

- 1942** 23 February, Vancouver. B.C. Home Birth.
After a trauma filled pregnancy, I was born into a world of total war. Even then, the harsh glare of reality was blinding and I needed the shielding caul covering my head.
- 1942** 26 February Mass evacuation of Canadians of Japanese ancestry was announced. First corralled and housed into the Hasting Street former stable/abattoir and then herded into trains destined for the hinterlands of the West Kootenay. First to Popoff, brief stay in Bayfarm, and onward to Slocan City. After housing in tents and tiny, hastily constructed, uninsulated shacks, we relocated to first of two mining day hotels, replete 4-holed outhouse and wood burning stoves on two floors. Here began my “art career” drawing cowboys on the walls of my Grandma’s bedroom. To this day I have a vivid visual of the drawings.
- 1955** A semi-idyllic childhood of baseball, hockey, fishing, and hours spent on Slocan Lake and River and of course laborious times of wood gathering, digging gardens, etc. (Child labour was essential) Even in all the natural beauty of Slocan, the teenage years exposed the raw nerve of anger within, at times manifesting in outrage, towards ongoing discrimination and racism.
- 1959** Graduate of W.E. Graham School - Class of 12 “White sport coat & a pink carnation”
- 1963-67** Alberta College of Art, Calgary. How did I endure 4 years of “Art Education”? The highlight was discovering a book on sculpture (primarily British sculptors) and at that precise moment knowing I was destined to be a sculptor. From here, onward, never wavering from my destiny.
- 1965** Surprise of my innocent life.
Mia Tamiko was born and life changed drastically.
- 1969** East Texas State Univ., Commerce, Tx. - Master’s Degree -First show in Dallas, Texas
The height of the Vietnam War. Assassinations of Martin Luther King, Robert F. Kennedy, rioting in the streets..”the times were a changin’ .. “ The real education was outside the classroom. My true path to “peace within” began in earnest.
- 1971** Co-founder Fine Arts Dept., Okanagan College, Kelowna and classes taught at Penticton Indian Band
Birth of Sara Tokiko. Constant changes.
- 1975** Interim years of self-discovery. Carpenter, lumber store clerk, tugboat mate, drawing, sculpting and exhibiting throughout. Looked all over for myself and here I was all the time.
- 1979** Auspicious year, after co-habiting four years, the love of my life, Janice Marie Booker finally agreed to marriage..not without trepidation and heels digging in a bit. I knew she was a “wise woman” cautiously entering with abated breath into a union with “crazy man on the edge”. After 40 years, it’s cool!

- 1980** Instructor. Fine Arts Dept., Cariboo College, Kamloops . University of Victoria
Instructor. Summer school.
Birth of our youngest daughter, Reiko Leigh. More changes..
- 1984** Home to the West Kootenay. Raise a family, “country living” on 61/4 acres.
Clearing land, building a dwelling and work spaces without power, hauling water, splitting wood and all that..
Sculpting, drawing and exhibiting, here and in Alberta.
- 1990** Move to Boulder, Colorado. Janice for school and I take a year of work at Boulder Mental Health, WATshop (Work Adjustment Training), floor supervisor, a job like no other..profoundly altered and changed my inner reality.. totally humbling..
- 1992** Home to the Arrow Lakes. Sculpting with intensity and vision (myopic at times)...There is a force that compels me to draw, write, and sculpt that at times threatens to consume me and her. (Jan’s words)
- 1992-1998** Stone carving Instructor. Arctic College. Broughton Is. NT and Iqualuit, NT Other shorter teaching stints and many regional gallery shows and local involvement in the Arts done during this time.
- 1999** Tareitanga Sculpture Symposium, Wellington, NZ for 2 months. Two ton sculpture placed at Waldorf School. Enjoyed working with the N.Z. sculptor’s and others from around the world and connecting with my Maori brothers and sisters.
- 2002** Okanagan International Sculpture Symposium, representing South Okanagan . Twenty sculptors from around the world. Co-habited with two sculptors from China. Carved a 9-ton marble piece placed in Swalwell Park, Lake Country.
- 2004** Wurlitzer Foundation. Taos, New Mexico. Artist-in-Residence
A different scene/environment from the halcyon days of Taos in the 1960’s.
Unique atmosphere - place and people.
- 2005** Beijing, China Two sculpture symposiums.
From the “bush” to Behjing. Living in relative seclusion to the maelstrom of China, opened another way. Worked with 5 sculptors in a massive studio from the days of Mao. The ultimate working conditions; not about the space, equipment, materials, etc, but the incredible cooperation and camaraderie that we shared. Absolutely the most creative working environment I’ve had the pleasure and honour to be part of.
Travelling in China as a guest sculptor was life-enhancing.

In the last decade I have been honoured with two public installations here in the West Kootenays.
One is INNER CHI in New Denver and the other is DEEPENING PEACE on the Nakusp waterfront.
The true work of a deepening way to peace continues..