

Harumi Abe
2013 AIRIE Fellow
Pahayokee, 2013
Acrylic and oil on wood
24" x 24"

"This painting was created during my residency at AIRIE in 2013. I wandered the Pahayokee trail area often to observe wildlife. The most notable was the variety of birds. I have been making artworks questioning the idea of home for the past decade. At AIRIE, I had a moment of realization that this wilderness of the Everglades is a home to many species of birds. In reality they don't all perch together but I made the painting suggesting a community of species existing without prejudice."

**Harumi Abe** is a Japanese native artist from Tokorozawa, Saitama, who has lived in South Florida nearly half of her life. Her current series of work, "Shakkei" are abstracted landscape paintings, layered images and memories emerge as fresh perspectives on Florida and Japan. Abe paints visual topography of her inner self and sense of belonging to both places. Finding unity in a balanced, emotional palette, the artist's relationship to these prismatic landscapes is magnified by "borrowing" from the regions to create meaningful connections with her beloved homelands.

Abe has actively shown her works in South Florida. Her recent solo shows include, Walgreen windows project by Oolite Arts, AIRIE Nest in the Everglades National Park, Lee Wagener gallery in the Ft. Lauderdale, Hollywood Airport, and coral contemporary gallery. Her works are collected by the Girls Club Collection, Liza and Arturo Mosquera Collection and other private collections. Abe received South Florida Cultural Consortium in 2008 and attended residencies at South Florida Art Center (Oolite Arts), Vermont Studio Center, Everglades Artist and Residence Program and Dickinson House Residency in Belgian. Abe holds an MFA from Florida International University. She was an adjunct professor teaching art at many south Florida Colleges and was a full time, painting professor at Savannah College of Art and Design. Currently, she is working from her home studio in Hollywood, FL while homeschooling five years old daughter, Hana. **Artist Website**