

Famous Artists and their Circles I

Merry-Go-Round Booklet p.4: Make a circle in the air

The circle is used as a symbol for **infinity**, having no fixed beginning or end – like a rotating wheel. This gives us the opportunity for endless new beginnings.

The Japanese artist **Yayoi Kusama** (born 1929) is fascinated by the idea of infinity. She expresses herself by covering her work in hundreds and thousands of brightly coloured polka dots:

“The dot is a symbol of our earth, which is in itself only one dot among a million in the cosmos. The moon, the sun, the stars are all made up of dots. You and me, we are dots.”

After studying traditional art in Japan, Kusama made a new beginning for herself by travelling alone all the way from home to New York City; what a brave thing to do!



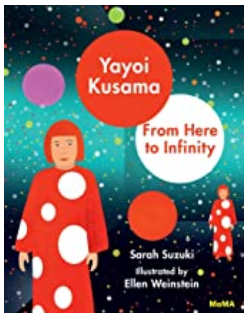
She was so passionate about her dots that she painted them all day, and sometimes all night too; what a lot of practice she did! Now she is famous all over the world for her dots – and for her distinctive red wig.

With all my love for the tulips (2011)

Can you spot Kusama in this picture? Can you spot the tulip?

Find out more:

Book: From Here to Infinity - Yayoi Kusama (Sarah Suzuki)



Video: Kusama speaks about her life and work

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rRZR3nsileA>