

Ayako Aratani | Designer, Artist, Educator

Curriculum Vitae (Oct 2023)

<https://www.ayakodesignstudio.com/>

Education

2014 - 2016	Cranbrook Academy of Art	3D Design
	Master of Fine Arts (MFA)	
2003 - 2007	Chiba University	Product Design
	Bachelor of Engineering (BE)	

Awards

2019	UNESCO Design City World Wide Things Collection for Click-Clock, Graz, Austria
2017	Designlines Magazine 1 of 100 Editor's Choice for Click-Clock, Toronto, Canada
2015	IF Design Award for L- table by Okamura, Hannover, Germany
2014	Good Design Award for L- table by Okamura, Tokyo, Japan
2014	Good Design Award for Ruscello chair by Okamura, Tokyo, Japan
2014	MUJI International Design Award, Bronze Prize for O-Sketch, Tokyo, Japan and Shanghai, China
2014	Saku City Design Award, Gold Prize for Library Chair, Nagano, Japan
2013	Good Design Award for Omnes Chair by Okamura, Tokyo, Japan
2012	Kids Design Award for Stella Chair by Okamura, Tokyo, Japan
2009	Good Design Award for Scholar Light Desk by Okamura, Tokyo, Japan
2009	Eco-friendly Design Award for Scholar Light Desk by Okamura, Tokyo, Japan
2005	Iwaizumi Natural Wood Design Award for Kizuna Bench Iwate, Japan

Exhibitions

Duo Exhibition

2019	Lawless as Aratani Fay at Salon Gallery, Boston, MA
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Group Exhibition

2023	Idea House 3 at Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, MN
2023	Stop Making Sence Plus One Janice Charach Gallery, West Bloomfield, MI

- 2022 Stop Making Sence Center Gallery at College for Creative Studies, Detroit, MI
- 2021 Cranbrook Chair Show Jack Craig Studio, Detroit, MI
- 2020 Never Normal Wassermans Project Gallery, Detroit, MI
- 2019 Edge Walkers Duke Hall Gallery of Fine Art, Harrisonburg, VA
- 2018 The Blue Room The Fisher Mansion, Detroit, MI
- 2013 Journey Exhibition The Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Tokyo, Japan
- 2011 Lonmiladonno HAC Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 Interior Lifestyle Seibu Mall, Tokyo, Japan
- 2009 Zero Exhibition during Tokyo Designers Week, Ark Hills, Tokyo, Japan
- 2006 Tokyo Designers Week Jingu Gaien, Tokyo, Japan

Award Exhibition

- 2019 UNESCO World Wide Things Collection Graz, Austria
- 2014 Saku City Library Chair Award Exhibition, Saku City Library, Nagano, Japan
- 2014 Good Design Award Exhibition, Tokyo Midtown, Tokyo, Japan
- 2014 MUJI International Design Award Exhibition, China, Taiwan, Canada, Japan
- 2013 Good Design Award Exhibition Tokyo Big Sight, Tokyo, Japan
- 2012 Kids Design Award Exhibition Kobe, Fukui, Japan
- 2010 Good Design Award Exhibition Tokyo Big Sight, Tokyo, Japan

Tradeshow

- 2023 ICFF+WantedDesign Manhattan Javits Center, NYC
- 2018 Architectural Design Digest Show Piers 92 & 94, NYC
- 2017 Studio North at Interior Design Show, MTTC, Toronto, Canada
- 2017 Salone Satellite Salone del Mobile, Milan, Italy
- 2017 American Design Club at ICFF, NYC
- 2016 After Dark during Detroit Design Festival Eastern Market, Detroit, MI
- 2016 Collective Design Skylight Clarkson Square, NYC
- 2014 IFFT Tokyo Big Sight, Tokyo, Japan
- 2013 IFFT Tokyo Big Sight, Tokyo, Japan

Grants

- 2015 Florence M. Burt Scholarship
- 2015 Union Foundation For Ergo-design Culture
- 2015 Nomura Foundation

Patent (selected)

