

[Copperplate] About 10 years ago, when I decided to start my artwork, I chose copperplate as my medium as it is suitable for line drawing. At the same time, the indirect technique would make my pictures comfortable to look at as my pictures are weird a bit.

["Order"] "Order" is something that power uses to imbue the world with its power, and order is created and maintained by institutions. Of the various institutions in the world, I have been interested in the institution of gender since I was a teenager, which in turn led me to draw these pictures.

[Shōjo Manga (Manga for girls)] Shōjo Manga expression, which flourished in the 1970s, has been criticized as a field in which female artists were able to express their own voices through their own expressions, unlike other fields of expression in which the grammar was already male-dominated. I certainly wanted to be a Shōjo Manga artist when I was a child although I was unaware of this when I began drawing in the Shōjo Manga style.

["Madama Butterfly"] A famous opera by Puccini, "Madama Butterfly". Pinkerton, an American naval officer who stopped at Nagasaki ransoms the 15-year-old Chou-Chou-san. Pinkerton, to whom she has pledged her undying love, leaves her after three months, saying that he will definitely return. Believing his words, Cio-cio-san gives birth to and raises his child during three years. When Pinkerton finally returns to Japan, he is accompanied by his American wife. Confronted with his betrayal, Cio-cio-san perceives everything and chooses to kill herself in order to protect her pride.

Cio-cio-san, innocent like a child and unable to speak satisfactory English, Cio-cio-san, a daughter of a samurai who realizes reality, shows resolute strength, and commits suicide with the dagger with which her father committed seppuku (ritual suicide)... It is said that audience shed bitter tears at her tragic fate when they see this story cloaked in Orientalism. However the fact that this story, in which gender and Orientalism are overlapped perfectly, is a tear-jerking entertainment is more than bitter, but a humiliation for Asian/women. I drew the scene of Cio-cio-san's "Ascension" in the hope that she, who is loved precisely because of her doom, would at least be saved after death.