SCAD: The University for Creative Careers
The Savannah College of Art and Design is a private, nonprofit, accredited institution conferring bachelor’s and master’s degrees at distinctive locations and online to prepare talented students for professional careers. SCAD offers degrees in 43 majors, as well as minors in more than 75 disciplines across its locations in Savannah and Atlanta, Georgia; in Hong Kong; in Lacoste, France; and online through SCAD eLearning.

With more than 32,000 alumni worldwide, SCAD demonstrates an exceptional education and unparalleled career preparation. The diverse student body, consisting of nearly 13,000, comes from across the U.S. and more than 100 countries worldwide. Each student is nurtured and motivated by a faculty of nearly 700 professors with extraordinary academic credentials and valuable professional experience. These professors emphasize learning through individual attention in an inspiring university environment. The innovative SCAD curriculum is enhanced by advanced professional-level technology, equipment and learning resources, and has garnered acclaim from respected organizations and publications, including 3D World, American Institute of Architects, Businessweek, DesignIntelligence, U.S. News & World Report and the Los Angeles Times.

For more information, visit scad.edu.

Cover Image: Chiharu Shiota, *Infinity Lines*, 2017, yarn, wooden chairs, wire and mesh
About the Artist

Chiharu Shiota is known primarily for large-scale installations, such as *The Key in the Hand*, which represented Japan at the 56th Venice Biennale. The majority of Shiota’s installations are collections of used possessions — belongings, haunted with memories, that serve as expressions of human acts. Complex networks of yarn are interlaced around and between such objects, linking their inherent narratives and creating a new visual plane, as if painting in midair.

Born 1972 in Osaka, Japan, Shiota initially studied painting at Kyoto Seika University, Japan. During this time, she undertook an exchange residency at ANU School of Art, Canberra, Australia, where she began to explore the boundaries of painting. She moved to Germany in 1996 and continued her studies in Braunschweig and later in Berlin, where she lives today. Her installations first received international attention in 2000 after a group exhibition at the Ludwig Forum, Aachen, Germany, and also at the 2001 Yokohama Triennale. She has received numerous notable prizes including the Philip Morris Art Award and the Audience Choice Award at The First Kyiv International Biennale of Contemporary Art. Her achievements also include set design for several major theatrical and operatic productions, most notably Daniel Karasek’s *Tristan and Isolde* at Theater Kiel, Germany.

*Infinity Lines* is guest-curated by Aaron Levi Garvey with assistance from Amanda York, assistant curator.

About the Curriculum Guide

SCAD curriculum guides provide learning opportunities that fulfill the requirements of educational standards and are designed for use within the museum’s exhibition spaces and in classrooms. The guides enhance understanding of art and design through investigations that reveal relevant personal, historical and cultural connections while promoting cross-disciplinary links necessary for today’s innovative careers.

Recognizing the guides’ overall design excellence and ingenuity, the American Alliance of Museums’ Museum Publications Design Competition twice awarded SCAD curriculum guides first place in the education category, in 2015 and 2016.

This Chiharu Shiota guide examines the artist’s use of intricately woven yarn to envelop timeworn objects and allude to how memories link through neurons. Shiota’s reflections on these lines and objects provide the basis for activities that combine visual arts standards-based activities with language arts skills. Students observe, record, imagine and create visual and written accounts that explore the past lives of personal possessions.

SCAD would like to give special thanks to the Hodge Foundation for its support of the SCAD Museum of Art’s award-winning curriculum guides.

Educational standards are listed on page 6. Highlighted glossary terms may be found on page 6. Additional learning resources are located in the Curriculum Connections section on page 7.
1 Examine shapes made with yarn

“When I was a student ... I wanted to be able to draw in air.”

Chiharu Shiota

Chiharu Shiota made *Infinity Lines* especially for the SCAD Museum of Art, using 26 old chairs and more than 295,000 feet of red yarn. With these two ordinary things, she created an enchanted space, like a fairy tale, that inspires feelings of wonder.

What do you notice about Shiota’s lines made of yarn? In each box below, circle the adjective that best describes what you see. Are the lines:

- thick
- thin
- long
- short
- straight
- curvy
- few
- many

As Shiota’s strings of yarn crisscross through the room, they outline shapes in the air. What kinds of shapes can you find? Draw them in the picture at the top of this page.
Use your observations about the lines and shapes you found in Infinity Lines. In the space below, draw layers of lines like Shiota does with yarn. See if you can make a picture that looks like it came from an enchanted fairy tale.
The immense yarn networks Chiharu Shiota creates remind her of connections between people. The lines also suggest how memories from the past are woven together in our minds. She often includes used belongings in her installations, like the chairs in *Infinity Lines*. Their scratches, dents and other signs of wear tell us about their past. Shiota describes these aged possessions as having “their own memories.”

