



**Susan Cano, Riji**  
Sogetsu School of Ikebana  
*“Creative Sogetsu Designs”*  
Demonstration for Mexico City Chapter #228 (March 2021)

**Demonstration Theme**

Susan Cano, Sogetsu Riji, School of Ikebana, NCAR Advocate and Asheville chapter member, creates nine different arrangements using a variety of unique containers and unconventional materials. Don't let the fact that this demonstration focusses on Textbook #5 in the Sogetsu curriculum fool you. Any ikebana student can be inspired and learn from Susan by viewing this wonderful video.

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## **Biography**

**Susan Cano**, originally from Boston, began her Ikebana studies in 1976 while living in Bangkok, Thailand. She is a Riji (First Grade), the highest teacher level, in the Sogetsu School of Ikebana.

Susan served as President of I.I. Bangkok Chapter #177. She was a founding member and President of I.I. Mexico City Chapter #228. She also served as President of I.I. Miami Chapter #131. She was appointed Resolutions Chairperson to the 8th World Convention of Ikebana International Yokohama, Japan, March 2001. In May 2014, Susan was Registrar and Treasurer for the 17th Ikebana International NCAR Conference hosted by I.I. Asheville Chapter #74. Susan ended her second two-year term as President of the I.I. Asheville Chapter #74 in 2018.



She has attended fourteen I.I. Conferences and five I.I. World Conventions exhibiting at all of them. She has given demonstrations and conducted workshops for numerous organizations in Mexico and the United States, including many I.I. chapters. She has participated in many exhibitions and has conducted numerous demonstrations and workshops for I.I. Mexico City #228, I.I. Miami Chapter #131, and I.I. Asheville Chapter #74 where she is currently a member.

In March 2001, Susan received in Tokyo the Foreigners Award from Iemoto (Head Mistress) Akane Teshigahara of the Sogetsu School. Susan’s work has been included in several books: *Poetical Ikebana* (2015), *Ikebana Inspired by Emotion* (2017), and *Masterclass Ikebana* (2020), all published by Stitching Kunstboek in Belgium.

Susan teaches the Sogetsu curriculum in Hendersonville, NC. She welcomes new students. Also, she serves I.I. NCAR as Regional Advocate for the South Region.

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### Containers and Materials List

(All arrangements are arranged from behind (Sogetsu Textbook 5-lessons 21 and 5-22)  
 Information in parenthesis refers to the Sogetsu Textbook # and Lesson #

Container	Lesson References	Materials
White tripod ceramic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Green plant material (5-4)</li> <li>● Comp. of surfaces by using leaves (3-14)</li> <li>● Massed expression (3-12)</li> <li>● A variety of materials (4-5)</li> </ul>	Aspidistra Solidago (buds not open) Green trick carnation Green Button Mums Black Raspberry with leaves
Exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Composition using unconventional materials (5-7)</li> </ul>	Washi Paper Wire from wine bottles
Red ceramic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comp. using unconventional materials (5-7)</li> <li>● Using both fresh &amp; unconventional materials (4-11)</li> <li>● Japanese Narcissus (5-6)</li> <li>● Seasonal Materials (5-1)</li> </ul>	Wire from wine bottles Jonquil Daffodils Narcissus
Two blue fish bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Glass containers (5-13)</li> <li>● Two or more containers (3-4)</li> <li>● Dried, bleached, or colored material (4-13)</li> </ul>	Wire from wine bottles Wire net mesh Reed Money plant
Glass Aquarium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Glass containers (5-13)</li> <li>● Dried, bleached, or colored material (4-13)</li> <li>● Focusing on uses of water (4-12)</li> </ul>	Glass bubbles and glass stones Glass fish Yellow Roses Dried and colored Fern

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Metropolitan Museum Glass and Metal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comp. using unconventional materials (5-7)</li> <li>● Focusing on uses of water (4-12)</li> <li>● Glass container (5-13)</li> <li>● Simplified arrangement (4-8)</li> <li>● Arrangements for celebrations (5-11)</li> </ul>	Red and gold Mizuhiki paper Anthurium flower and leaf
U-shaped black ceramic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Com of mass and line (3-13)</li> <li>● Disassembling and rearranging material (4-9)</li> </ul>	Plastic water bottle 20- & 24-gauge wire Horsetail stem Horizontal fixing Equisetum Pin Cushion Protea Hypericum berries Lacey Asparagus Fern
Blue snake surface ceramic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Comp. expressing a movement (5-18)</li> <li>● Comp. of curved lines (3-6)</li> <li>● Showing lines at base (3-18)</li> <li>● Repeating similar forms or shapes (3-17)</li> </ul>	Sansevieria (Snake Plant) Strelitzia (Bird of Paradise) Alstroemeria Statice
Glass tubes and colored wire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Complementing an Artwork (5-20)</li> <li>● Arrangements on the table (5-3)</li> <li>● To be viewed from all angles (3-19)</li> <li>● Two or more containers (3-4)</li> <li>● A variety of materials (4-5)</li> </ul>	Wood boards Glass cylinders Plastic covered Aluminum wire Japanese Quince Spirea White roses Israeli Ruskus Gysophila