are enveloped in pastel-toned bursts of swirling flowers, mushrooms, oceans, and rock formations. Despite their storybook-like quality, many of Lin's works are fairly large, with some spanning more than three feet wide.

In an interview with [Wow x Wow](#), Lin describes the intention behind her work: "It's about exploring the internal and external, about the relationships between the two; self and surroundings; human beings and the world... Our body is a container, connected to the outside world and our breath, blood, thoughts, feelings, emotions, dreams, etc. are the content; through this content we are able to experience life, and we are able to learn about art, the world or ourselves."







Juho Könkkölä

Earlier this year, Finnish artist [Juho Könkkölä](#) folded [an incredibly elaborate samurai](#) from a single sheet of paper, and now he's crafted another intricate warrior of his own design. Standing 18 centimeters tall, the sword- and shield-toting figure demanded 41 hours of work using wet and dry origami techniques.

Könkkölä started with a 68 x 68-centimeter sheet of Wenzhou rice paper that he scored and folded to capture the protective bands on the shoulders and hips and the exact placement of individual plates. "One of the greatest challenges in this figure was the stark contrast between the shield and the sword; the sword has over 50(!) layers inside the palm of the figure, whereas the shield has only one layer on a large surface," he writes on [Instagram](#).

Könkkölä also filmed his entire process, so you can watch the knight take shape

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtIf5WHTbns>





Of all the People in the World

Of All the People in All the World, also known as **the Rice Show**, is an art installation and performance^[1] by [Stan's Cafe](#), which utilises 112 tonnes of dry rice^[2] to represent the world's population, with one grain for each person (about 60 grains of rice—or people—per gram).

Individual piles of rice represent various statistics, such as "deaths in [The Holocaust](#)" or "the population of [England](#)". As the show progresses, new piles are made by "curators".^[3] Topical events are also covered, such as a pile representing the people who lost jobs upon the [bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers](#), which happened during the September 2008 exhibition.^[4]~~failed verification~~ Some of the piles are shaped to represent something associated with the statistic, such as the rice representing the crowd at a football match being in the shape of a stadium, with players in formation. Visitors, or people using the show's website, are invited to suggest new statistics for inclusion

- [The Rice Show \(youtube.com\)](http://youtube.com)





Johnathan Green

The Lowcountry Rice Forum 2015 featured eight august speakers who illustrated the effects of the rice culture on art from antebellum times through the present. Celebrated Lowcountry artist Jonathan Green describes his own journey and how his Gullah heritage has inspired his colorful, magical, heartfilled works.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dDxC5Y-oLPg>
- <https://www.jonathangreenstudios.com/about>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UvH7xm8JfJ4>







Guillermo Basso
2013



Jonathan Green, *Rice Arrival*, 2013, acrylic on watercolor paper, 10 1/2" x 14", collection of Dr. Henrie M. Treadwell



JONATHAN GREEN

September 29, 2015 through January 7, 2016

Franklin G. Burroughs • Simeon B. Chapin Art Museum | Myrtle Beach, South Carolina



This exhibition is generously sponsored by AVX/Kyocera Foundation; BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina; Burroughs & Chapin Company, Inc.; Nancy and Billy Cave; The Humanities Council of South Carolina; The Moglia Family Foundation; the South Carolina Arts Commission; SCE&G; TD Charitable Foundation, and Wells Fargo.







Rice Plantation, 2013 - Acrylic on Arches Paper, 11" x 14" © Jonathan Green - Private Collection

