Washi Transformed
New Expressions in Japanese Paper
TRAVELING EXHIBITION SERVICE
Washi paper has been integral to Japanese culture for over a thousand years. Unique for its strong natural fibers and its painstaking production techniques, washi stands out as a nexus of tradition and innovation. Its continuing importance as an artistic medium is due to the ingenuity of Japanese contemporary artists, who have pushed washi beyond its historic uses to create highly textured two-dimensional works, expressive sculptures, and dramatic installations.

In Washi Transformed, artists Hina Aoyama, Eriko Horiki, Kyoko Ibe, Yoshio Ikezaki, Kakuko Ishii, Yuko Kimura, Yuko Nishimura, Takaaki Tanaka, and Ayomi Yoshida embrace the seemingly infinite possibilities of washi, underscoring the unique stature this ancient art form has earned in the realm of international contemporary art. Using a range of techniques—layering, weaving, and dyeing to shredding, folding, and cutting—their breathtaking creativity builds a cultural bridge out of something as seemingly simple and ephemeral as paper.