

Tokyo Gendai



11–13 September 2026

PACIFICO Yokohama

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## Tokyo Gendai Closes Dynamic Fourth Edition Showcasing the Energy of Japan's Art Scene

- Tokyo Gendai brought together global collectors, curators and tastemakers for its 2026 edition
- Robust sales and strong attendance were noted across the four days of the fair, while extensive public and VIP programs welcomed visitors to deepen their engagement with contemporary art in Japan
- New dates and venue announced for the fair's milestone fifth edition, taking place in November 2027 in central Tokyo

**TOKYO, 14 September 2026** – Tokyo Gendai 2026 closed yesterday to strong attendance and robust sales, having drawn the international art community to Japan to experience the vibrancy and originality of Japan's contemporary art scene. Situated in one of the world's most dynamic creative landscapes, for its fourth edition the fair convened galleries, institutions, collectors and patrons from across the globe, further expanding its international network and launching new collaborations rooted in Japan's cultural scene. Tokyo Gendai returned to Pacifico Yokohama from 10–13 September with SMBC Group as its Principal Partner, and gathered leading figures from across the art world to engage with the diverse range of programmes and exceptionally curated presentations across the fairground.

Tokyo Gendai brought together 69 exhibitors from across the world, alongside a special showcase of large-scale, site-specific installations and performances that animated the fair. Throughout the fair's sectors, bold presentations captured the diversity and range of Japan's creative landscape, from artists reinterpreting centuries-old craft traditions to experimental work employing the latest digital technologies. Meaningful new relationships were ignited over the four days, as collectors and curators from across the region and beyond converged. An extensive VIP programme offered access to some of Japan's leading cultural institutions, while the annual Art Talks programme and Curatorial Symposium convened industry thought leaders. Around the fair, Japan's galleries, museums and cultural spaces activated in turn, further affirming the country's place as a creative epicentre.

The close of the fourth edition of Tokyo Gendai marks a new chapter, ahead of the new dates and venue for its milestone fifth edition. In 2027 Tokyo Gendai takes place from 4–7 November at Ariake GYM-EX, Tokyo. Set in an exceptional venue in central Tokyo, the fair's move to November situates it within a moment of extraordinary cultural energy when the city, and Japan more widely, comes alive with seasonal festivals, art activations, and the natural spectacle of autumn. Tokyo Gendai further anchors this singularly compelling moment for Japan's cultural scene, in a month brimming with local events.

**Eri Takane, Fair Director, Tokyo Gendai** says: *'We are delighted by the fantastic response that we continue to receive with each edition of Tokyo Gendai, which creates a moment of real celebration in Japan's art scene every year. As always, we were inspired to see so many new connections and collaborations taking root within the fairground. As we look to our next edition, we are excited to deepen opportunities for the international art community to experience Japan's exceptional art landscape at its most dynamic.'*

**Magnus Renfrew, Co-Founder, Tokyo Gendai** says: *'Following another successful edition of Tokyo Gendai, it is clear that Japan's role in the international art market is ever more significant. Japan is an unmissable destination for contemporary art, and we are here to highlight the remarkable artists, galleries, and institutions that shape this scene. In 2027, we build on this momentum, joining a moment of extraordinary creative vibrancy across Japan in November, when the cultural calendar is at its height.'*

## VIP ATTENDANCE

Tokyo Gendai 2026 was attended by emerging and established collectors and visitors from more than 52 countries, as well as representatives from leading global institutions. Curators in attendance included **Kimberli Gant**, Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art, the Brooklyn Museum (United States); **Frank Feltens**, Chief Curator, Seattle Art Museum (United States); **Aaron Rio**, Tateuchi Foundation Curator of Japanese and Korean Art, Seattle Art Museum (United States); **Bradley Bailey**, Curator and Chair of Asian Art, Museum of Fine Arts Houston (United States); **Vivian Li**, Lupe Murchison Curator of Contemporary Art, The Dallas Museum of Art (United States); **Mami Kataoka**, Director, Mori Art Museum (Japan); **Tomio Sugaya**, Director General, The National Art Center, Tokyo (Japan), **Mika Kuraya**, Director, Yokohama Museum of Art (Japan), **Etsuko Iwanaga**, Director, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum (Japan); **Eriko Kimura**, Director, Hirosaki Museum of Contemporary Art (Japan); **Akira Tatehata**, Director, Kawaguchi City Museum of Art (Japan); **Fumio Nanjo**, Special Director, Arts Maebashi (Japan); **Hirokazu Tokuyama**, Senior Curator, Mori Art Museum (Japan); **Hikari Odaka**, Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (Japan); and **Yuko Hasegawa**, independent curator and art critic, jury member for the inaugural AMA Artist Award (Japan). A number of curators who attended the fair also participated in the annual **Curatorial Symposium**.

