


Tokyo Gendai 東京現代



2023.7.7-9
PACIFICO Yokohama

Presented By 

Press Release
6 April 2023

Tokyo Gendai Announces Gallery Line-up for its Inaugural Edition in July

Tokyo Gendai today announces the list of 77 participating galleries and is delighted to welcome SMBC Group as Principal Partner for the inaugural edition. Organized by The Art Assembly, the Fair takes place at Pacifico Yokohama from 7-9 July 2023 (VIP Preview on 6 July).

Comprising galleries from Japan, the wider Asia Pacific region and across the globe, Tokyo Gendai is a major new platform for commercial, artistic and intellectual exchange, and a nexus of cross-cultural discovery. As one of the world's most exciting destinations, Japan is home to a dynamic contemporary art scene and a rich tapestry of cultural offerings, providing a strong draw for international exhibitors and visitors.

Tokyo Gendai is delighted to additionally announce the support of a grant from the Japan Tourism Agency. This government grant goes towards a bespoke program of unique experiences highlighting cultural havens around Japan including special events within the city of Tokyo, Yokohama, and Kyoto. This marks the first step in Tokyo Gendai's collaboration with the Japan Tourism Agency, to warmly welcome the global art community and support the development of cultural tourism in various regions of the country. Tokyo Gendai looks forward to further building on this partnership, creating future opportunities to enrich Japan's already thriving art ecosystem and to together champion Japan as an unmissable art destination.

The Fair invites international audiences to engage with and discover Japan's long-established gallery scene and to explore its rich and varied cultural offering through its renowned public institutions, private museums and foundations. At the same time Tokyo Gendai will help to nurture the domestic collector base through welcoming leading galleries from around the world. Tokyo Gendai will be accompanied by an extensive VIP programme of exhibitions and museum openings, studio visits and cultural experiences celebrating the very best that Japan has to offer.

Magnus Renfrew Co-Founder, Tokyo Gendai says: *'We are grateful to the Japan Tourism Agency, the Agency for Cultural Affairs and our Principal Partner SMBC Group for their support in the launch of this exciting inaugural edition. With its celebrated art history and a cultural reach far beyond its borders, Japan represents a significant opportunity and we are deeply committed to engaging with the art community who share our vision for the exceptional potential of its art scene. As organizers we bring a track record of establishing and developing audiences and adhering to international*



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standards of practice, and we believe strongly in the catalytic role that an art fair of this caliber can play in helping to put the spotlight on art and create a new focal point on the art world calendar.'

Tokura Shunichi, Commissioner for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan says: *'Japan is home to a wonderful art scene which fascinates art lovers from around the world. There are a great number of artists creating new work, and a rich history and culture inspires their creations. We hope that Tokyo Gendai will serve as an opportunity to introduce and broadcast Japanese art and culture both domestically and internationally, and that Japan will grow into a vibrant hub for the international exchange of art.'*

Jun Ohta, President and Group CEO of SMBC says: *'SMBC Group is delighted to have the privilege of supporting Tokyo Gendai as a Principal Partner. We hope that Tokyo Gendai will act as a bridge between the Japanese art scene and the wider world, allowing for the Japanese art market to develop even further.'*

Mr. Koichi Wada, Commissioner of the Japan Tourism Agency says: *'I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations on organizing the forthcoming Tokyo Gendai here in Japan. Contemporary art is one of our most vital tourism resources. Hosting an international art fair in Japan should prove a catalyst for Japan to attract attention domestically and internationally. This fair offers an opportunity for many people to see first-hand a variety of cultural arts and values. I hope this opportunity allows visitors as well as exhibitors from abroad to experience Japan's charms and visit its regions.'*

Eri Takane, Fair Director, Tokyo Gendai, says: *'We were very pleased with the list of galleries both locally and internationally who applied for Tokyo Gendai and I'm excited for us to all be brought together under one roof for the first time in Japan. For local audiences it will be the first time in decades that they are able to interact with such a broad span of the global art world on their own soil. We are creating a variety of enticing programming elements unique to Japan and its culture, working closely together with the art community towards a bright future. The response from international collectors in addition to local and regional collectors has been very positive, and we look forward to welcoming everyone to the fair.'*

Tim Blum, Co-Founder, Blum & Poe (Los Angeles, New York, Tokyo) says: *'Tokyo Gendai represents the beginning of a promising new chapter for the art scene in Japan. With its incredible art history and strong cultural infrastructure we see extraordinary potential for the art market here in Japan, and for its potential to develop over the coming years. Through the fair we are looking forward to meeting and engaging with a broad array of international and local collectors.'*

Miwa Taguchi, Co-Founder, Taguchi Art Collection, says: *'I am greatly looking forward to the fair. There are currently not many opportunities within Japan to see the work of galleries from all over the world gathered together in one space, and I am sure there will be many new discoveries to be made by visitors.'*