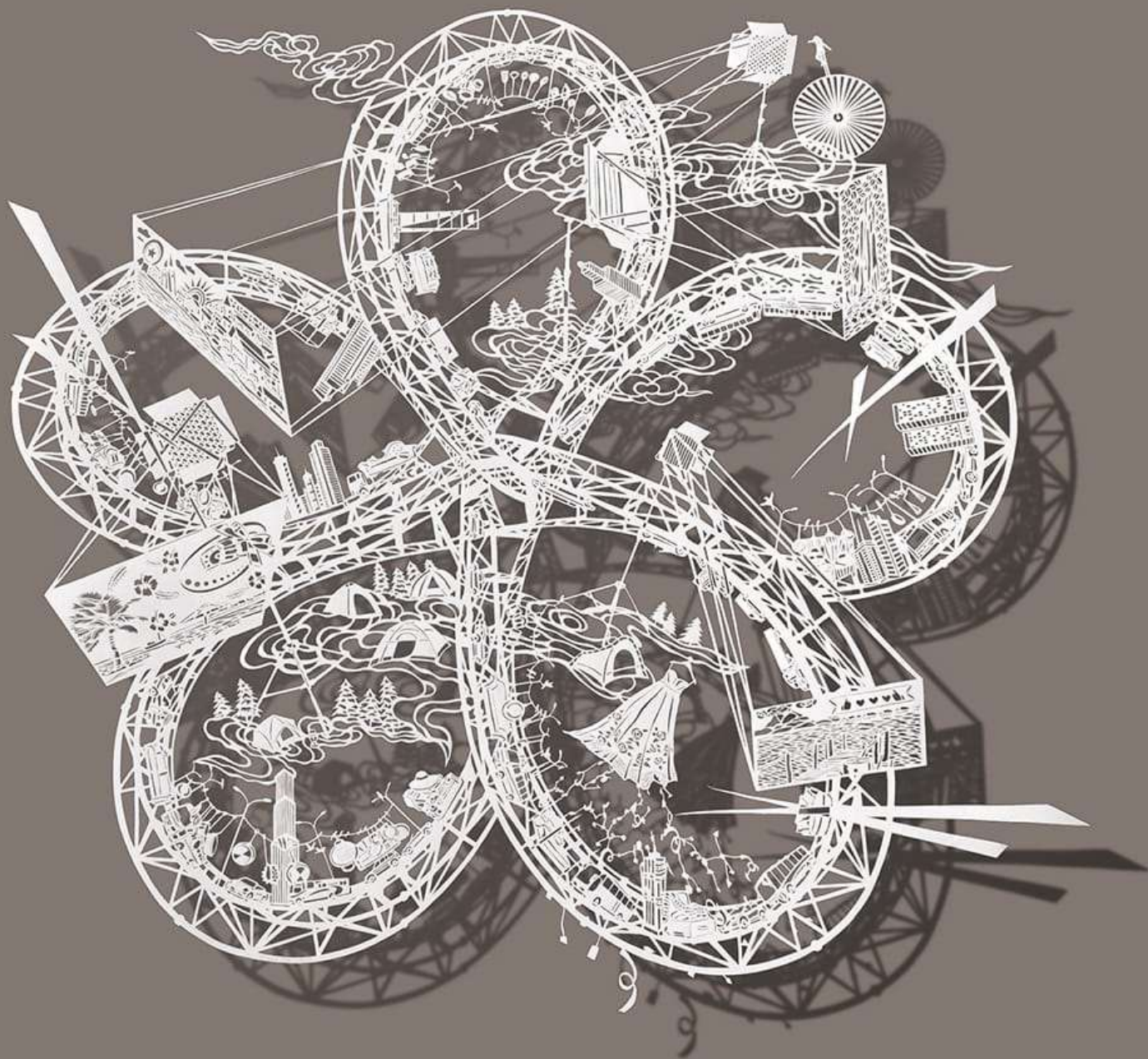
"Live Oak Lights: Illuminating Our Heritage"
A Celebration of Gullah Culture - April 24, 2016 - The Daniel Island Historical Society

