

# KENICHI YOKONO



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April 4 - May 16, 2009



**Kenichi Yokono** presents his highly detailed, meticulously carved woodblocks, finished in stark white and contrasting blood red, as an end product rather than producing multiple prints. In doing so, his sophisticated work encompasses and speaks of the traditional past of his native land as well as its contemporary pop culture, while addressing internationally relevant questions of globalization and consumerism. The stark, minimal colors belie these complex themes and the often unsettling nature of his subject matter. Fueled by horror movies and Manga, his works frequently edge towards the sinister, depicting unidentifiable scenes that invite the viewer to imagine the worst, letting their minds wander to the darkest possibilities of sex, the paranormal and death. Ultimately the woodblocks strike a powerful balance between their superficial visual appeal and the intangible draw of morbid curiosity; each work a remarkable mix of cultural reflection, psychoanalysis and social commentary.



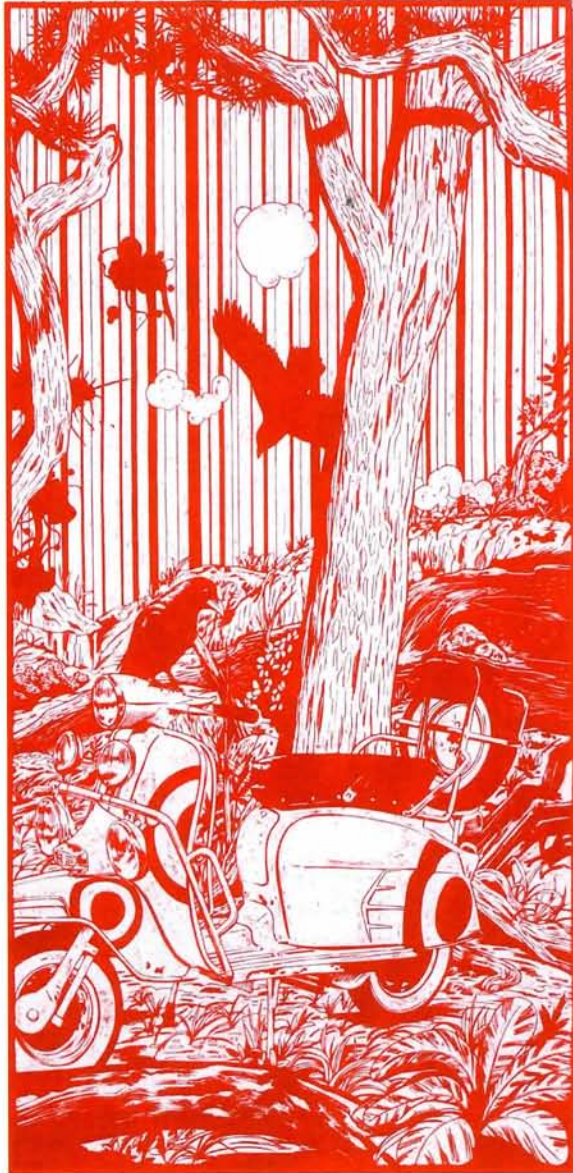


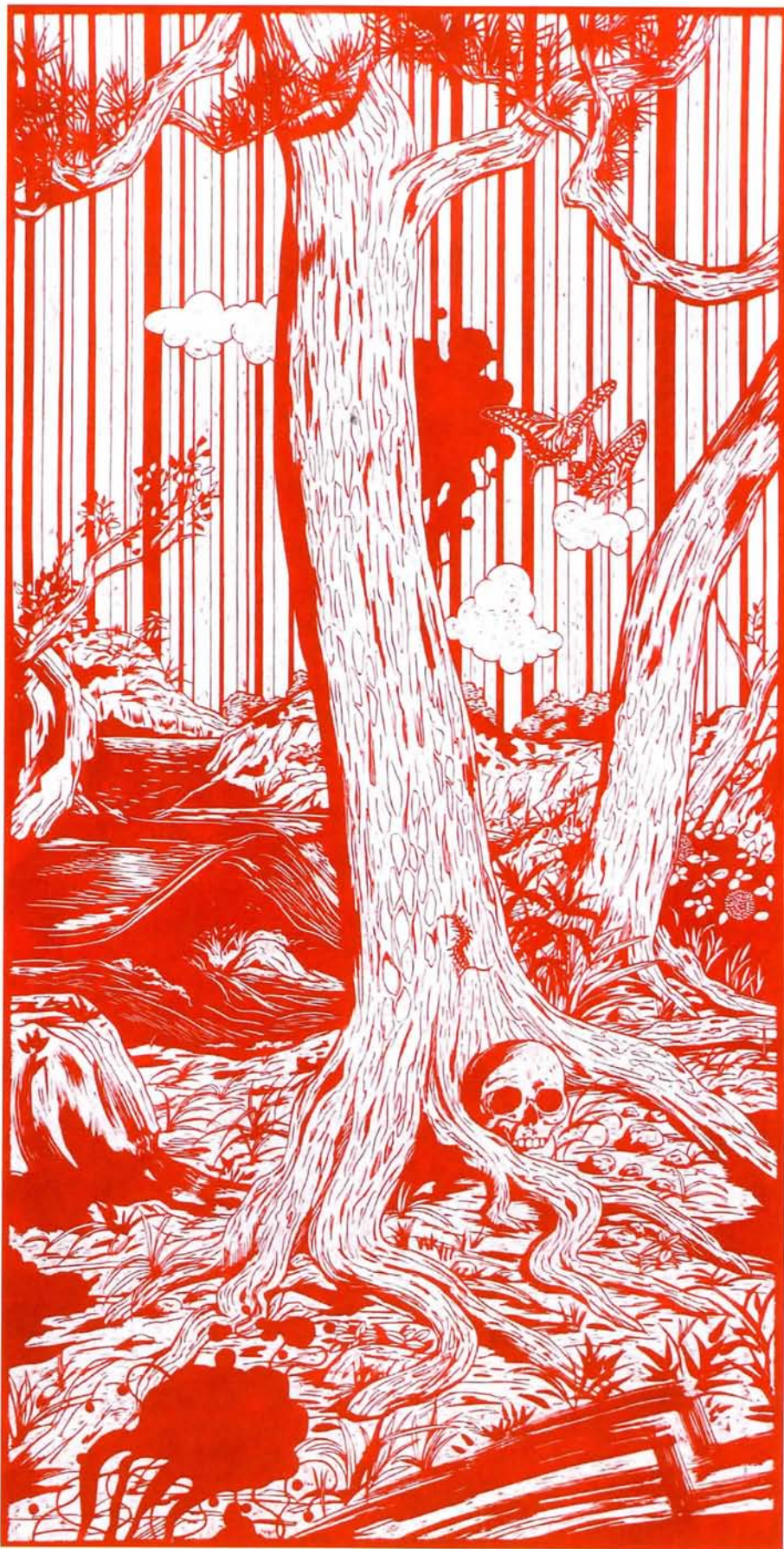


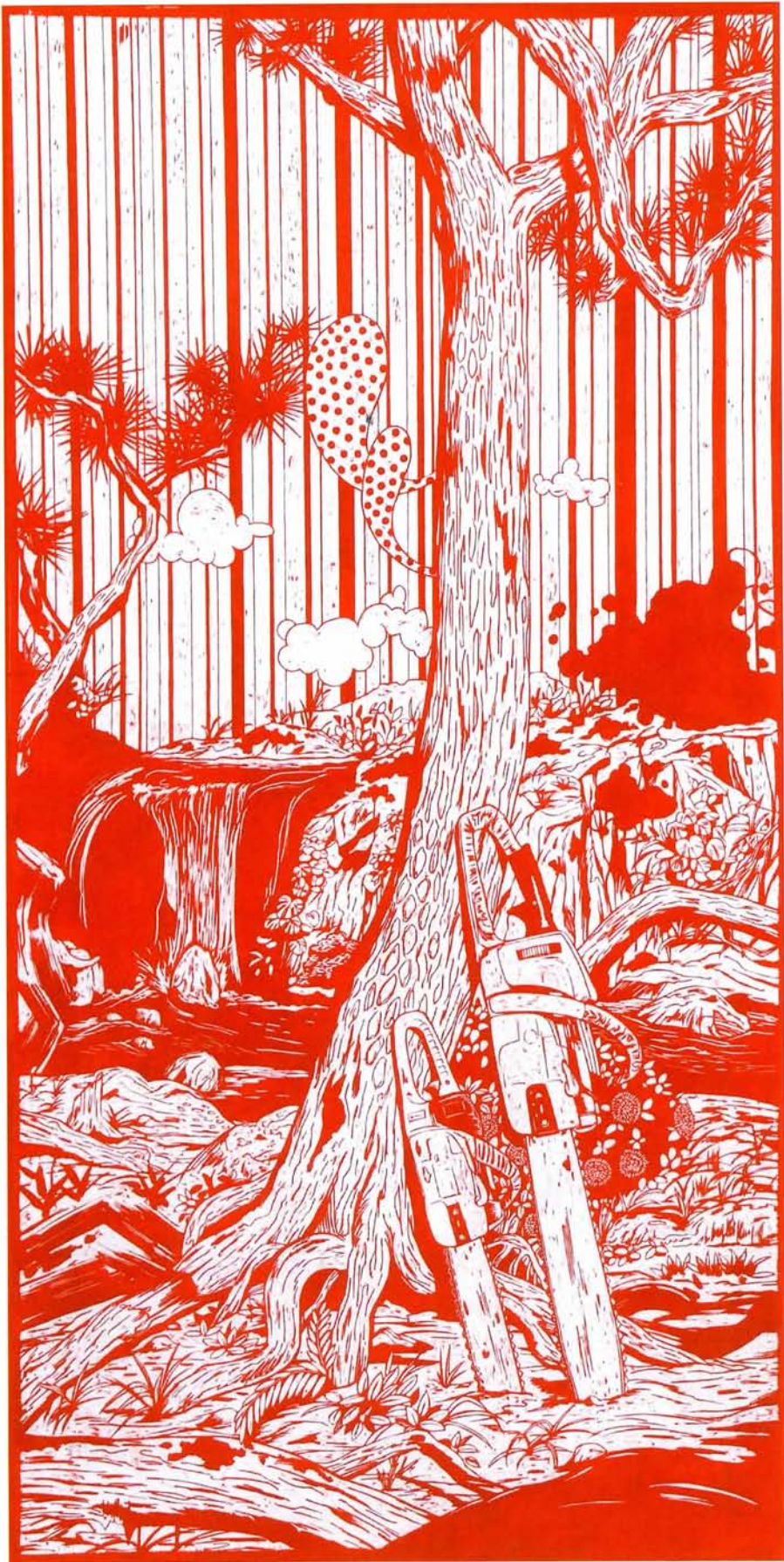


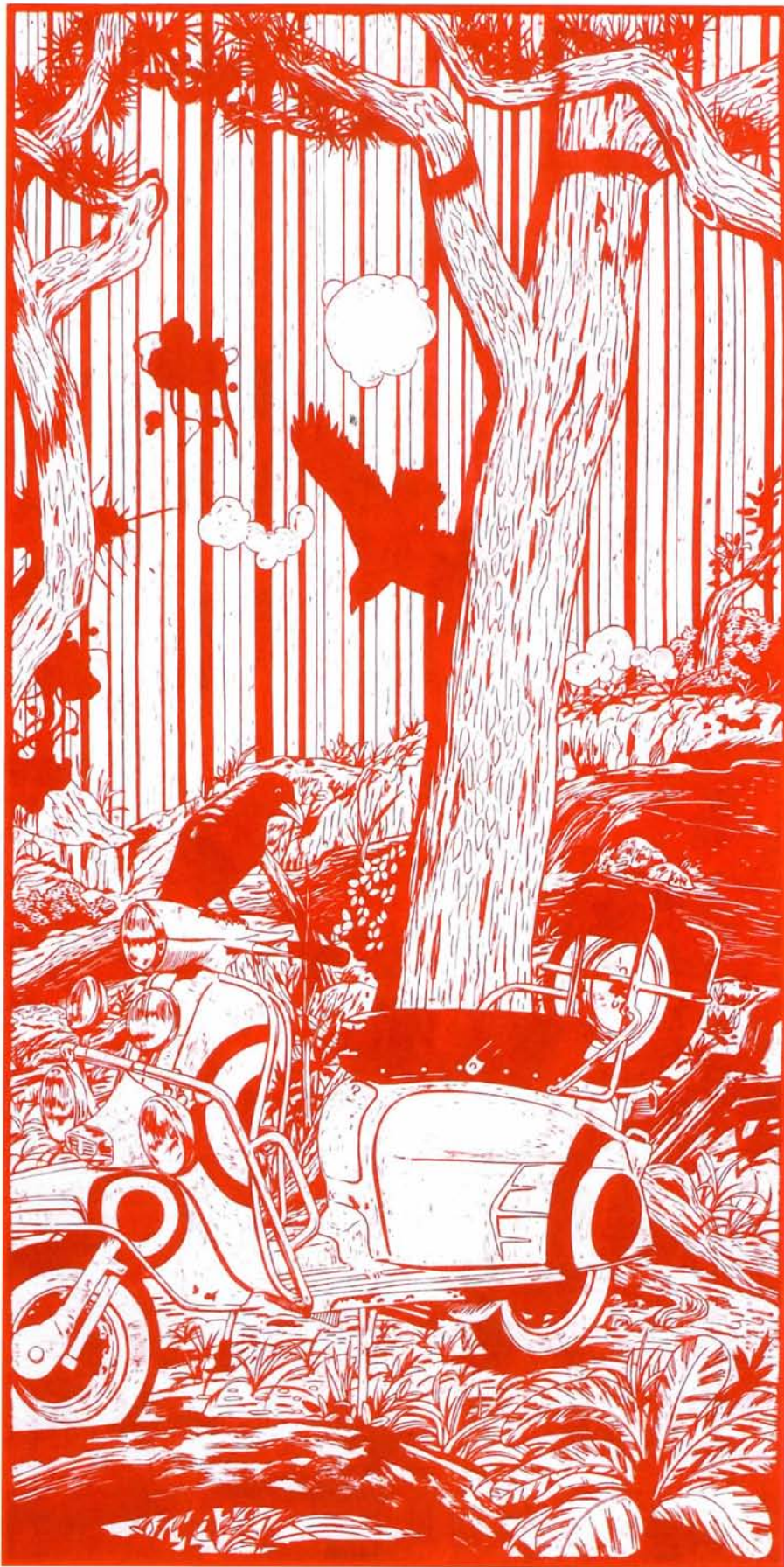










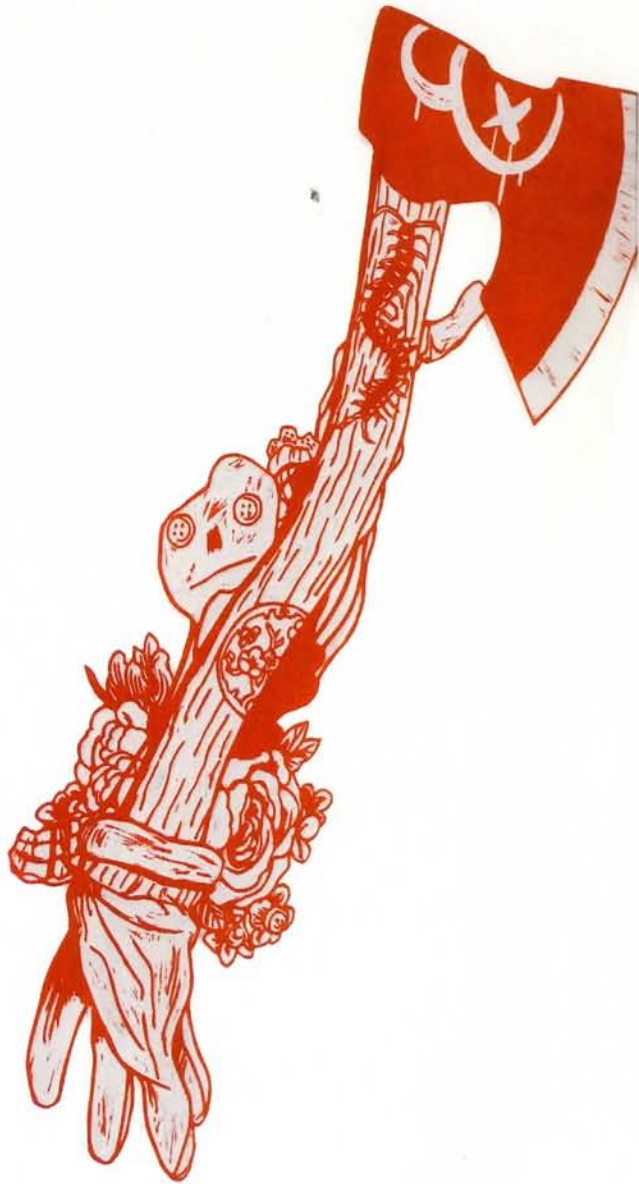




