

VOICE & VISION FUMIKO GOTÔ



We All Scream

What a peaceful world it would be,
if I screamed for ice cream,
not for the echo of falling bombs.

What a peaceful world it would be,
if you screamed for ice cream,
not for the silence of a breathless family.

What a peaceful world it would be,
if we all screamed for ice cream,
not for the fear of a gun aimed at you.

After the lyric "I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream," a popular US song first published by H. Johnson, B. Moll, and R. King in 1927.

Fumiko Gotô
We All Scream (poem with
brooch in frame casing), 2024.
Poem, 925 silver, mammoth tusk,
Paulownia frame
Brooch: 7.2 x 2 x 1.5 cm
Paulownia frame casing:
14 x 9.6 x 4.2 cm
Photos by the artist



We All Scream reflects my quiet sorrow and sense of helplessness in witnessing the suffering of children in Gaza. Children are those who suffer most in any conflict, regardless of sides.

Drawing on the joyous 1927 American song "I Scream, You Scream, We All Scream for Ice Cream," the work pairs poem and brooch to juxtapose innocence and violence.

Crafted in silver and mammoth tusk, it conveys my fragile wish for a world where a child's cry might once again be only for joy.