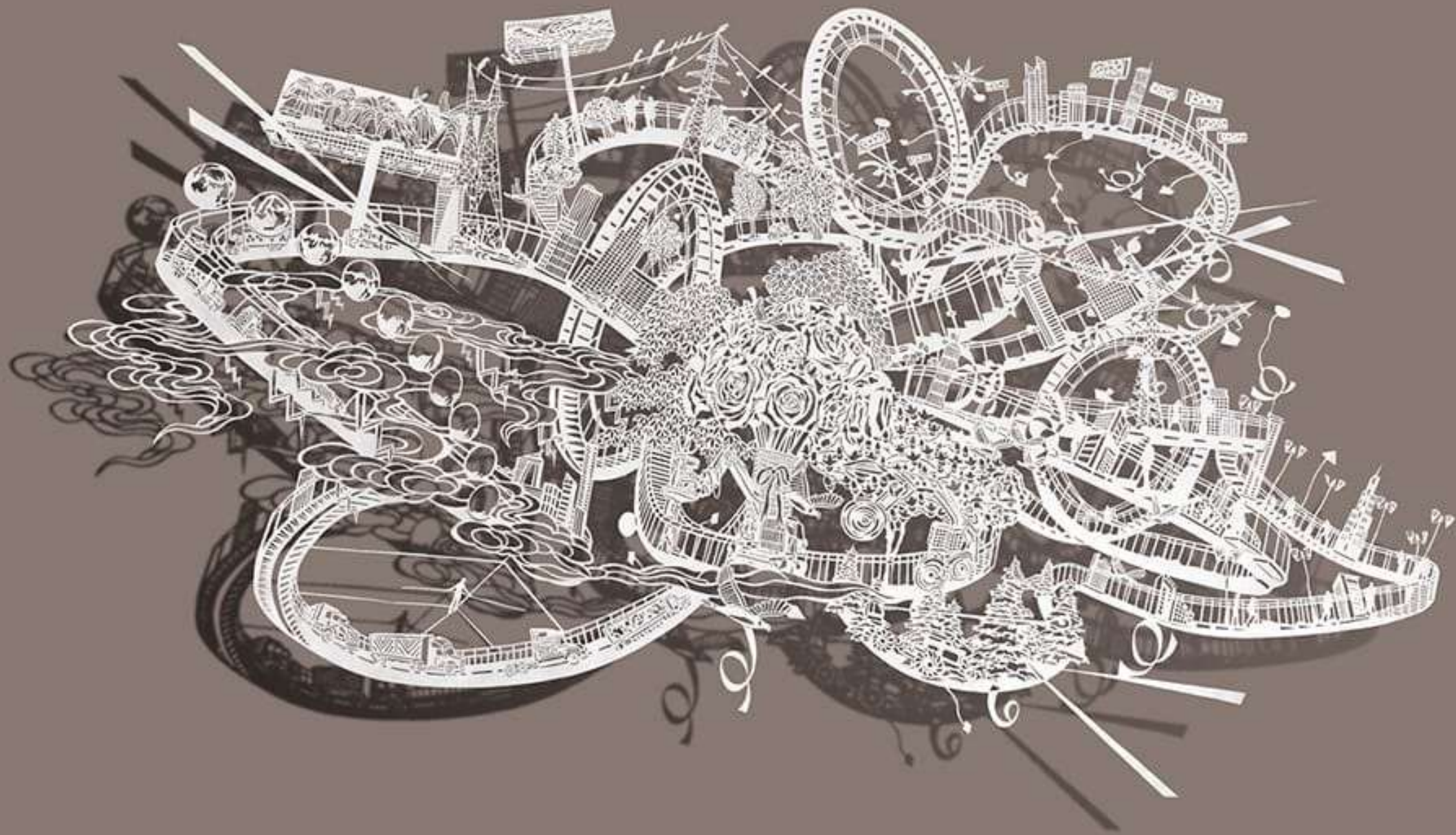
Jonathan Green

Bovey Lee

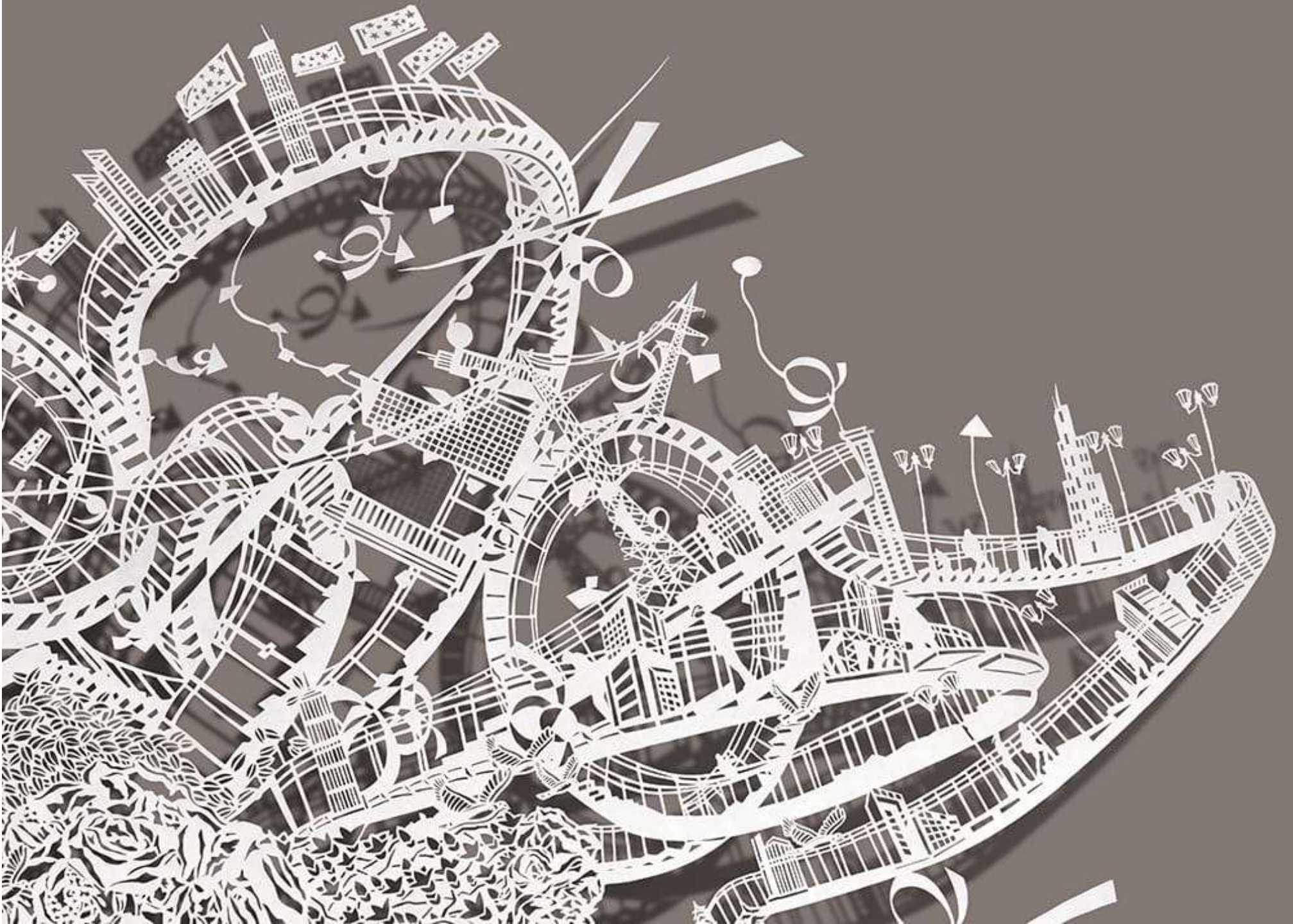
Bovey is known for her intricately cut paper artworks that explore humanity and environmental narratives. This is a sensitive artwork that highlights migration and the displacement of families. Right now, many of us are experiencing the anguish of not being with those we care about. Bovey asks us to look within ourselves for empathy and love for others in need.