VIPs in attendance included **Patrick Sun**, collector and Founder, the Sunpride Collection (Hong Kong); **Shane Akeroyd**, collector and Founder, Akeroyd Collection (Hong Kong); **Evan Chow**, collector, Trustee and Co-Chair of International Leadership Council, New Museum (Hong Kong); **Lekha Poddar**, collector and Co-founder of Devi Art Foundation (India); **Kyoko Mori**, Chairperson, Mori Art Museum (Japan); **Takeo Obayashi**, collector and Chairman of the Board, Obayashi Corporation (Japan), **Julia Raitskin**, CEO, APAC, Millennium Management (Singapore); **Carlton Calvin**, Founder, Razor (United States); **Ryutaro Takahashi**, psychiatrist and collector; **Shunji and Asako Oketa**, collectors; **Shin Takeuchi**, collector and CEO, GRAPES, Inc. (Japan); **Daisuke Miyatsu**, collector; **Keita Arisawa**, collector and Founder & Chief Investment Officer, Seiga Asset Management (Hong Kong); **Ellie Lai**, Chairperson, My Humble House Group (Taiwan); **Simone Irani**, fashion designer. Artists in attendance included **Ryan Gander**; **Lauren Quin**; **Mari Katayama**; and **Iris Van Herpen**, artist & couturier. Other notable VIPs include **Kazuko Aso**, **Taku and Wakako Hoshina**, **Naoko Sasagawa**, **Claudia Pun**, **Timothy Tan**, **Yao Chien**, **Saloni Doshi**, **Max Jang**, **Kim Dong-Woon**, **Jun Aoki**, architect; **Yuko Nagayama**, architect; **Ken Miyake**; singer, **Chiaki Horan**, and **Tadanobu Asano**.

**Kimberli Gant, Curator of Modern & Contemporary Art, the Brooklyn Museum** says: *'Tokyo Gendai was an incredible experience. Not only did I get to engage with Japanese curators about the amazing projects they are working on, but I also met with local artists. Coming to a new place for me is always about being introduced to new artists, art movements, and cultural experiences. I've definitely had the opportunity to do that in my few days here at the fair and will make sure to come again to continue the conversations I've started.'*

**Kyoko Mori, Chairperson, Mori Art Museum** says: *'As I toured the venue and encountered galleries and collectors from Japan and abroad, along with a diverse array of artworks, I felt the great breadth and vibrancy of Tokyo's art scene. I look forward to Tokyo growing into an ever more compelling hub*

*for art, as the moments of interaction and dialogue like those we see at Tokyo Gendai continue to build.'*

**Patrick Sun, collector and founder of the Sunpride Collection** says: *'Tokyo Gendai continues to refine its position as an essential meeting point for contemporary art in Asia. True to its botanical inspiration, expanding the curated sectors—from the new Miki 'Trunk' for works on paper to the digital practices in Tane 'Seed'—allowed the fair to grow in exciting directions while fostering a vibrant dynamic between international collectors and the local community. It's clear Tokyo Gendai is taking deep root and setting a dynamic tone for the region.'*

**Mari Katayama, artist,** says: *'At last year's Tokyo Gendai, a talk sparked new connections that paved the way for my subsequent activities in New York. Returning a year later—this time to exhibit my work in the VIP lounge—I am delighted to have had the opportunity for further encounters and meaningful dialogue. It reaffirmed for me that art fairs are not only places to discover artworks but also spaces where opportunities emerge from human connections. I look forward to seeing where the encounters made at Tokyo Gendai will lead next.'*

