

# ABOUT THE COVER ARTIST

## *Setsuko Kurioka*

By Martin Anfinssen

**Setsuko Kurioka** studied at the Trondheim Academy of Fine Art and later worked from Lademoen Kunstnerverksted. The artist is now based in Asker, near Oslo, where she has her studio. Currently, Kurioka works on a grant from Arts Council Norway, and her pieces has been featured multiple times in the annual Autumn Exhibit. Her work has also recently been acquired by the National Museum of Decorative Arts.

Throughout her artistic career, Kurioka has explored drawing, sculpture and needlework. The piece used for this issue's front cover is a part of Kurioka's series "Needlework I: Simple Frameworks by Needle". Inspired by the kimono sewing techniques of her native Japan, the series explores abstract, geographical shapes and patterns using paper, needle and black cotton thread (the artist has previously described the use of silk as snobby). Here, the needle pierces the paper precisely, moving in a straight line, while leaving behind a pristine, soft trace of black cotton.

Kurioka describes how she found inspiration for this work in the night sky—where she imagined drawing invisible threads between bright stars. This fantasy grew, and later manifested in the series "Needlework".

For the editors of NJSTS, the series has echoes of the pure aesthetics of text on a page, books on a shelf, and the beauty inherent in order—a perfect accompaniment to a scientific journal, in our minds.

To learn more about Setsuko Kurioka and her work, visit her website at <https://www.setsukokurioka.no>. Parts of the "Needlework" series will also be shown in a separate exhibit at the gallery Kunstnerforbundet in Oslo, February 2021.