

19272

This is my interpretation of a map of the people who lost their lives or went missing in the earthquake in 2011. Each dot represents one life and 19,272 dots were painted in this work, based on the statistic, which was announced by the government one year on from the event.

The sense of sound is an important element of the work. The event does not only remind me of the noise of the sea, the fire and the buildings being destroyed, but also it conjures up in me all the sorts of sounds that the people involved might have made and listened to at that time. The sense of sound also became integral in the process of making this work. When I was painting the dots, I started listening to the sound around me in the studio; the sound of people talking, laughing, greeting, walking, shutting the doors, singing, the sound of the wind, cars, airplanes and the silence between these sounds, all of which the 19,272 people will no longer be able to listen to.

Saori Parry, 2013