



# Japanese Art Show



Yayoi Kusama, Portrait, 1985, © Studio Kusama

Yayoi Kusama






Atsuko Tanaka



Your group is responsible for putting together an art exhibition of 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century Japanese artist. We have studied the art and lives of Yayoi Kusama and Atsuko Tanaka. You may use works from these artists (not studied in class) or choose another artist. I have created a wikki on Google Docs entitled *Japanese Art Show* where your group is able to collaborate at your convenience in creating this show. Our objective is to create a virtual art show simulating an exhibition at a museum with a recorded guide.

Each member of your group is required to do the following:

-  Choose two works and show each work on a slide.
-  On these slides, show the name of the work, the year it was created, and the museum, location, or *private donor* from which the work was “borrowed” for our show.
-  Research your choices of artwork and write a brief description or interpretation of the painting in the “notes” section of the wiki. You will be recording this description later to be placed in the presentation.

# Yayoi Kusama



Primary motif is a pattern of polka dots



# Ascension of Polka Dots on Trees Singapore Biennale on Orchard Road 2006



# The Tulips of Shangrila (Lille, France)





# Atsuko Tanaka

1932 – 2005

Life of an Avant-Garde Artist

# Exhibition from Grey Art Gallery New York City

ELECTRIFYING ART  
ATSUKO TANAKA  
1954-1968

September 14 - December 11, 2004



# ART SCHOOLS

- 1950: Art Institute of Osaka Municipal Museum of Art



- 1951 - : The Kyoto Municipal College of Art (Kyoto City University of Arts)





# Akira Kanayama

- 1955 - met at Kyoto Municipal College of Art
- Helped explore new territories of art: Zero-kai (Zero Group)



# Tokyo Work ~ 1955



# Gutai Group (Tangible, Material, Concrete)

- Joined in 1955
- Gutai Manifesto:
  - expresses a fascination with the beauty that arises when things become damaged or decayed. The process of damage or destruction is celebrated as a way of revealing the inner "life" of a given material or object:
- Performance Art: "happenings"  
documented actions in their art



# Stage Clothes 1956

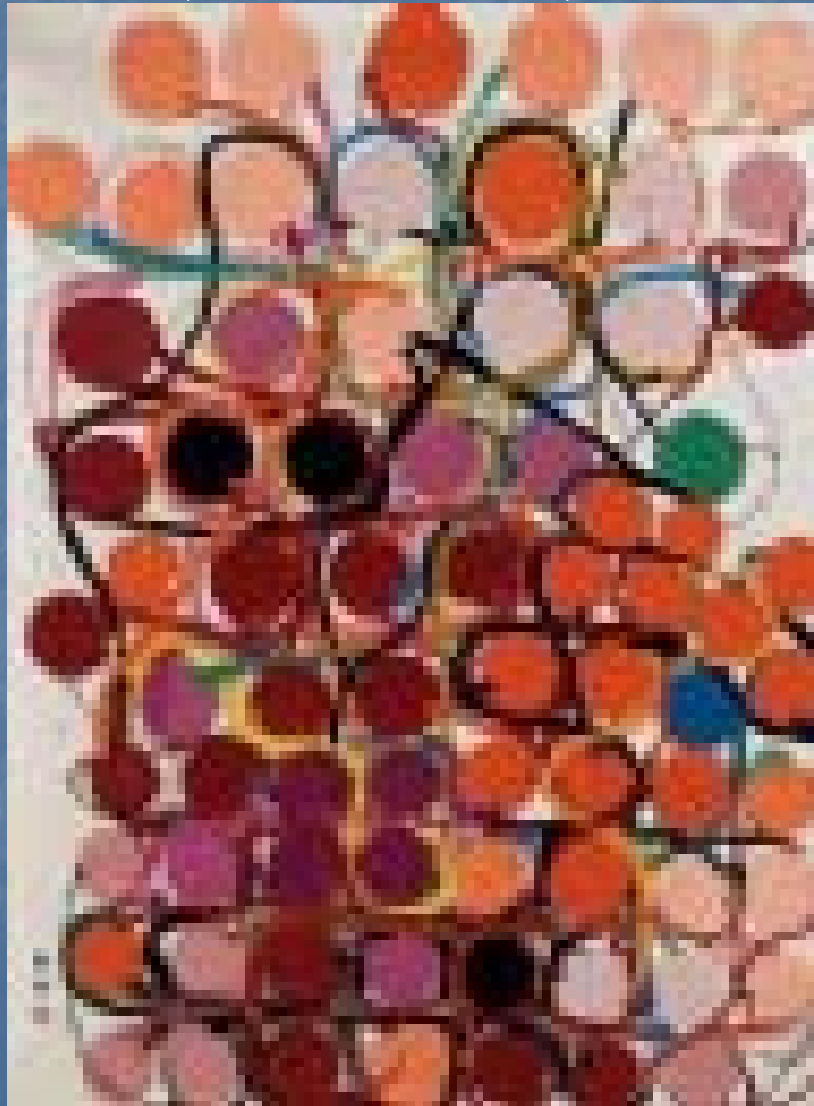
- multi-part ensemble that she wore at a Gutai performance.
- gigantic stick-figure frames draped with fabric and light bulbs
- immense red dress with sleeves 30-foot long sleeves.
- She had peeled off each layer rapidly in a costume-changing routine.
- Tanaka literally inserted her body into the work of art, making herself a part of the performance.