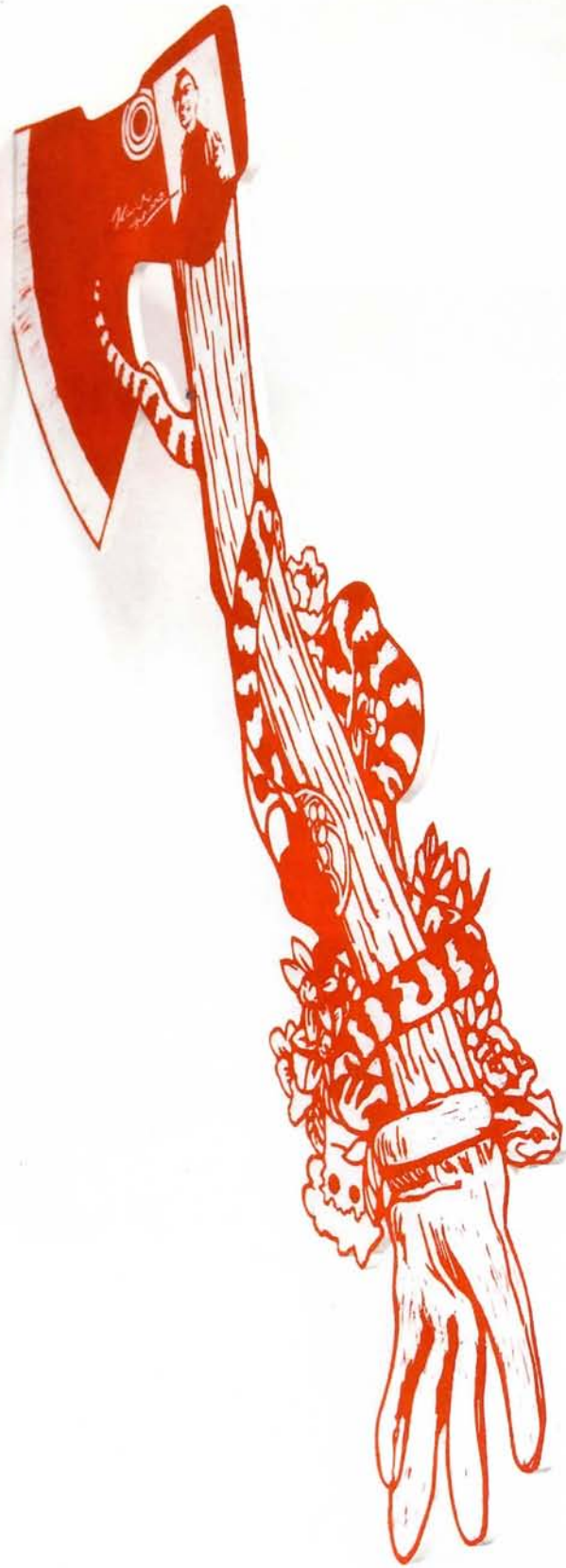


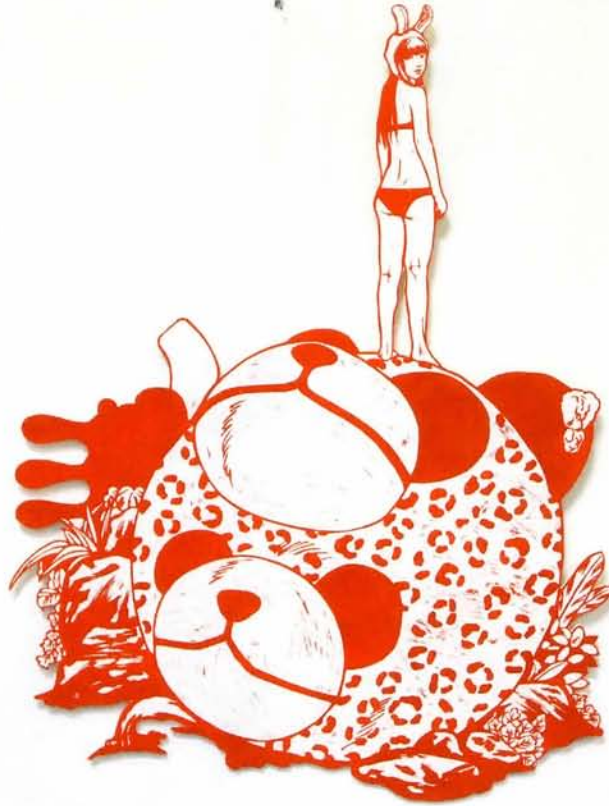






Untitled (Axe), 2009, carved wood and enamel, 21 x 8.5 inches





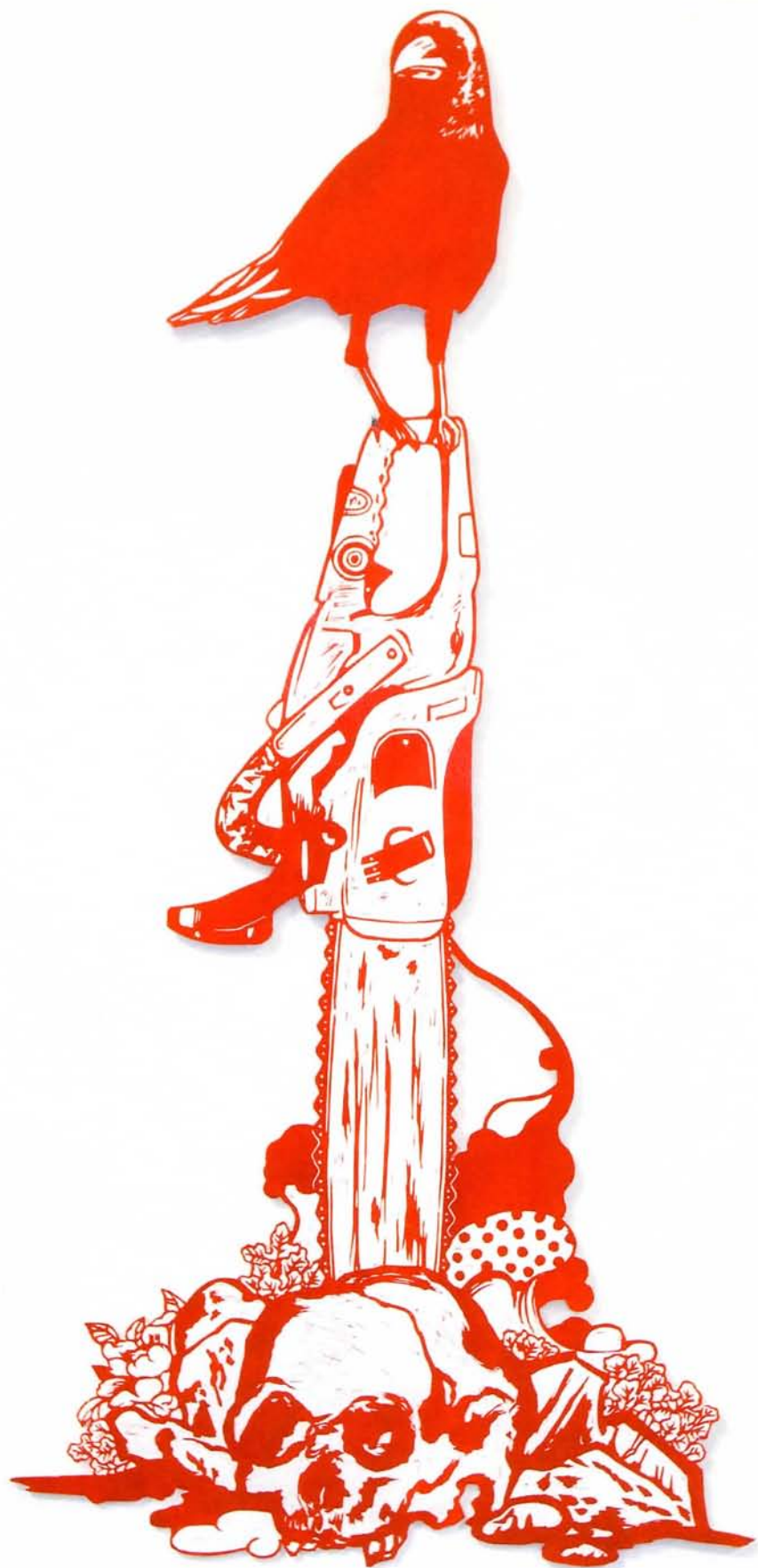
Suit Head, 2009, carved wood and enamel, 27 x 21 inches



