


Tokyo Gendai 東京現代



2023.7.7–9
PACIFICO Yokohama

Presented By 

Press Release
8 June 2023

Tokyo Gendai Announces Program Highlights and Bonded Status for its Inaugural Edition in July

Tokyo Gendai today announces further details of highlights and programming for its inaugural edition. Organized by The Art Assembly, and with SMBC Group as Principal Partner, the Fair takes place at Pacifico Yokohama from 7-9 July 2023 (VIP Preview on 6 July). Tokyo Gendai is a major new platform for commercial, artistic and intellectual exchange, and a nexus of cross-cultural discovery. The Fair presents a dynamic program including talks, curated exhibitions, new commissions and satellite events highlighting the very best of the vibrant Japanese art scene.

The program will include the world premier of a new commission by Tomoko Mukaiyama, a special exhibition spotlighting the work of major Japanese women artists, a talks program of conversations with leading lights from Japan's creative community, satellite exhibitions at renowned local institutions such as the Mori Art Museum; The National Art Center, Tokyo, and Artizon Museum, and dedicated gallery evenings. The program complements the world class showcase of international contemporary art brought together by 74 galleries from across the world.

Tokyo Gendai is delighted to additionally announce that it will become the first ever international art fair in Japan to be granted bonded status for the duration of the event.

Eri Takane, Fair Director, Tokyo Gendai, says: *Through its programming strands Tokyo Gendai invites visitors to engage with the extraordinary arts scene here in Japan, presented alongside the exceptional international art showcased by leading global galleries. Across the special exhibition, commissions, talks and satellite events, audiences will have a chance to discover and interact with some of the most exciting culture happening in Japan today, and for our local visitors it will be the first time in decades that they are able to enjoy such a magnificent span of international art.'*

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Acclaimed Dutch-Japanese musician and artist **Tomoko Mukaiyama** presents the world premier of her installation performance *figurante*, commissioned specially for the Fair by Tokyo Gendai and Warehouse TERRADA, which will be performed on 7th, 8th and 9th July. Mukaiyama is known for her cutting-edge and multidisciplinary theater pieces, video works and installation performances focusing on themes such as physicality, gender, memory and ritual. This new



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work, *figurante*, (meaning 'non-speaking role' or 'extra'), transports the viewers into a space where the line between the stage and audience becomes indistinct.

A new programming strand entitled **TSUBOMI** (meaning 'flower bud') showcases a special themed exhibition curated for the Fair. This year the fair presents *Life Actually: The Work of Contemporary Japanese Women Artists*, curated by **Michiko Kasahara (Deputy Director, Artizon Museum)** and **Yuri Yamada (Curator, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum)**. Presenting works by some of Japan's leading women artists including **Leiko Ikemura** (ShugoArts), **Tomoko Yoneda** (ShugoArts), **Ayaka Yamamoto** (amanaTIGP), **Kunié Sugiura** (Taka Ishii Gallery) and **Yurie Nagashima** (MAHO KUBOTA GALLERY), the exhibition explores how these artists are re-examining their relationship with themselves and their wider position within society.

Michiko Kasahara (Deputy Director, Artizon Museum) and Yuri Yamada (Curator, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum), say: *'The exhibition features a collection of remarkable contemporary Japanese women artists, from veterans to young up-and-coming artists. While the Japanese system can still be old-fashioned, women artists working today are creating extraordinary works that expand the imagination based on their personal everyday experiences and memories. Presenting the exhibition within the fair opens up a fresh space where these issues can resonate with each other, transcending the boundaries of individual galleries, and creating a synergy between the works exhibited together.'*

Artist **Ryuichi Ohira** unveils a new large-scale installation created specially for Tokyo Gendai. Entitled *The Circuit*, the installation alludes to the many different definitions of the term 'circuit': race tracks; electrical circuits; the philosophical concept of a non-hierarchical, decentralized, and interconnected system; as well as a synapse in neurology. The work consists of a large slot car racetrack and includes an array of objects and sculptures, some of which reference *Tanabata* (Star Festival), a traditional Japanese and Chinese festival celebrated on 7 July each year, the first day of the fair. The works evoke traditional Japanese aesthetics, while also exploring multiculturalism.

The **ART TALKS** program centers engaging conversations around contemporary culture in Japan and beyond, hosting discussions about key trends, topics and developments in today's art world, with cultural thought leaders from the Japanese art world including **Mami Kataoka** (Director, Mori Art Museum), **Takeo Obayashi** (Chairman, Obayashi Corporation; Chairperson, Obayashi Foundation), **Fumio Nanjo** (Senior Advisor, Mori Art Museum; General Advisor, Towada Art Center; Senior Advisor, Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art; Executive Director, Arts Maebashi) and acclaimed sculptor **Kohei Nawa**.

The fair additionally includes the **NE** section (meaning 'root') presenting several leading local foundations, who host special showcases of their work including: the **Obayashi Foundation** which displays an overview of its support towards artists, thinkers and researchers with a focus on urban development and the building of healthy cities; the **Fukutake Foundation** introduces its initiatives at Benesse Art Site Naoshima, an art program on the islands of Naoshima, Teshima



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and Inujima in the Seto Inland Sea; the **Yoshii Foundation** which brings a curated presentation of works by interdisciplinary digital artist **Daito Manabe from Rhizomatiks**; the **Odawara Art Foundation** which hosts a presentation of the Enoura Observatory, established by contemporary artist Hiroshi Sugimoto, and the **Taguchi Art Collection** presents educational programs including exhibitions for primary and secondary schools.