- <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=2520299884910959>









Kazuaki Tanahashi

Kazuaki Tanahashi is an accomplished Japanese calligrapher, Zen teacher, author and translator of Buddhist texts from Japanese and Chinese to English, most notably works by Dogen.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DA1pIYEIWml>







Creating What Are We Doing?



Miracles of
Each moment

Kazuo 2003



Zhu Jinshi

More than 12,000 sheets of delicate Xuan paper form the ruffled exterior of [Zhu Jinshi](#)'s suspended "Boat" sculpture. The renowned artist, who's currently living and working in his hometown of Beijing, is widely regarded for pioneering Chinese abstract art, and this monumental installation from 2015 is a reflection of his conceptual, meditative practice.

Spanning 18 meters long and seven meters wide, "Boat" is comprised of wrinkled paper layers draped around bamboo frames. Countless thin cotton threads hold the individual components in place and intersect the curved, tunnel-like form with straight lines that extend vertically to the ceiling. Bisected with a central space for viewers to pass through, the metaphorical work considers the passage of time and space and is an extension of [Zhu's 2007 installation "Wave of Materials"](#) (shown below), which features a single, halved form anchored to the gallery floor with stones.

<https://vimeo.com/388395284>







Guorui Chen—Rice Sculptures

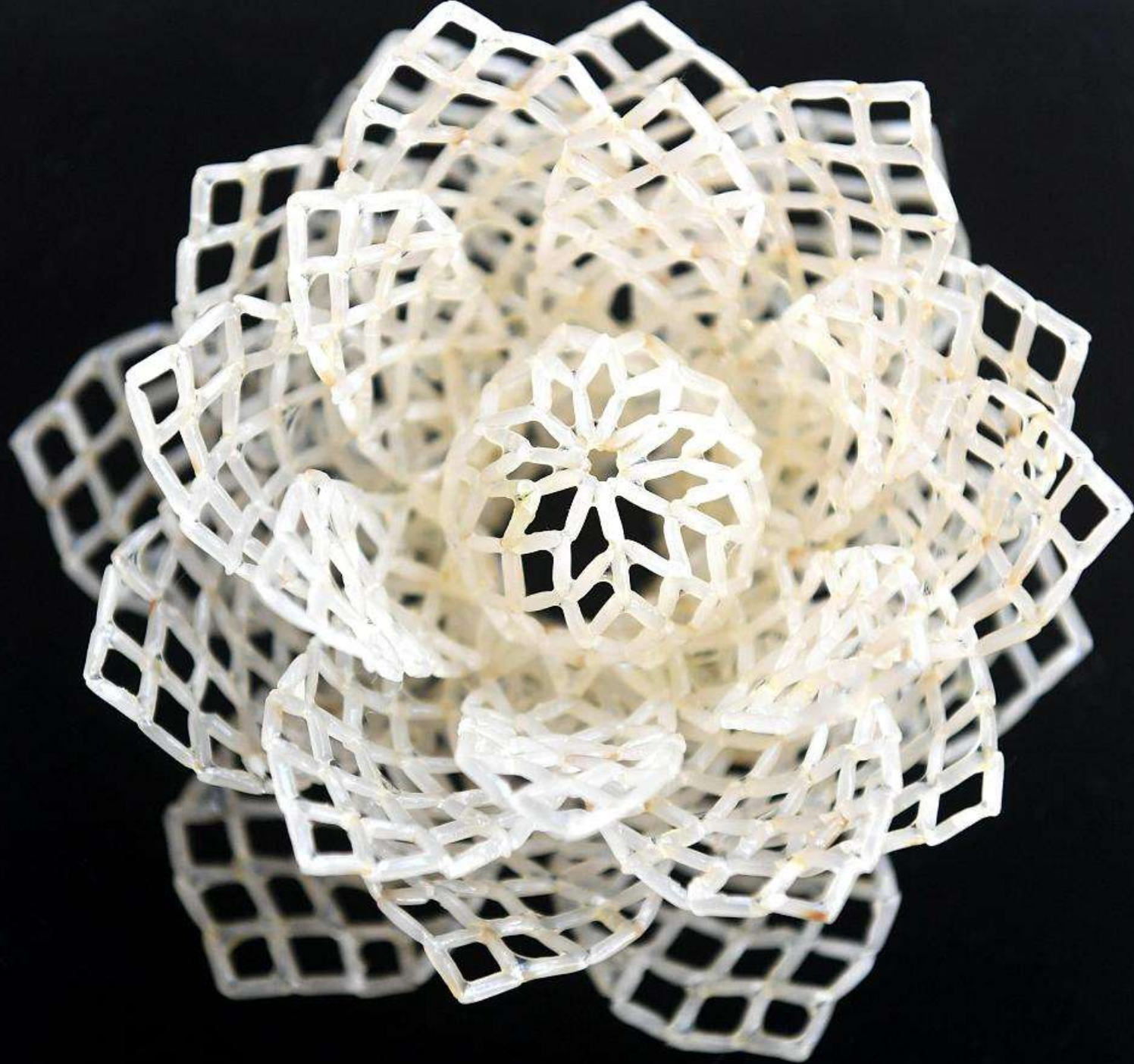
He picks out three grains, glues them end to end into a triangle, and connects hundreds of these basic units to form shapes: a horse, a lotus flower, a temple. In his hands, rice turns into aesthetic hollow sculptures. They appear so delicate that every joint looks liable to break, but in fact, they are sturdy enough to be lifted up and moved.

In a country with over a billion people who eat rice almost every day, Guorui Chen is the only one using rice to make Gaolou Rice Strings, a traditional art that had been lost for decades. “Nowhere else in the world can you find it,” says Chen.