# The Electric Dress ~ 1956

- Most Famous Work



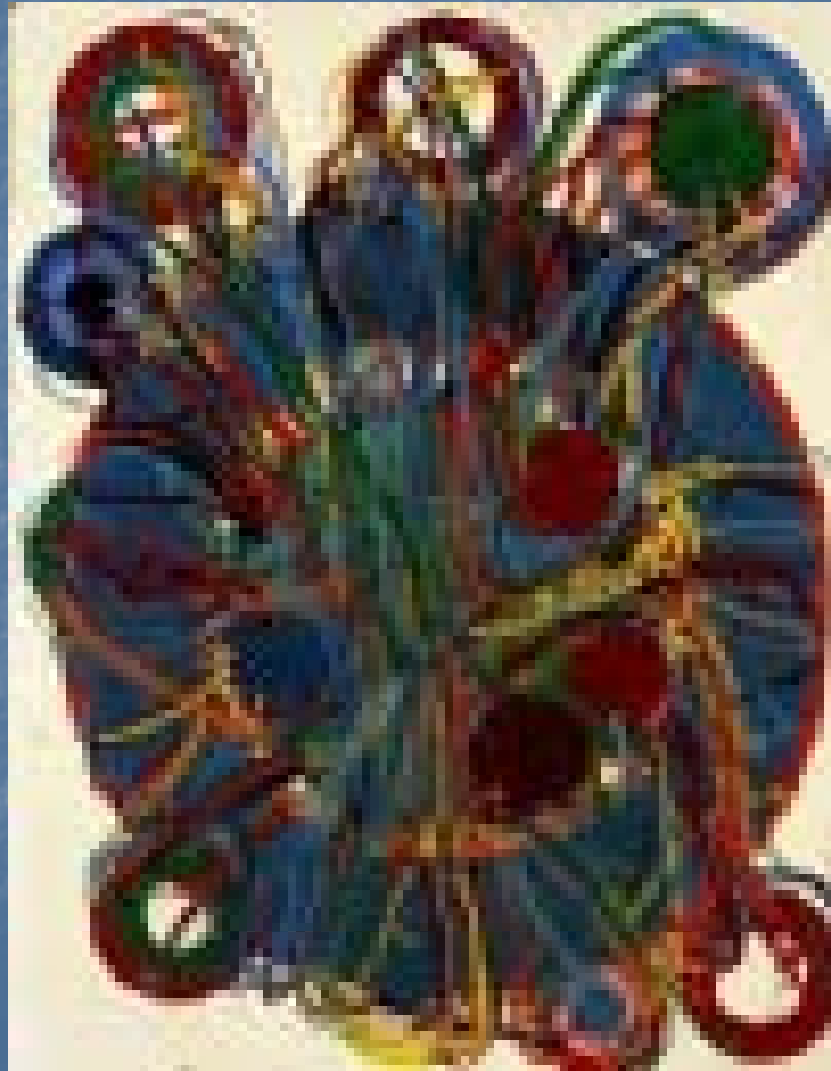
# Sans titre (Untitled) ~ 1960



# 1965