*Think of objects you and your family members have. Choose one that is special to you — for instance, a toy, a pair of shoes or perhaps a favorite chair. Imagine that it has its own memories from when you used the object. What stories would it tell? Invent two or more stories and share them with a friend. Choose your best story, then write and illustrate it on the facing page. Make sure your story includes a beginning, a middle and an end.*
EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

National Core Arts Standards

Creating 1.2  Anchor: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
1: Use observation and investigation in preparation for making a work of art.

Creating 2.3  Anchor: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
K: Create art that represents natural and constructed environments.

Responding 7.1  Anchor: Perceive and analyze artistic work.
1: Select and describe works of art that illustrate daily life experiences of one’s self and others.
2: Perceive and describe aesthetic characteristics of one’s natural world and constructed environments.

Connecting 10.1  Anchor: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
K: Create art that tells a story about a life experience.
2: Create works of art about events in home, school or community life.

GLOSSARY

adjective  n. A word that describes a person, place or thing
immense  adj. Very great in size or amount
infinity  n. An amount that has no limits or end
inspire  v. To cause someone to have a feeling
installation  n. A work of art that is usually made of varied parts and arranged by the artist in a large space
observation  n. Something you notice by careful looking
possession  n. Something that is owned or belongs to someone
woven  adj. Made by interlacing threads or other objects
CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

All images courtesy of the artist and Blain|Southern, Berlin and London. Commissioned by the SCAD Museum of Art.

pp. 2-3  1. Examine shapes made with yarn

Additional Resources
Website Stand in the middle of a Shiota installation and look all around you with this immersive video.
www.youtube.com/watch?v=N15ML00Rvso

Interactive Use Sketchpad’s online interactive drawing tool to layer intersecting straight lines and form creations similar to Shiota’s work. sketch.io/sketchpad

Quote p. 2 Chiharu Shiota, edited by Caroline Stummel, Cantz Verlag, 2011.

pp. 4-5  2. Chose an object to tell a story

Additional Resources
Website Take a look at Shiota’s recent drawings, paintings and sculptures.
www.artsy.net/artist/chiharu-shiota/works

Interactive Shiota’s webs of yarn recall the ways people, memories and ideas are connected. Use this online webbing tool to help you connect and organize ideas. http://rwtinteractives.ncte.org/view_interactive.aspx?id=127

Quote p. 4 Chiharu Shiota, edited by Caroline Stummel, Cantz Verlag, 2011.
SCAD Museum of Art

Museum Maps

Main Level
- Galleries and main lobby
- Featured exhibition
SAVANNAH EXHIBITIONS
SCAD Museum of Art // 601 Turner Blvd.

**From the Depths Above** • William Singer
Jan. 31 – April 30

**Lineages** • Monir Shahroudy Farmanfarmaian
Jan. 31 – Aug. 6

**Roots** • José Parlá
Feb. 7 – July 16

**Florida Living** • Hernan Bas
Feb. 14 – Aug. 20

**With You... Us** • Glen Fogel
Feb. 21 – May 28

**Infinity Lines** • Chiharu Shiota
Feb. 21 – Aug. 6

**Chroma** • Carlos Cruz-Diez
Feb. 21 – Aug. 20

**Blind Memory** • Hank Willis Thomas
Feb. 21 – Aug. 20

**Freedom Isn’t Always Beautiful** • Hank Willis Thomas
Feb. 21 – Aug. 20

SAVANNAH GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

**Oversaturated**
Jan. 24 – Feb. 26
> Alexander Hall Gallery // 668 Indian St.

**Take Note**
Feb. 7 – April 17
> Gutstein Gallery // 201 E. Broughton St.

ATLANTA EXHIBITIONS
SCAD Atlanta // 1600 Peachtree St. NW

**Catalyst: Master Prints by Pace Prints** • Group Exhibition
Jan. 23 – April 21
> Gallery 1600

**Noble Metal** • Summer Wheat
Feb. 2 – April 7
> Trois Gallery

**Project Diaspora** • Omar Victor Diop
Feb. 17 – Aug. 20
> SCAD FASH Museum of Fashion + Film
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