



CHROMATOPE



Lucky Pine Cotton Dress (Sakura Pink) modeled in a park in Tokyo

### **Ruri Clarkson's Chromatope Recasts Traditional Japanese Motifs.**

Visual artist Ruri Clarkson's embroidered artwork explores the nuances in feminist issues. Clarkson's new fashion series, *Chromatope*, is on display at *aiiima* in Shibuya Hikarie from July 11 to July 16th.

#### **Shaking off history's claim to traditional fabric motifs.**

Clarkson created the *Chromatope* series during 2017 when women spoke up in an unprecedented scale around the world. They announced their refusal to comply with old codes, and their determination to write the future.

*Chromatope* responds to this movement with a challenge to "liberate traditional motifs from the weight of history and reintroducing them as light as skipping steps of a girl." Clarkson previously exhibited installations and wall-hangings. *Chromatope* is her first fashion collection.

Clarkson explains that she "felt a need to 'save' the gorgeously embroidered motifs found in dark-lit museums where I frequent for research. I could feel the old motifs – pines and plum blossoms – sinking deeper into the waters of the past. In a personal sense, I yanked the age-old motifs out from their institutional prison by playfully redrawing them in watercolor, collage, and pencil with a mind towards loosening them up. It wasn't long before the motifs wiggled into action, and guided me as if having wills of their own. They demanded to be used and not displayed, out and about on the streets, on daily items used by the women of today."



Lucky Pine Cotton Dress

Waka Green



Hana Navy

The embroidery pattern of "Lucky Pine Cotton Dress" pairs heavy pine tree motifs with light, cheerful dandelion blooms, alluding to the reserved wisdom and light-spirited, girl-like quality of the contemporary woman. The dress is available in a variety of palettes: "Sakura Pink", "Waka Green", and "Hana Navy."



Lucky Pine Shoulder Bag



Lucky Pine Backpack

**Drawing on a breadth of hard-earned knowledge in embroidery techniques, both old and new.**

Clarkson draws on a range of methods to create *Chromatope's* coquettish and lively designs: hand-embroidery, yokoburi (free-hand machine embroidery), punch needle, cutwork, quilting, and stenciling. Prototypes are then sent to artisans in Japan who craft each piece with the utmost care and expertise, manifesting the core values of the *Chromatope* series.

**Exhibition Lineup**

Clothing: 1 dress (3 colors), 1 top (3 patterns)

Bags: 1 fabric tote (3 colors), 1 canvas tote (2 patterns), 1 shoulder bag, 1 backpack.

There will also be wall-hanging art and editioned items for sale to order or to bring home.

【Place & Time】

**CHROMATOPE – Embroidered Fashion**

Date: 7.11 (Wed) - 7.16 (Mon) 2018

Place : Creative Lounge MOV, aiiima 1 Shibuya Hikarie

Address: 8th Floor 2-21-1 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, 150-0002

Time: 12:00~20:00 (closes on the last day at 18:00)

**Ruri Clarkson Profile :**

Ruri Clarkson is a visual artist whose narrative pieces playfully explore nuances of feminist issues. She took up embroidery while living in Hong Kong. Past exhibitions include *Imposing Words - Contemporary Family Issues* at Nidi Gallery (2013), *Spiral Spread* at SPIRAL (2017). For more information go to [ruriclarkson.com](http://ruriclarkson.com)

Contact Ruri Clarkson for high-res images and inquiries:

WEB: [chromatope.com](http://chromatope.com) MAIL: [clarkson@chromatope.com](mailto:clarkson@chromatope.com)



Lucky Pine Cotton Dress (Sakura)

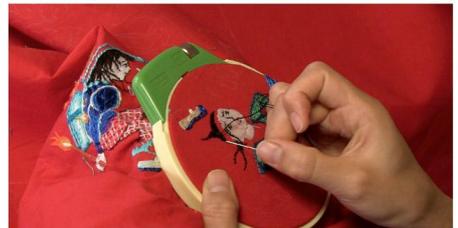
From Ruri Clarkson's Portfolio



Mother / 2013 / 24 x 24 cm



Red Battle Scene Pochette, Battle with Henoheno Monster  
2017 / 20 x 22 cm



Ruri's Atelier in Tokyo