

# Sawako Nakayasu

## *Say Translation Is Art*

In this pamphlet, poet and translator Sawako Nakayasu writes a treatise on literary translation that exceeds the conventional defining boundaries of such, advocating for a wider embrace of translation as both action and art. In the ever-expansive margins of dominant literary culture, translation links up with performance, repetition, failure, process, collaboration, feminism, polyphony, conversation, deviance, punk, and improvisation.

// Nakayasu uses words to construct a space, often an intimate one between the writer and reader, the lover and the beloved, friends. She is a masterful writer and translator whose work I consider indispensable.

—JOHN YAU, *HYPERALLERGIC*



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**Sawako Nakayasu** is an artist working with language, performance, and translation—separately and in various combinations. She translates from Japanese and is co-editor of *A Transpacific Poetics* (Litmus Press) as well as a forthcoming anthology of 20th Century Japanese Poetry with New Directions. Her books include the translation of Tatsum Hijikata's *Costume en Face: A Primer of Darkness for Young Boys and Girls* (UDP, 2015) and *Mouth: Eats Color - Sagawa Chika Translations, Anti-translations, & Originals* (Rogue Factorial), a multilingual work of both original and translated poetry.

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