

## Shinji Turner-Yamamoto: Disappearances

*Shinji Turner-Yamamoto: Disappearances* elevates a collection of discarded and decaying architectural materials into a meditative installation infused with serene beauty. This exhibition was created as a companion piece to The Global Tree Project that the artists describes as, “an international art initiative that seeks to open and affirm connections between audiences and the natural world.” This body of work, which spans ten years and three continents, strives to highlight the interaction between nature and humanity. Turner-Yamamoto continues The Global Tree Project in Cincinnati with *Hanging Garden* at the Holy Cross Church in Mount Adams. The installation consists of two trees—a live tree supported by a dead one with roots intertwined.

While surveying the grounds of Holy Cross Church, Turner-Yamamoto was drawn to the fallen plaster and paint chips that littered the ground. These fragments have become the raw material for the exhibition. In visiting the church, Turner-Yamamoto related the large sections of fallen plaster to *suiseki*, stones traditionally used as meditation aids in Japan. The organic shapes of the rubble reminded the artist of landscapes. Viewed together they create a horizon line. Plaster fragments are painted gold, have paint chips painstakingly glued to them, and circular forms are incised on the surface—techniques commonly used in churches. These works evoke a linear constellation, with light reflecting off the gilded surface like starlight. The remaining plaster and paint chips were pulverized to create a fine powder, which the artist used to create the fragile floor installation.

Shinji Turner-Yamamoto was born in 1965 in Osaka, Japan and studied fresco painting Kyoto. He has exhibited all around the world—from New Delhi, India to Cork, Ireland.

*Shinji Turner-Yamamoto: Disappearances* is curated by Justine Ludwig and organized by the Contemporary Arts Center.