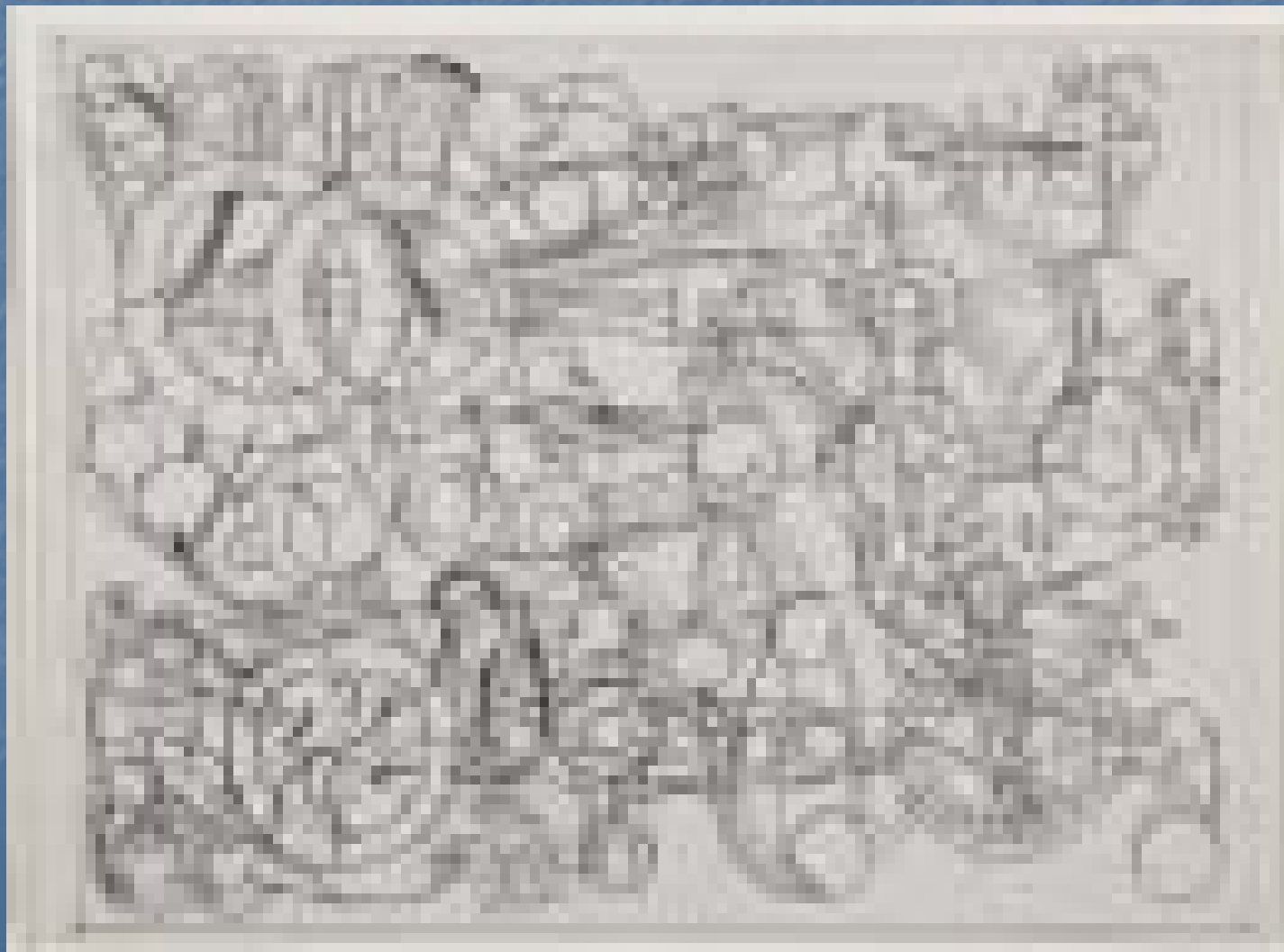
- Married Akira Kanayama
- Left the Gutai Group
- Moved with him to house at temple Myo\*ho\*ji in Osaka

