



IKEBANA & JAPANESE SHORT-FORMS

a presentation by Norma Bradley

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

In this workshop, you will have the opportunity to combine two Japanese inspired art forms: Ikebana and short forms of Japanese poems. We will look at one-line haiku or monoku, a two-line poem in the storytelling tradition called dua, contemporary English language haiku written in tercets, as well as haiga.

Haiga is a visual poem that combines a photograph, visual art, mixed-media, and even textile art with a Japanese short-form of poetry such as haiku or dua. Inspired by your Ikebana arrangement, you will pair your written words and chosen form with your floral arrangement.

WHAT IS IKEBANA?

Ikebana uses carefully selected blossoms, greenery, and other flora to convey a specific feeling or emotion to an observer – just as a haiku, painting, or sculpture might.



WHAT IS A HAIKU?

- A haiku is a one-breath poem
- The singular and plural form remains haiku (there are no haikus)
- Usually written in three lines in English and as a single line in Japanese
- Not always 5-7-5; we instead opt for short/long/short, where each line doesn't exceed the stipulated syllables
- A haiku employs common language
- Uses simple, uncomplicated images
- A strong affinity for concrete images
- Rooted in nature and contains a season word known as *kigo*
- A moment of sensory illumination; use your senses to describe what you feel
- The poems are subtle yet profound and are emotionally charged
- Brevity is at the heart of haiku
- A haiku contains no more or no fewer than two images
- A good haiku contains two parts: the fragment and the phrase
- The juxtaposition of these two distinct images is the hallmark of contemporary English language haiku
- Haiku is a way of life

EXAMPLES OF HAIKU

silver foil
a crow swoops down
the scented pine

the smell of roses on your hands endlessly
for my mother

dark cloud rolling in and I am the subject

while(the clouds turn into rain)the lily blooms

CHARACTERISTICS

- The first example is a tercet or three-line haiku with short, long, short lines under 17 syllables.
- All the haiku employ common language
- They make use of simple, concrete images
- Can you identify the *kigo* in these poems?
- A good haiku contains two parts: the fragment and the phrase as seen in “silver foil.”
- The juxtaposition of two distinct images is seen in all the haiku.
- One-line haiku or monoku contain multiple breaks and can be read in several ways, depending on where the reader chooses to pause.

LIST OF HAIKU JOURNALS

Failed Haiku

frogpond

Modern Haiku

Prune Juice

The Heron's Nest

The Pan Haiku Review

tinywords

tsuri-doro

Under the Basho

Wales Haiku Journal



WHAT IS A DUA?

Dua was created and conceived by ai li in 2022 to accompany Cherita and Gembun on their storytelling journey.

Dua is a unique 2-line storytelling format, not to be confused with a duostich or a two-line haiku. This new genre invites you to further distil and share the very essence of a minimal story. Your words should be brief, meaningful, and hold captive your reader.

They can cover births, deaths, anniversaries, betrayals, disappointments, abortions, bankruptcies, joblessness, vendettas, suicides, travel, work, hobbies, light and dark passions, eating disorders, night shifts, cross dressing, the erotic, mindfulness, and so on.

