

# Tokyo Gendai 東京現代



2023.7.7-9  
PACIFICO Yokohama

Presented By



Press Release  
6 July 2023

## The Inaugural Edition of Tokyo Gendai Now Open

The inaugural edition of the major new international art fair Tokyo Gendai opens its door today for the VIP Preview at Pacifico Yokohama. Organized by The Art Assembly, and with SMBC Group as Principal Partner, the fair is open to the public from 7-9 July 2023. For its first ever edition, the fair presents a world-class showcase of art from 73 international galleries and a special program celebrating contemporary Japanese culture.

**Magnus Renfrew, Co-Founder, Tokyo Gendai** says: *'Japan has a global reputation as a leading destination for culture and the opening of Tokyo Gendai provides a vital new focal point, putting the spotlight firmly on the creative scene here. Tokyo has an exceptional opportunity to become a leading art market capital in Asia and a major annual meeting place for the global art world. Working together with our partners, Tokyo Gendai convenes all elements of the art scene from the artists and galleries, to the collectors, curators, institutions, companies and government agencies who share our vision of the exceptional potential of Japan.'*

**Eri Takane, Fair Director, Tokyo Gendai** says: *'Tokyo Gendai celebrates the variety and complexity of the art scene in Japan. Despite its compelling culture and world-renowned museums and galleries, it has been several decades since Japan had an art fair of this scale and caliber, and we are excited to host visitors from all over the world and show them everything that Japan has to offer. We have built a program throughout the fair week which explores many different facets of local creativity, and we welcome everyone to dive in and make discoveries.'*

**Jun Ohta, President and Group CEO of SMBC** says: *'As the Principal Partner of Tokyo Gendai, SMBC Group is delighted to witness the successful opening of the art fair. We look forward to welcoming many visitors and having them experience world-class art.'*

The fair program features the programming sector **Tsubomi 'Flower Bud'** showcasing a special exhibition entitled *'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) and 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 **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,



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Mori Art Museum), **Takeo Obayashi** (Chairman, Obayashi Corporation; Chairman of the Board, The 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), acclaimed sculptor **Kohei Nawa**, **Carol Yinghua Lu** (Art Historian/Curator, Director of Beijing Inside-Out Art Museum), **Liu Ding** (Artist/Curator, Artistic Director of the 8th Yokohama Triennale 2024), **Kuraya Mika** (Director of Yokohama Museum of Art, Executive Director of Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale), architect **Yuko Nagayama**, **Michiko Kasahara** (Deputy Director, Artizon Museum) and **Yuri Yamada** (Curator, Tokyo Photographic Art Museum), and celebrated artists **Noboru Tsubaki**, **Shinji Omaki** and **Takuro Kuwata**.

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 fair additionally includes the **Ne 'Root'** section, presenting several leading local foundations who host special showcases of their work including: The **Obayashi Foundation**; **Fukutake Foundation**; The **Yoshii Foundation and KIYOHARU ART COLONY**; **Odawara Art Foundation** and **Taguchi Art Collection**.

The week around the fair features a series of special events, exhibitions and gallery evenings that invite Tokyo Gendai visitors to explore the local culture of Japan including exhibitions at **The National Art Center, Tokyo**, the **Mori Art Museum**, **Artizon Museum**, and a special gallery night on the evening of 5 July **'YUKATA ART NIGHT'** inviting 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 and 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**



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**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.

## 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 Sydney Fox Jensen McCrory Auckland (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)

## HANA

Carl Kostyál (London, Stockholm, Milan), Dio Horia (Athens), Fitzpatrick Gallery (Paris), Gallery COMMON (Tokyo), GALLERY TARGET (Tokyo), Georg Kargl Fine Arts (Vienna), 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)



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## NOTES TO EDITORS

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### Tokyo Gendai

Launched 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 is a world class event showcasing curated presentations by internationally recognised contemporary artists. The Fair is 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.

### 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 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.

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](https://theartassembly.com)