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Fair Highlights

Tokyo Gendai presents a world class showcase of international contemporary art, from established names to cutting-edge emerging talent presented by galleries from across the world. The main **Galleries Sector** showcases the work of galleries from Japan and internationally including **Blum & Poe** (Los Angeles, New York, Tokyo), presenting celebrated artist **Yoshitomo Nara**, known for powerful portraits with eyes that gaze back at the viewer and **Sadie Coles HQ** (London) presenting multidisciplinary British artist **Sarah Lucas**, whose bold and candid telling of contemporary living through sculpture has been a point of interest since the 1990s, and **Kati Heck** whose figurative painting branches into literary, folklore and contemporary narratives. Meanwhile, **SCAI THE BATHHOUSE** (Tokyo) presents a thematic showcase exploring light and materiality, including *Biomatrix*, an installation of eruptive cell bubbles, by **Kohei Nawa**. **Taka Ishii Gallery** (Tokyo, Hong Kong) highlights the works of **Adam Pendleton**, **Oscar Murillo**, **Jadé Fadojutimi** and **Nobuya Hoki**. **Almine Rech** (Paris, Brussels, London, New York, Shanghai) presents **Tom Wesselmann**, a key figure of the pop art movement, and **Thu Van Tran**, an interdisciplinary artist examining the role of memory, history and the collective imagination.

Three other dedicated sectors include **Hana** (meaning 'flower'), which features presentations of one or two artists at an early or mid-stage in their careers and will include the participation of **MISAKO & ROSEN** (Tokyo) presenting **Naotaka Hiro** and **J. Parker Valentine**, both taking on complex investigations into the body, and **The Drawing Room** (Manila) presenting **Dominic Mangila's** vibrant, striking painterly explorations of the aftermath of a natural disaster. **Gallery COMMON** (Tokyo) showcases the works of **Shohei Takasaki** and **Alex Anderson**, constructing questions and interpretations on the theme of identity, and **Carl Kostyál** (London, Stockholm, Milan) exhibits works by **Marria Pratts**, who documents quotidian life in her home city through painted figures and motifs.

Eda (meaning 'branch') is dedicated to solo or two artist presentations by established or historically significant figures in Asia, or to a thematic exhibition. This includes **Gajah Gallery** (Singapore, Jakarta, Yogyakarta) who spotlight the work of Indonesian artists **I Gusti Ayu Kadek Murniasih** and **Yunizar**; **Wada Fine Arts Y++** (Tokyo) hosts an immersive presentation recreating the studio of the late painter **Tetsuya Ishida**; and **The Columns Gallery** (Singapore, Seoul) gathering the work of four women artists spanning genres and disciplines: **Eisa Jocson**, **Han Yajuan**, **Jeong Myoungjo** and **Ai Kijima**.


Tane (meaning 'seed') focuses on digital media including NFTs, animation, film, AR, VR and gaming; it includes **NowHere** (New York) who present **exonemo's** *Metaverse Petshop*, an installation of kennels populated with virtual pets for sale, and **The Hole** (New York, Los Angeles) who will showcase a group presentation highlighting some of the artists at the forefront of new digital media including **Jonathan Chapline** and **Ry David Bradley**.



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Tokyo Gendai looks forward to working closely with its partners including Japan Airlines, official airline, and Warehouse TERRADA, official fair partner, to create an exciting program for audiences.

Further fair highlights and details of public programming will be announced in due course.

GALLERIES

313 Art Project (Seoul), A Lighthouse called Kanata (Tokyo), Almine Rech (Paris, Brussels, London, New York, Shanghai), ANOMALY (Tokyo), Asia Art Center (Taipei), Blum & Poe (Los Angeles, New York, Tokyo), Cardi Gallery (Milan, London), Ceysson & Bénétière (New York, Koerich, Paris, Lyon, Geneva, Saint-Étienne, Pouzilhac), Each Modern (Taipei), Fox Jensen & Fox Jensen McCrory (Sydney, Auckland), Galerie Du Monde (Hong Kong), galerie frank elbaz (Paris), Gallery Baton (Seoul), GALLERY SIDE 2 (Tokyo), Gana Art (Seoul), Ingleby Gallery (Edinburgh), Jack Shainman Gallery (New York), Josh Lilley (London), Johyun Gallery (Busan), Kaikai Kiki Gallery (Tokyo), KENJI TAKI GALLERY (Tokyo, Nagoya), KOSAKU KANECHIKA (Tokyo), KOTARO NUKAGA (Tokyo), MAHO KUBOTA GALLERY (Tokyo), MAKI Gallery (Tokyo), MISA SHIN GALLERY (Tokyo), Mizuma Art Gallery (Tokyo, Singapore), NANZUKA (Tokyo), nca | nichido contemporary art (Tokyo, Taipei), Pearl Lam Galleries (Hong Kong, Shanghai), Perrotin (Paris, Dubai, New York, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Hong Kong, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai), Polígrafa Obra Gráfica (Barcelona), Sadie Coles HQ (London), SCAI THE BATHHOUSE (Tokyo), SHIBUNKAKU (Kyoto), ShugoArts (Tokyo), Sies + Höke (Düsseldorf), SPURS Gallery (Beijing), Taka Ishii Gallery (Tokyo, Hong Kong), Tang Contemporary Art (Beijing, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Seoul), TARO NASU (Tokyo), Tomio Koyama Gallery (Tokyo), Vito Schnabel Gallery (New York, St. Moritz, Santa Monica), Yavuz Gallery (Singapore, Sydney)