Structure

L1

Line break

L2

EXAMPLES OF DUA

my departed parents at the table

i serve Russian tea

*

silence

a doorway to thanks

*

swirls of frost cling to the window

I write your name

in a whispered prayer

you call out to me

*

moon/stars/dreams

my many cousins

*

sitting among friends

refugees with a dream

MORE EXAMPLES OF DUA

celebration

pink-tipped carnations

*

three bird houses

choosy carolina chickadee

*

glimmering hope

acorns cool in my palm

rye bread dipped in pot roast gravy

mother's kitchen

*

without coats

birds in the snow

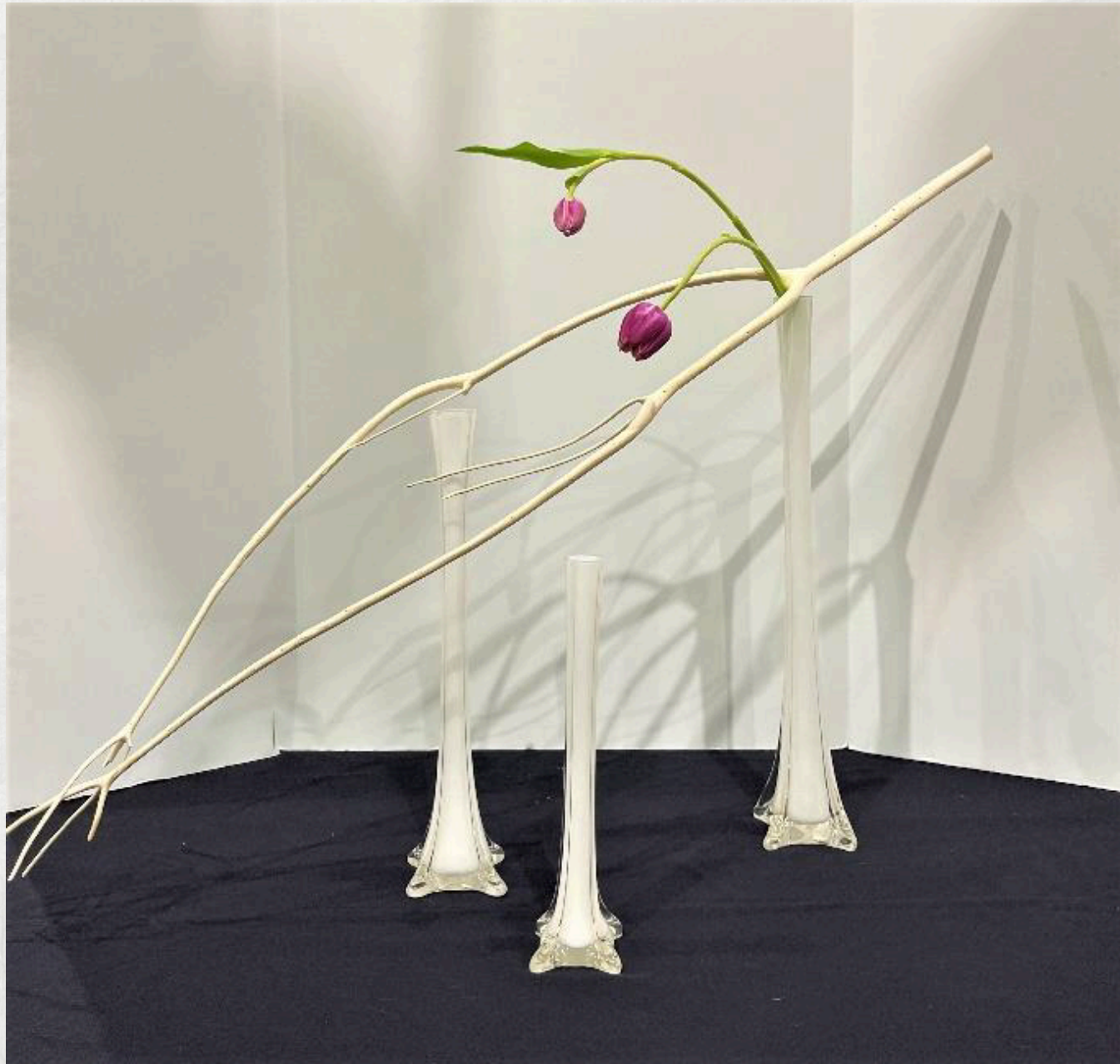
HAIGA



marshmallow clouds stream past

joyful reflections

HAIGA



a white stork walks for peace Ukraine

HAIGA



enticed by the floral spirit

I view chrysanthemums

HAIGA



no limit to light winter berries

IT'S YOUR TURN

Thank you for being here. Now it's time to write your own poems inspired by your unique floral arrangements.

Thank you, also, to Shloka Shankar, poet, editor, visual artist, amazing teacher, and Founding Editor of Yavanika Press, for helping me put my thoughts and research into this presentation. For workshop information, visit: www.shlokashankar.com.



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