

FROELICK GALLERY

ARTIST STATEMENT

Takahiko Hayashi

Ainu, 2009

About the theme of new wood engraving works.

Ainu is one of minority people in Japan.

They are former inhabitants with a rich natural environment in north area.

They didn't have letters.

But they were telling their important region, thought, identity by oral stories.

The subject matter is from the book written by an Ainu girl published in 1922.

It is the first book written by Ainu themselves.

It is written in Japanese and also spelled in Roman letters.

She wrote some of the oral stories.

-Takahiko Hayashi