**Daisuke Miyatsu, collector,** says: *'I was impressed by how the range of participating galleries has expanded at Tokyo Gendai. Not limited to Asia, the new galleries at the fair show distinctive, compelling programming, not often seen at typical art fairs in Japan. The solo presentations across the fair put a spotlight on Japanese artists, allowing international visitors to discover their work.'*

## GALLERY RESPONSE

Exhibitors noted strong sales and productive conversations over the week of the fair. **Sundaram Tagore Gallery** sold two large-scale Waterfall paintings by **Hiroshi Senju**, one for USD 410,000 and another for USD 620,000, during the fair's VIP Preview; the gallery additionally sold works by **Robert Natkin** and **Miya Ando** over the course of the fair. **KOTARO NUKAGA** sold more than 20 works during the VIP Preview and through pre-sales, including a work by **Tomokazu Matsuyama** for USD 250,000–300,000, a work by **José Parlá** for USD 60,000–100,000, a work by **Annie Morris** for GBP 100,000–150,000, and two works by **Keita Morimoto** priced between USD 40,000–60,000 each; works by emerging and mid-career artists, priced under USD 10,000 likewise drew strong interest, including **Michael Rikio Ming Hee Ho**, **Nanami Inoue**, **Takehiro Iikawa**, **Akiko Ueda**, **Takeshi Yasura**, **Rei Kizumoto**, and **Tomona Matsukawa**. **Pace Gallery's** solo booth of works by **Lauren Quin** garnered great interest from collectors, with most works sold within the first day of the fair. **A Lighthouse called Kanata** sold 10 major works over the course of the fair by **Chiko Takei**, **Ken Mihara**, **Ayane Mikagi**, **Kiyo Hasegawa**, **Kosuke Kato**, **Shuhei Takahara** and **Keisuke Matsuda**, to collections in North America, Europe and Asia. **Upsilon Gallery** sold works by **Osvaldo Mariscotti** and **Nicolas Carone** during the VIP Preview, priced between USD 50,000–60,000. **CON\_** sold over five paintings by **Yukino Yamanaka** during the VIP Preview, each priced under USD 10,000, to private collections. **HARUKAITO by island** sold out all works by **Syozo Taniguchi** during the VIP Preview, ranging between JPY 300,000–3,000,000. **Ippodo Gallery** sold out works by **Terumasa Ikeda**, including a work priced at JPY 13.2 million, along with numerous works by **Shota Suzuki** and **Yuka Nakano**; the gallery also sold a major work by **KAKU** and a large-scale sculpture by **Toshiya Kimura**.

**Kyoko Hattori, Vice President, Pace Gallery (New York, London, Seoul, Geneva, Hong Kong, Los Angeles, Tokyo, Berlin)** says: *'We are very happy with the results of Tokyo Gendai 2026, and we had excellent sales on the VIP Preview day. The fair was a great opportunity for Lauren Quin to show her work to a wider audience here in Japan.'*

**Takayuki Ishii, Founder, Taka Ishii Gallery (Roppongi, Kyobashi, Kyoto, Maebashi)** says: *'Tokyo Gendai has been gaining more international recognition year by year. I'm sure that next year's edition in November will generate excitement.'*

**Sundaram Tagore, Founder, Sundaram Tagore Gallery (New York, Singapore, London)** says: *'For us, Tokyo Gendai was a tremendous success. We nearly sold out our booth, and achieved over six figures in sales; we were delighted to reconnect with our Tokyo-based clients throughout the fair. The atmosphere was exceptionally positive, with strong energy from collectors, institutions, and art professionals. The fair continues to establish itself as an increasingly compelling destination for contemporary art in Asia, and we were thrilled to be part of its continued growth and momentum.'*

**Haruka Ito, Founder, HARUKAITO by island (Tokyo)** says: *'Tokyo Gendai 2026 has been a very rewarding experience for us. We showed a solo presentation of Syozo Taniguchi and were delighted that all of the works found collectors during the VIP Preview. Beyond the strong sales, what has been especially meaningful has been the opportunity to introduce his work to new collectors, curators, and art professionals from Japan and abroad, and to have many thoughtful conversations. We are very grateful to Tokyo Gendai for creating a platform where these new encounters and relationships can develop.'*