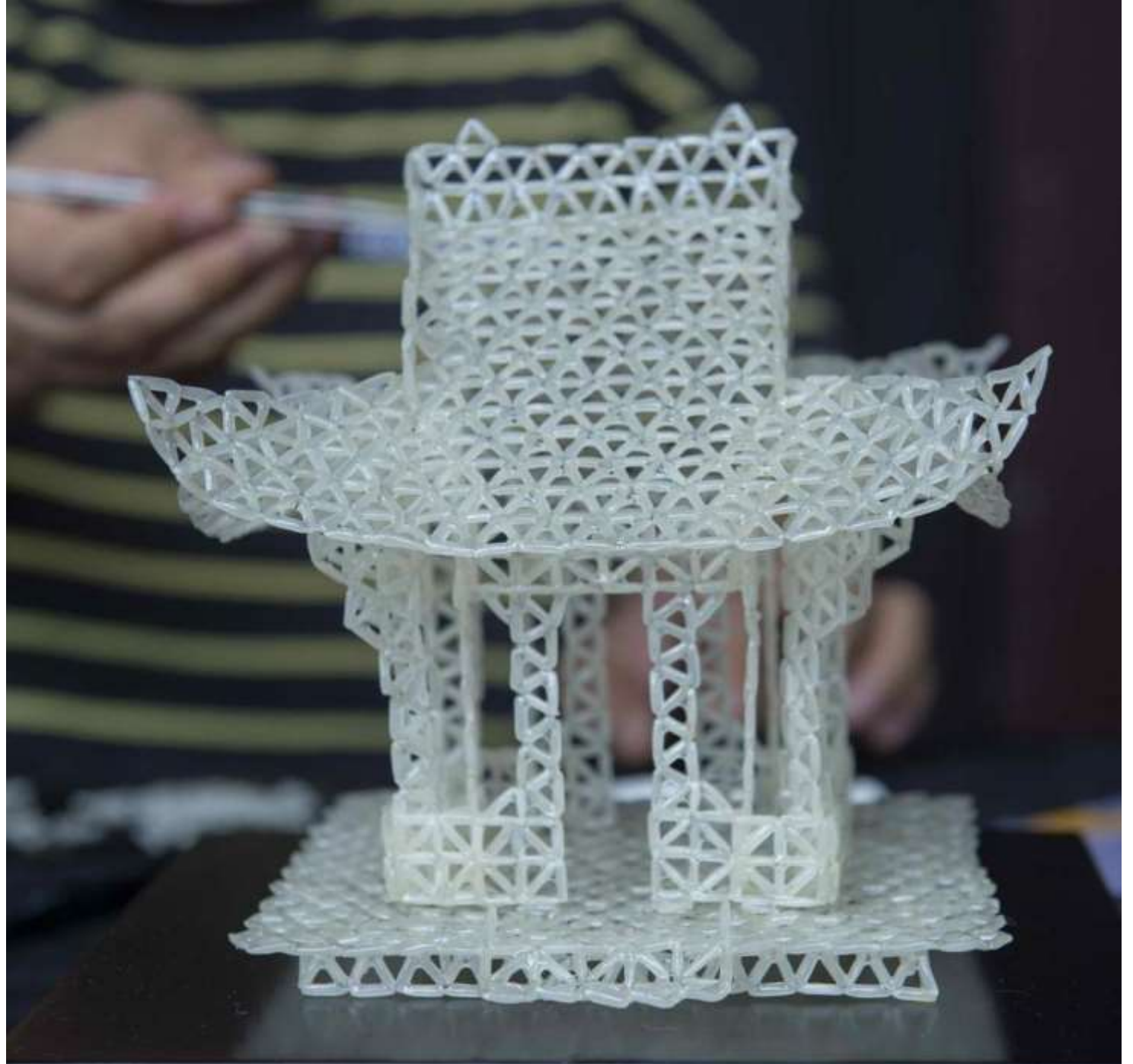
- <https://www.facebook.com/LoveFujian/videos/284471233264491/>











Rice Paddy Art

In 1993, the people of [Inakadate](#), in [Aomori Prefecture](#), were looking for a way to revitalize their village. Archaeological exploration led to a realization that rice had been grown in the area for more than 2000 years.^[3] To honor this history, the villagers started a rice field behind the town hall. With the [paddy](#) as a canvas, the villagers cultivated and used four different types^[3] of heirloom and modern strains of rice to create a giant picture in the field. To allow viewing of the whole picture, a mock castle tower 22 meters high was erected at the village office.^[3] In 2006, more than 200,000 people visited the village to see the art.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o2_Li7tntE4
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u0Vu-0EH6i4>











Wara (Thatch) Sculptures

The rural, coastal Niigata prefecture in Northern [Japan](#) is known for its wealth of rice paddies, which produce a rich harvest each fall. After the rice is harvested and the grain extracted, a huge amount of rice straw is leftover, called wara.

Instead of going to waste, the excess wara is reused in many ways: for roofs, fertilizer, livestock feed, and, historically, to make various goods before it was replaced by more modern materials. In the region's capital city, Niigata, it's put to an even more creative use, transformed into giant, fantastic animal sculptures.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OurpKtyhjbg&t=46s>