# Untitled 1966

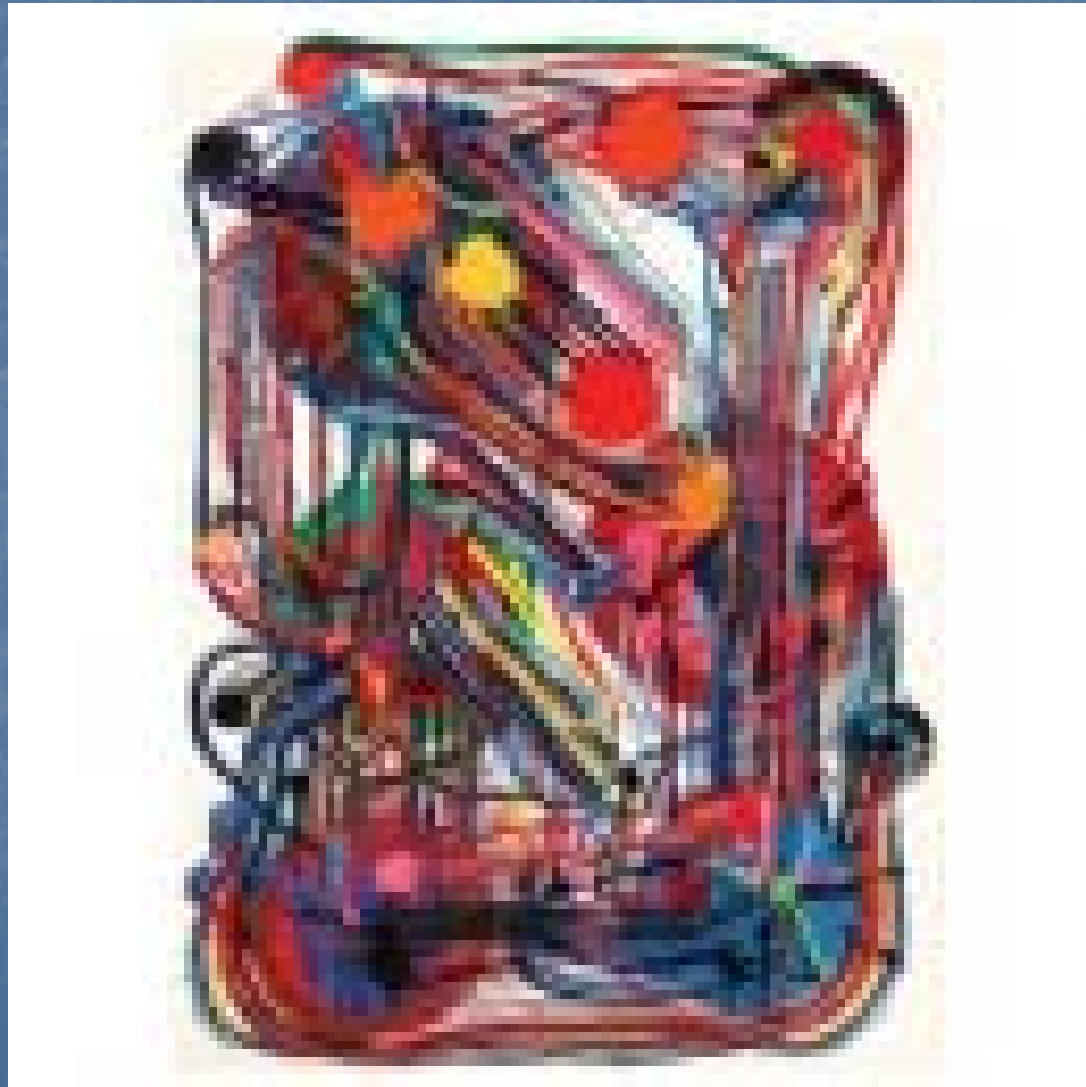




Untitled ~1980



77R ~ 1984



# Japanese Art Show Assessment

Name \_\_\_\_\_

80 Points

Requirements	Possible	Earned
<b>Art Work #1</b>		
Name of the art work	1 - 5	
Year it was created	1 - 5	
Museum	1 - 5	
Location of Museum	1 - 5	
Collection from where the art work comes from	1 - 5	
Interpretation of the art work	1 - 5	
Comments regarding the art work	1 - 5	
<b>Art Work #2</b>		
Name of the art work	1 - 5	
Year it was created	1 - 5	
Museum	1 - 5	
Location of Museum	1 - 5	
Collection from where the art work comes from	1 - 5	
Interpretation of the art work	1 - 5	
Comments regarding the art work	1 - 5	
Are both pieces recorded in the wiki?	1 - 10	

Student's Total Points \_\_\_\_\_