Design Patent

2016	United States	D747129	Task Chair
2013	United States	D688483	Meeting Chair
2013	United States	D676689	Nesting Table
2012	China	CN 302006562 S	Nesting Table
2013	China	CN 302426729 S	Task Chair
2013	China	CN 302427585 S	Chair Arm
2013	China	CN 303148743 S	Meeting Chair
2013	China	CN 303244408 S	Chair Backseat
2015	Japan	JP 1534252 S	High Chair
2013	Japan	JP 1479382 S	Reclining Chair
2013	Japan	JP 1472132 S	Ottoman

and 63 more Japan Design Patents

Utility Patent

2014	Japan	JP 2014-223510	Chair Backseat
2013	Japan	JP 2013-228469	Modesty Screen on Table
2009	Japan	JP 2009-240391	Table Height Adjustment System

and 18 more Japan Utility Patents

Professional Design Projects (selected)

06/2021 - Present	Anthony's Upholstery Shop	Upholster / Seamstress	Clinton Twp, MI
10/2020 - 06/2021	Ideal Barstool & Upholstery	Upholster / Seamstress	Southfield, MI
06/2018 - 08/2018	Gensler	Furniture Designer / Curator	Tokyo, Japan
08/2016 - 05/2017	Ann Williams Group	Product Designer / Artisan	Bloomfield Hills, MI
06/2015 - 09/2015	Studio Kiki van Eijk	Designer / Artisan	Eindhoven, Netherland
04/2007 - 09/2014	Okamura Corporation	Furniture Designer	Tokyo, Japan

Presses

Print Media

2023 "Typesitting" Aspire Design and Home Magazine Autumn 2023 page 24

- 2020 "Shop" Architectural Digest India Dec page 157
- 2019 Eileen G'Sell, photography by Attilio D'Agostino "Power of Two" Alive Magazine Vol 18. 03 page 63-79
- 2019 Erica Corsano and Marni Katz, photography by Reed Mckendree "The LUXE LIST" Boston Common Magazine page 79
- 2019 Abby Bielagus "Home & Property" Boston Magazine January issue, page 65
- 2019 Paula M. Bordh "Designing Woman in Scene & Heard" New England Home April-March 2019 issue, page 208
- 2018 Tim Mckeough "Up-and-Coming Designers to Watch" Dwell Magazine September-October issue, page 32
- 2018 Olivia Fincato "Design Tour" Living Magazine No.11 page 180
- 2017 Tim Mckeough "School's Special Talents to Watch" Azure Magazine November issue, page 84-85
- 2017 "When in Milan" Financial Times Weekend Magazine April 2017 issue, page 4
- 2014 "The winner of Library Chair Design Competition" Weekly Ueda Newspaper
- 2014 "How to Choose an Appropriate Chair for Your Eye, Shoulder, and Back" R25 Magazine published on November 1st
- 2014 "MUJI Award in China 04" Nikkei Design Magazine June issue, page 34-35
- 2013 "New technology Smart-fit Reclining provides the best comfort to all users" The Nikkei Newspaper February 20th
- 2012 "Create a Comfortable and Efficient Office Environment" The Nikkei Newspaper published on December 25th

TV

- 2014 Designer's interview during the TV show Shop Channel for a lounge chair Ruschello produced by Okamura

Online Presses

- 2023 "Walker Art Center to Launch Idea House 3, A New Collectible Design Store Featuring Work by Leading and Emerging Designers"
<https://walkerart.org/press-releases/2023/walker-art-center-to-launch-idea-house-3-a-new-collectible-design-store-featuring-work-by-leading-and-emerging-designers>
- 2023 Houzz "12 Trends in Contemporary Furniture for 2023"
<https://www.houzz.com/magazine/12-trends-in-contemporary-furniture-for-2023-stsetivw-vs~168148722>
- 2023 Dezeen staff "Sixteen furniture designers to see at WantedDesign's Look Book"
<https://www.dezeen.com/2023/05/22/16-furniture-designers-wanteddesigns-look-book/>
- 2023 AMH "10 Asian American and Pacific Islander interior designers to follow"

<https://www.amh.com/blog/post/10-asian-american-and-pacific-islander-interior-designers-to-follow?postId=5fa0bdb-2672-466b-adc0-49b3f50c0a39>

2023 Seen.Today "ICFF+WantedDesign | NYCxDesign 2023"
<https://seen.today/2023/06/05/icffwanteddesign-nycxdesign-2023/>

2023 Dezeen "ICFF+WantedDesign Manhattan celebrates American design with a fresh new programme"
<https://www.dezeen.com/2023/05/18/icff-wanteddesign-manhattan-celebrates-american-design-with-a-fresh-new-programme/>