Spider and Butterfly, 2009 carved wood and enamel, 15 x 13 inches







# Kenichi Yokono

Born 1972, Ishikawa, Kanazawa, Japan  
Lives and works in Kanazawa, Japan

## Education

1997 Kanazawa College of Art, Kanazawa, Japan

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2009 Mark Moore Gallery, Santa Monica, CA  
Hilger Contemporary, Vienna, Austria  
2x2 Projects, Amsterdam, Netherlands  
2007 Mark Moore Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

## Group Exhibitions

- 2008 Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Mark Moore Gallery booth, Miami, FL  
Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Mark Moore Gallery booth, New York, NY  
2007 Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Mark Moore Gallery booth, Miami, FL  
Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Mark Moore Gallery booth, New York, NY  
2006 Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Mark Moore Gallery booth, Miami, FL  
*Ultrasonic International I*, Mark Moore Gallery, Santa Monica, CA  
Pulse Contemporary Art Fair, Self-represented, New York, NY  
2005 *Geisai-7*, Tokyo Big Site, Tokyo, Japan  
*Party-The Horror Pop Pieces*, D&Department Gallery Wall, Tokyo, Japan



- 2004 Scope Art Fair, New York, NY  
 Gensai-6, Tokyo Big Site, Tokyo, Japan  
 Yokono Artworks and the Horror of Daily Life, Ono Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
 Another Movement 2004, Kanazawa City, Japan
- 2003 Artists by Artists, Mori Museum, Roppongi Hills, Tokyo, Japan  
 Gensai-4, Tokyo Big Site, Tokyo, Japan  
 Gensai-Museum, Mori Tower 24F, Tokyo, Japan
- 2002 Link @ Performing Square, Kanazawa Citizen Art Center, Satoyama no Ie Kanazawa, Japan  
 Poem, Calling Out of Mind Suisei Club Nait, Kanazawa, Japan
- 2001 ART, House, Today, Kanazawa Citizen Art Center, Satoyama no Ie Kanazawa, Japan  
 Nothing but Art Play, Suisei Club Nait, Kanazawa, Japan  
 Shining at Night, Oxydol, Kanazawa, Japan
- 2000 Y/N Collaboration, Parc Katamati, Kanazawa, Japan  
 Gen-ten, Ueno Museum, Tokyo, Japan  
 Working Point 2000, Kanazawa Citizen Art Center Pit5, Kanazawa, Japan
- 1999 Little Alter 1999, Meromeropotti, Kanazawa, Japan  
 Poem, Calling Out of Mind, Suisei Club Nait, Kanazawa, Japan
- 1998 Yokono Kenichi Solo Exhibition, Parc Katamati, Kanazawa, Japan
- 1997 Memories of Monochrome, Asanogawa Gallery, Kanazawa, Japan

#### Awards and Residencies

- 2005 Artist in Residence at McColl Center for Visual Art, Charlotte, NC  
 Artist in Residence at ISCP (International Studio and Curatorial Program), New York, by ACC  
 (Asian Cultural Council) Fellowship, NY  
 NY Public Art fund director, Tom Eccles Prize
- 2003 Art Tower Mito, Contemporary Art Center chief director, Eriko Ousaka Prize

#### Bibliography

- "[Pact] Most Favored Nation" (illustration image), *Harper's Magazine*, May 2008, p. 24
- Ollman, Leah. "Her Altered States of Being", *Los Angeles Times*, October 19, 2007, p. E24
- Ayers, Robert. "Armory Week: A Year Later, A Fair Better", *ArtInfo*, February 25, 2007, <http://www.artinfo.com/News/Article.aspx?a=28335&c=221> (<http://www.artinfo.com/News/Article.aspx?a=28335&c=221>)
- "Kenichi Yokono Artist Interview", [www.horror.com](http://www.horror.com) (<http://www.horror.com>), 10 August 2006
- "International art with youthful edge," *Los Angeles Times*, July 28, 2006, p. E23.
- Ayers, Robert. "Armory Show Report: Ancillary Fairs", *ArtInfo*, March 12, 2006, [http://www.artinfo.com/articles/story/13441/armory\\_show\\_report\\_ancillary\\_fairs](http://www.artinfo.com/articles/story/13441/armory_show_report_ancillary_fairs)
- Rubin, Josh. "Kenichi Yokono," *Cool Hunting*, June 1, 2006, [http://www.coolhunting.com/archives/2006/06/kenichi\\_yokono](http://www.coolhunting.com/archives/2006/06/kenichi_yokono)