HANA

Carl Kostyál (London, Stockholm, Milan), Dio Horia (Athens), Fitzpatrick Gallery (Paris), Gallery COMMON (Tokyo), GALLERY TARGET (Tokyo), Georg Kargl Fine Arts (Vienna), Gratin (New York), High Art (Paris), KAYOKOYUKI (Tokyo), LINSEED (Shanghai), MISAKO & ROSEN (Tokyo), Over the Influence (Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Bangkok, Paris), PARCEL (Tokyo), Phillida Reid (London), rin art association (Takasaki), Soka Art (Taipei, Beijing, Tainan), Sokyo Gallery (Kyoto), Takuro Someya Contemporary Art (Tokyo), The Drawing Room (Manila), Uterior Gallery (New York)

EDA

Art Front Gallery (Tokyo), Gajah Gallery (Singapore, Jakarta, Yogyakarta), Gallery 38 (Tokyo), Hillside Gallery (Tokyo), iPreciation (Singapore), Kamakura Gallery (Kamakura), Lucie Chang Fine Arts (Hong Kong), Sundaram Tagore Gallery (New York, Singapore, London), The Columns Gallery (Singapore, Seoul), Wada Fine Arts Y++ (Tokyo), Yoshiaki Inoue Gallery (Osaka)

TANE

NowHere (New York), The Hole (New York, Los Angeles)



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NOTES TO EDITORS

Tokyo Gendai

Launching in 2023, Tokyo Gendai is a new art fair and meeting place for the international art world, organized by the Art Assembly. Taking place in one of the most dynamic and active art and design scenes in the world, the Fair is an exciting platform for commercial, artistic and intellectual exchange, and a nexus of cross-cultural discovery. Tokyo Gendai will be a world class event showcasing curated presentations by internationally recognised contemporary artists. The Fair will be accompanied by an extensive VIP program of exhibition and museum openings, studio visits and cultural experiences allowing visitors to explore the very best that Tokyo has to offer.

Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group, Inc.

The companies of Sumitomo Mitsui Financial Group primarily conduct commercial banking through the following financial services: leasing, securities, consumer finance, system development data processing, and asset management.

Magnus Renfrew

Magnus Renfrew has twenty years' experience in the international art world, the last decade of which have been spent in Asia. Previously, Renfrew served as founding fair director for ART HK: Hong Kong International Art Fair (2007-2012) and Art Basel in Hong Kong (2012-2014). Magnus serves as Co-Director of Taipei Dangdai and is Co-Founder of ART SG. He has been named twice in the ArtReview Power 100 as one of the 100 most influential figures in the art world. In 2013 Magnus was named as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in recognition of his contribution to building the art scene in Asia.

Eri Takane

Eri Takane previously worked as an independent art consultant for leading international artists, collectors and corporations, including Google Arts & Culture Japan division. Takane has a wealth of experience across the art sector in Japan that has seen her work as the art director at Sezon Art Gallery in Tokyo as well as host of Tokyo FM radio program Sustainadays. During her 13-year stay in New York, she worked at the Japan Foundation, New York to provide funding for not-for-profit art organizations in the United States.

The Art Assembly

The Art Assembly is an affiliation of major international art fairs with a particular focus on the Asia Pacific region comprising Taipei Dangdai, India Art Fair, Sydney Contemporary, PHOTOFAIRS Shanghai, ART SG and the forthcoming Tokyo Gendai. It represents a joint initiative between



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three of the world's leading art fair organizers headed by Sandy Angus, Tim Etchells and Magnus Renfrew.

The Assembly's member fairs provide an important meeting place for the local and international art worlds and act as regional focal points for creative and commercial exchange. Informed by a deep-rooted understanding of the local market, each event is tailored to its unique orientation.

The Art Assembly aims to drive innovation, deepen engagement with contemporary art and encourage cross-cultural conversations. It achieves this by strengthening collaboration and promoting knowledge and resource sharing across the group. The Assembly pulls together decades' worth of experience, expertise, and an extensive global network of contacts and assets, to the benefit of its member fairs, galleries and audiences. theartassembly.com