2022 Yard Hyp, "7 Asian-American Designers Who Shape The Industry"
<https://yardhype.com/7-asian-american-designers-who-shape-the-industry/>

2022 Prakriti S, "Aratani Fay- 10 Iconic Products" Rethinking The Future
<https://www.re-thinkingthefuture.com/product-design/a5116-aratani-fay-10-iconic-products/>

2021 Mallory Evans and Emily Sarah Trenton, "Celebrating Creative Women of the AAPI Community" Woman in Industrial Design
<https://womenidchi.com/blog/2021/11/15-creative-women-of-the-aapi-community>

2021 Ana Escalante, "Put This Pink Fuzzy Blow-Up Toilet in Your Dining Room" Paper
<https://www.papermag.com/cranbrook-chair-show-2021-2655299892.html>

2021 "The Woven Seating Collection by Aratani Fay" Experimenta
<https://www.experimenta.es/noticias/industrial/la-coleccion-de-asientos-tejidos-de-aratani%E3%83%BBfay/>

2019 Aditi Doshi, "Intuitive design – Interview with Ayako Aratani and Evan Fay" DesignWanted
<https://designwanted.com/design/aratani-fay/>

2019 Eileen G'Sell, photography by Attilio D'Agostino "Power of Two" Alive
<https://alivemag.com/powers-of-two-detroit-designers-aratani-fay-on-furniture-function-and-the-art-of-objects/>

2019 Nina Prehofer "Aratani Fay, DETROIT" The Stylemate
<https://www.thestylemate.com/aratani%E3%83%BBfay-detroit/?lang=en>

2018 "Dwell 24 Ayako Aratani and Evan Fay" Dwell
<https://www.dwell.com/article/dwell-24-ayako-aratani-and-ewan-fay-d0299901>

- 2018 Ryan Waddoups "10 Emerging Design Studios to Follow on Instagram" Interior Design
<https://www.interiordesign.net/articles/14698-10-emerging-design-studios-to-follow-on-instagram/>
- 2018 "From Boston to Copenhagen, the unmissable design exhibitions in October from around the globe" Wallpaper
<https://www.wallpaper.com/design/best-design-exhibitions>
- 2018 Tim McKeough "Detroit's Aratani Fay is Colouring Outside of Furniture's Lines" Azure
<https://www.azuremagazine.com/article/detroit-aratani-fay/>
- 2018 Shelby Wax "This Boston Gallery Is Breaking The Glass Ceiling" Lonny
<https://www.lonny.com/See+It+Now/articles/qg4caEQWVf4/Boston+Gallery+Breaking+Glass+Ceiling>
- 2018 Robyn Smith "This new design space leads with women" Business of Home
<https://businessofhome.com/articles/this-new-design-space-leads-with-women>
- 2017 "SaloneSatellite 2017" Domus
https://www.domusweb.it/en/news/2017/04/12/salone_satellite_2017.html
- 2017 "5 Breakout TO Design Week Talents" Designlines
<https://www.designlinesmagazine.com/design-week-17-breakouts/>
- 2016 Paige Silveria "HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COLLECTIVE DESIGN FAIR 2016, NEW YORK" Purple Diary
<https://purple.fr/diary/highlights-from-the-collective-design-fair-2016-new-york/>
- 2015 Sean Santiago "20 Incredible Small-Space Inventions You Haven't Seen Yet" Refinery29
<https://www.refinery29.com/en-us/bed-bath-beyond-kikkerland-small-space-designs>

Academic Experience

Sep 2021 - Present	College for Creative Studies	Adjunct Faculty
Sep 2023 - Present	Lawrence Technological Univ	Adjunct Faculty
Feb 2020	Laurence Technological Univ	Guest Instructor
Feb 2019 - Apr 2020	College for Creative Studies	Guest Instructor
May 2016	Wayne State University	Guest Critic

Courses Taught

Winter 2023	DFN-132-F	Process & Making	College for Creative Studies
Winter 2023	DFN-132-G	Process & Making	College for Creative Studies
Fall 2022	DFN-132-C	Process & Making	College for Creative Studies
Fall 2022	DAF-490-A	Furniture Independent Study	College for Creative Studies
Winter 2022	DAF-132-C	Process & Making	College for Creative Studies
Winter 2022	DFN-118H, PCS-118H	3D Design Form and Space	College for Creative Studies
Fall 2021	DAF-250A,350A,450A	Furniture Major Studio 1	College for Creative Studies