

EDNA EGUCHI READ

This installation is Edna's first exhibition, selected last year for the Open University's Art Walk through their grounds. At the Opening, Edna said that this was "The Outing" of Edna, using her family name Eguchi for the first time.

All her life she hoped no one would discover her Father was actually one of the hated Japanese .

When she was 10, at war with Germany, but 19 months before Pearl Harbour, her Father disappeared in the night from their London home. His Bank and the Embassy could not locate him. Edna has vivid memories of her Mother, with a child in each hand, going from place to place in London, trying to find him.

He was in Brixton and remained in prison, without charge or trial for 6 years, 3 spent in a desert camp in Rajastahn.

He kept a diary on sheets of Bronco toilet paper, which he sent her after the war. Britain had no greater friend, but he was never allowed back and Edna never saw her beloved father again

This exhibition comes from her personal experience of that War and what it did to her parents.

Some of the installation was shown at the Annual Peace exhibition in Tokyo in July.

She now has empathy with the families whose Muslim fathers are being taken away as suspected terrorists and fears their children will be suffering as her young brother did all his school days. He was beaten and cruelly tortured, sustained injuries which affected his whole life. At least he lived, two other boys we knew died from the same racial abuse. BBC Look East have made film with her on this theme.

For 40 years, Edna has worked as an independent consultant to the development agencies, promoting the best of Art in Milton Keynes and promoting Milton Keynes through its acclaimed collection of Public Art. She has set up with the Arts Council two trusts; The first The City Gallery became Artpoint and moved to Oxford. Then AIM ARTS in MK which achieved the most memorable exhibitions in our parks and public buildings.