<https://vimeo.com/241860503>



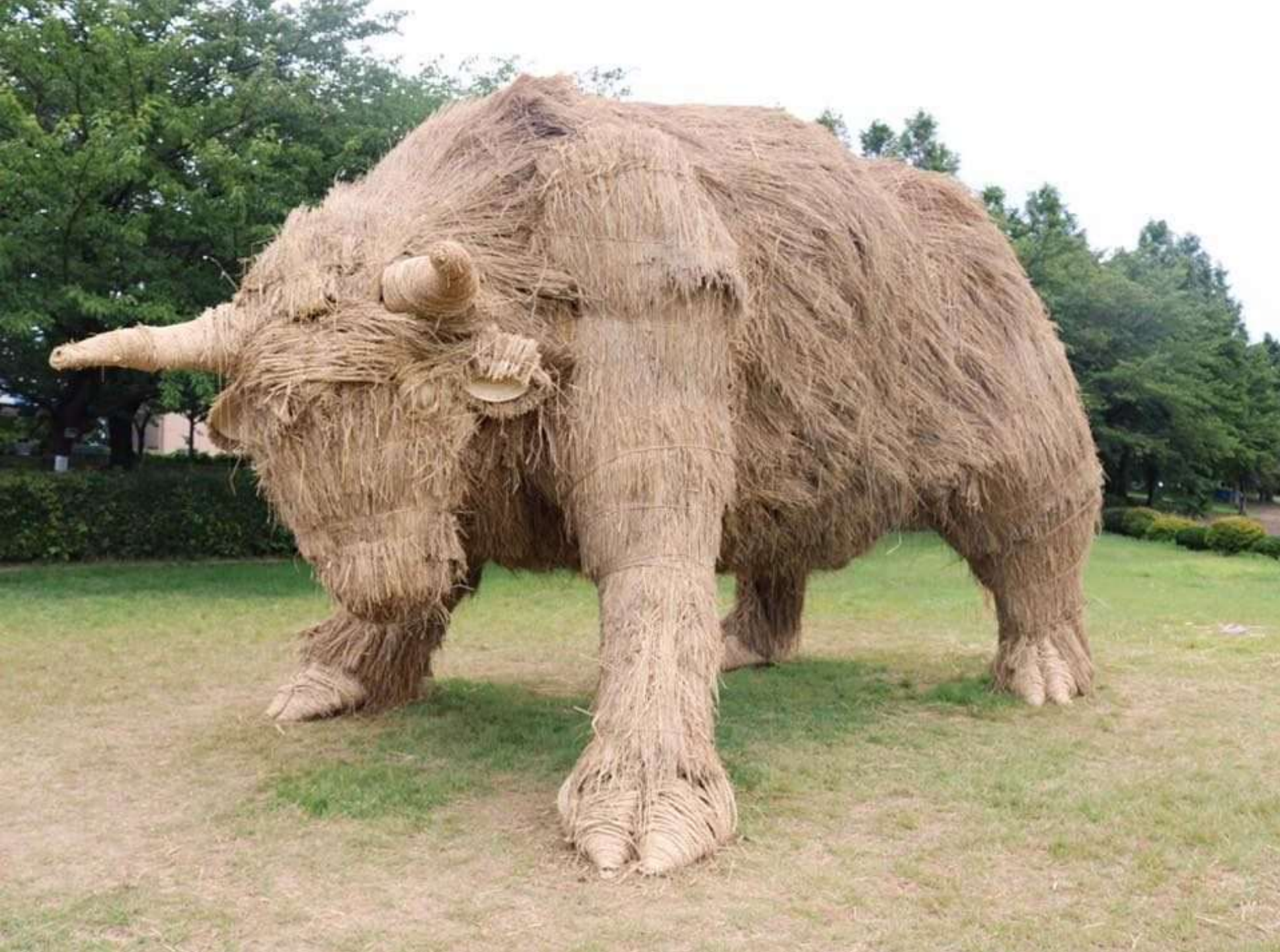












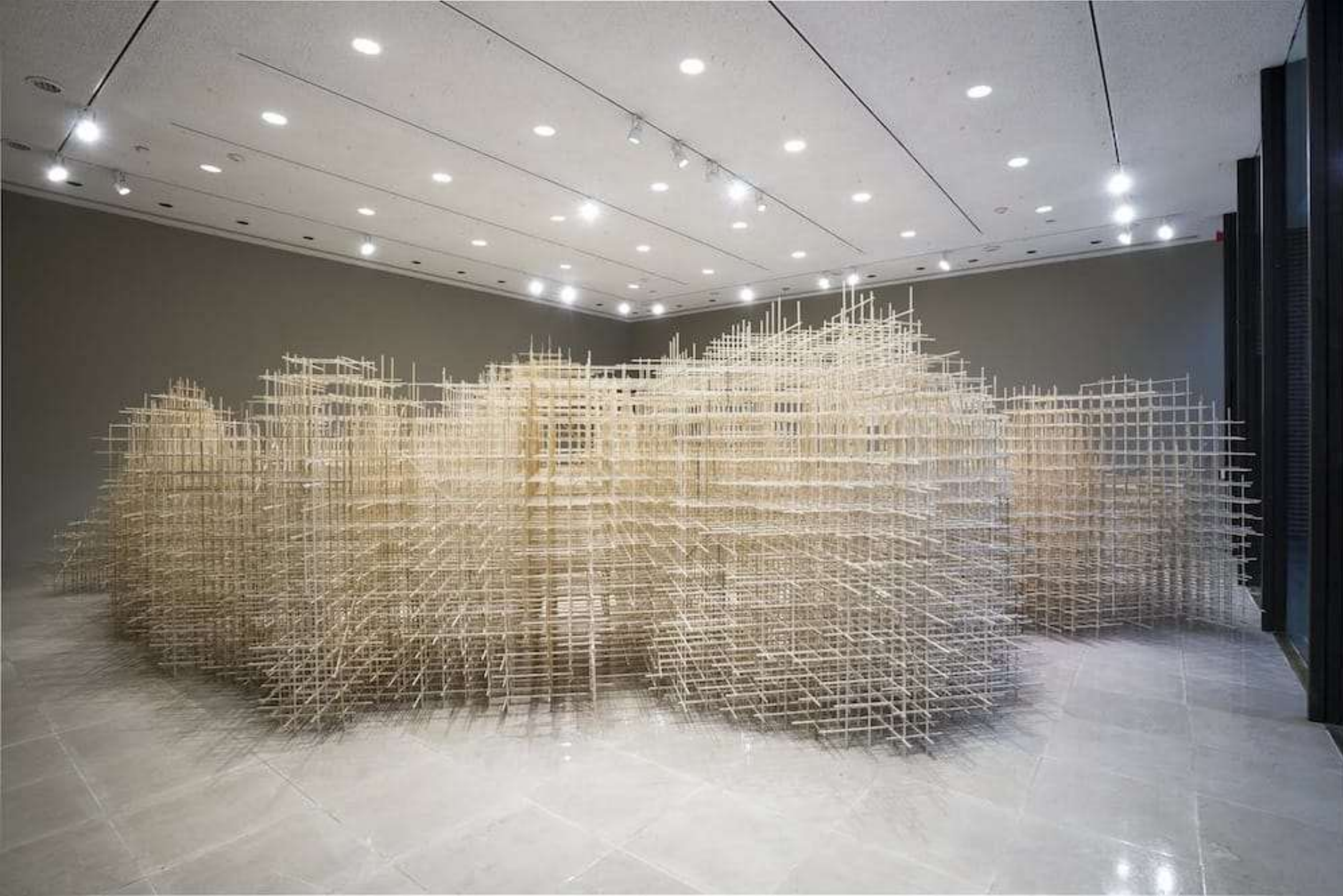
Ben Butler

[Ben Butler](#) is fascinated by the complex structures that emerge from simple and delicate processes. This phenomenon can be found in the elaborate systems produced by ant colonies to human cities, small quotidian actions accumulating into overpowering structures. *Unbounded*, Butler's installation on display at Rice University Gallery in Houston, Texas, uses this same idea by assembling over 10,000 pieces of poplar wood into a matrix-like structure. This massive arrangement coalesces into an unexpectedly mesmerizing array of grids that stretch to fill the gallery space.

Butler approached this installation, as he commonly does within his practice, without initial sketches or ideas of what he would like the structure to look like. He played with the materials, discovering configurations on the spot. Although the grids within *Unbounded* were pre-made in his studio, the way they were configured and connected horizontally was all in response to the space. This way of acting in the present ensured that the structure's outcome would be organic, and not purely responding to a preconceived shape.

<https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2015/07/unbounded-ben-butler/>







The 'Birdman' of Chennai Feeds Up to 4,000 Wild Green Parakeets Daily from His Home

Ten years ago, after a tsunami struck near Chennai, India, a camera repairman named Sekar noticed a pair of displaced green parakeets perched near his back porch. He immediately started to feed them with rice from his home, and the birds soon nested nearby and slowly—and then not so slowly—began to multiply.

The 62-year-old now cares for an estimated 4,000 birds that live near his home, spending almost 40% of his income on their care. He rises around 4am to start cooking giant pots of rice which he services twice daily on a latticework of boards on the roof of his home. This video from Aravind Kumar takes us into Sekar's home to see what taking care of several thousand exotic birds looks like.

- <https://www.thisiscolossal.com/2015/10/birdman-parakeets/>







Novelty Rice Art

Rice Flip Art

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=94NOfOjr1Gc>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qda-BiHnet8>
- Writing on a grain of rice
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-o0F5YB22vA>
- Using Rice to Visualize Large Numbers
- https://www.tiktok.com/@joshua_cubed/video/7273553807794113825?lang=en

Assignment Suggestions...

- Use rice in a [cyanotype](#) or a print
- Use “rice” paper in a collage
- Use rice to create a textured surface for painting