SATELLITE EVENTS & VIP PROGRAM

The week around the fair features a series of special events, exhibitions and gallery evenings that encourages Tokyo Gendai visitors to immerse themselves in the local culture of Japan. **The National Art Center, Tokyo** exhibits *Cai Guo-Qiang: Ramble in the Cosmos - From Primeval Fireball Onward*, exploring Cai's artistic journey through the themes of the cosmos and the unseen world. Meanwhile at the **Mori Art Museum** *WORLD CLASSROOM: Contemporary Art through School Subjects* celebrates the 20th anniversary of the museum with an exhibition of 150 works exploring a variety of perspectives and divided thematically into school subjects. **Artizon Museum** presents *ABSTRACTION: The Genesis and Evolution of Abstract Painting - Cezanne, Fauvism, Cubism and on to Today*. The VIP program will include visits to the acclaimed Japanese artist Eugene Kangawa's **EUGENE STUDIO** and on the evening of 5 July **'YUKATA ART NIGHT'** invites visitors to enjoy the buzzing galleries of Roppongi, a district in Tokyo known for its exciting cultural scene.

TERRADA ART COMPLEX, one of Japan's most significant art complexes and home to numerous leading art galleries, will host a special **Gallery Night** on 7 July, for which 19 galleries will open their doors to the public including **MAKI Gallery, SCAI PARK, Taka Ishii, ANOMALY, ShugoArts,** and **Tomio Koyama Gallery**. **WHAT MUSEUM**, a collectors' museum of contemporary art operated by Warehouse TERRADA, hosts two exhibitions: "*ART de Cha Cha Cha - Exploring the DNA of Japanese Contemporary Art*" from the **Takahashi Ryutaro Collection**; and *Open Creation of Art "Immerse yourself in the transitory nature"* by **Masayoshi Nojo**. Elsewhere **CADAN : Gendai Bijutsu 2023** is the second in an ongoing series of exhibitions organized by the **Contemporary Art Dealers Association Nippon (CADAN)**.

Tokyo Gendai is supported by a grant from the Japan Tourism Agency which goes towards a bespoke VIP program of unique experiences highlighting cultural havens around Japan including special events within the city of Tokyo, Yokohama, Kyoto, including a visit to the **Sankeien Garden**, and the **BankArt Station + KAIKO**, as well as Kanagawa's **Odawara Art Foundation Enoura Observatory**. 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.

BONDED STATUS

Tokyo Gendai is pleased to announce that it will become the first ever international art fair in Japan to be granted bonded status. This announcement follows the revision of the notification



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on Japan's Customs Act in Dec 2020 and Feb 2021 which allows for the introduction of bonded areas to enable the trade of artworks without the advance payment of the customs and 10% sales tax by international exhibitors. This offers a significant opportunity, removing the need for sales tax to be held as a deposit ahead of any potential art sale, and thereby greatly improving the accessibility and efficiency of the Japanese art market for international gallerists. Tokyo Gendai will become a customs display area for the duration of the fair (6-9 July 2023).

Magnus Renfrew Co-Founder, Tokyo Gendai says: *'We are grateful to the Ministry of Finance and Yokohama Customs for their support in designating Tokyo Gendai as a bonded status holder, and for the exceptional opportunity this provides to our galleries. This announcement will help Tokyo Gendai over the coming years to open the doors to international exhibitors and demonstrates Japan's dedication to deepening its engagement with the global art world, and to further developing its local art market.'*

Kono Taro, Minister for Digital Transformation, Minister for Digital Reform, Minister for Consumer Affairs and Food Safety, Minister in charge of Civil Service Reform says: *'We are very pleased that Tokyo Gendai has become the first international art fair in Japan to acquire bonded status. I am delighted that the deregulation carried out during my time as Minister for Regulatory Reform has helped to support the opening of an art fair of international standard, drawing galleries from around the world to Japan. We hope that art lovers from across the globe will come to the fair and go on to explore Japan more widely.'*

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), 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), Perrotin (Paris, New York, Las Vegas, Hong Kong, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai, Dubai), 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)



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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), Sokyō Gallery (Kyoto), Takuro Someya Contemporary Art (Tokyo), The Drawing Room (Manila), Ulterior Gallery (New York)

EDA

Art Front Gallery (Tokyo), Gajah Gallery (Singapore, Jakarta, Yogyakarta), Gallery 38 (Tokyo), Hillside Gallery (Tokyo), iPreciation (Singapore), Kamakura Gallery (Kamakura), 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)

NOTES TO EDITORS

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Visitor Information:

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1-1-1, Minato Mirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama 220-0012, Japan

VIP preview (by invitation only):
Thursday 6 July 2023

Tickets:
First release: 2 for 1 @ JP¥ 5000
Advance: JP¥ 3000
General Admission: JP¥ 4000

General Admission:
Fri 7 July 2023 11 AM – 7 PM
Sat 8 July 2023 11 AM – 7 PM
Sun 9 July 2023 11 AM – 5 PM
tokyogendai.com



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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 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.



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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

