

**Immediate release dated on June 1<sup>st</sup> 2012**

***Painting and Art on fan by Minako Yoshino***

***" 天の川伝説 七夕 - TANABATA, Japanese legend of Lovers in the sky "***

*July 7 - July 28, 2012*

*Opening Reception: July 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday, 5-7pm*

New York based award winning Japanese painter, sculptor, and poet Minako Yoshino will exhibit her masterpiece *Water Spirit*, a 16 ft long painting as the star river, as well as a collection of new paintings and fan paintings in the exhibition *天の川伝説七夕-TANABATA, Japanese Legend of Lovers in the Sky* at Makari Japanese Antiques and Fine Art located at 97 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue (12<sup>th</sup> St.) in the heart of East Village, NYC, from July 7<sup>th</sup> to July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

As soon as one walks into the space, one sees the beautiful star river in the sky of Yoshino's vision. In the elegant sophisticated lines of *Minako Blue* one can feel the magical energy in each of her brush strokes. Although large scale paintings, no airbrush is ever used, all painting is by hand, incorporating sand from the exotic places such as the Sahara Desert and Mayan ruins. Yoshino says, "I feel that even tiny pieces of sand, earth and stone have their own living vibration, just like us. I only translated their words to my colors so we can share. It's the collaboration between nature and me."

*TANABATA* is a sweet Japanese Summer legend about lovers who live separated in the sky. July 7<sup>th</sup> is the only night they can see each other. A true story-teller, Yoshino will share with all in attendance the forgotten and charming story of *TANABATA*. Yoshino will also show her sculptural painting on delicate hand fans. Sprawled out elegantly, each piece has a different story from East and West. Previously shown at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Art, but exhibited for the first time in NYC.

Please come to the opening reception on July 7<sup>th</sup> Saturday, and enjoy listening to Yoshino's *TANABATA* story while shipping ASAHI Beer, official sponsor of the evening. The reception starts at 5PM, the artist talk is scheduled at 6PM.

Please make a reservation at [info@themakari.com](mailto:info@themakari.com)

[www.themakari.com](http://www.themakari.com)

[www.minakoyoshino.com](http://www.minakoyoshino.com)

[www.facebook.com/minako.art](https://www.facebook.com/minako.art)

## \*About the Artist: Minako Yoshino

Born in Toyama, Japan, Minako Yoshino studied oil painting and graphic design at Musashino Art University in Tokyo before relocating to New York City to study marble carving at the Art Students League of New York. Her 7 ft painting and poem, *The Earth and Humanity* was shown at the United Nations NGO: Earth Society in 2005. Her cultivated sense of color and careful carving ability have brought her crossover fame as one of the most talented restorers of landmark building sculptures in New York. Her Hearst Tower project was featured in the New York Times in 2006.

Yoshino has received many endorsements and awards, including that of the United Nations, the National Sculpture Society, the City of New York, and PBS Channel Thirteen. In a letter of recommendation, The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City stated, "All of her artwork demonstrates a remarkable combination of originality merged with a highly refined and sophisticated technical skill."

Yoshino continues to show her work internationally, and is endeavoring to reach a greater audience with whom to share her vision of peace and universal connectedness. She currently lives and works in New York City.

[www.minakoyoshino.com](http://www.minakoyoshino.com)  
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