**Kotaro Nukaga, Founder, KOTARO NUKAGA Gallery (Tokyo)** says: *'We saw strong sales activity throughout the fair, from the VIP Preview through to the final day. We were pleased with the positive response across all four days of the fair, from collectors from Japan and overseas.'*

**Léa Ziwei Li, Founder, A2Z Art Gallery (Paris)** says: *'Tokyo Gendai has offered us a vibrant and high quality platform to introduce our artists to Asian and international collectors. We are thrilled to have sold 8 works throughout the fair. The conversations we had with visitors and collectors were inspiring, and we look forward to continuing these dialogues beyond the art fair.'*

**Yutaka Kikutake, Founder, Yutaka Kikutake Gallery (Tokyo)** says: *'Sales continued right through the fair, right up until the very end, and I truly felt the significance of taking part in this event. There is no doubt that Tokyo Gendai is a vital opportunity for driving the growth of the Japanese market. It was also a valuable opportunity to visit the stands of overseas galleries and see the work they presented.'*

**Aristides Gonzales-Vigil, International Director W-galería (Buenos Aires)** says: *'It has been an enriching experience participating in Tokyo Gendai. We have been delighted to secure one of Max Gomez Canle's works in one of the most important patron collections in Japan.'*

**Marcelo Zimmerler, Founder, Upsilon Gallery (New York, London)** says: *'We are delighted by the response to our presentation at Tokyo Gendai. Placing works by Osvaldo Mariscotti and Nicolas Carone during the VIP Preview reflects the enthusiasm we have encountered, while the thoughtful conversations with collectors and institutions have made the fair especially rewarding. Tokyo Gendai offers an important platform for introducing these artists to new audiences across Asia.'*

**Alisa Bagdonaite, Co-Founder and Chief Curator, Dom Art Gallery (Dubai)** says: *'There is a real spirit of discovery at Tokyo Gendai and we've been particularly encouraged by the curiosity and the openness of audiences here in Tokyo to discovering new artists.'*

## **AWARDS INITIATIVES**

As part of its program, Tokyo Gendai seeks to support artists whose practices demonstrate the potential to grow, transform, and resonate internationally over the next decade, focusing on artists whose trajectories are still unfolding. The winner of the **Hana Artist Award 2026** is **Soh Souen**,

presented at the fair by AWASE Gallery. Souen was selected by a jury comprising Elisa Carollo, curator and art writer, *Observer*; Hirokazu Tokuyama, Senior Curator, Mori Art Museum; and Monique Leong, Collector. The Hana Artist Award is supported by **ArtSticker**.

The members of the jury say: *'Soh Souen's work truly impressed us, as it shows a boldness, sensitivity and maturity rare for his young age. His practice is unique, speaking about the ontology of the body, self and intimacy, through an array of languages that translate from performance, to video, to paintings and other media, something we rarely see. Souen tests those boundaries, taking new interpretations and approaches. We hope he will be an inspiration for other young artists.'*

**Soh Souen** says: *'I am delighted to receive this award. For my recent solo exhibition, I travelled to Kyiv, Ukraine, to create works on site; this experience and the stories of survival I encountered there shaped my performance of 'The Egg' at Tokyo Gendai 2026. This award has been a source of warmth and reassurance, as I tentatively take my first steps in my artistic practice amidst an increasingly bleak and complex social climate. I would like to express my gratitude to the judges and to everyone who supports me.'*

Tokyo Gendai featured new works created especially for the fair by the recipient of the 2026 **AMA Artist Award, Umar Rashid**. The Award, an initiative from Angus Montgomery Arts (AMA), supports early to mid-career North American artists. The AMA Artist Award recipient receives a prize package valued at USD 100,000 covering the presentation of curated showcases of their work at India Art Fair and Tokyo Gendai, two of Asia's most influential contemporary art fairs, and including a cash prize of USD 10,000. Umar Rashid was selected as winner by a curatorial committee comprising Rita Gonzalez (Los Angeles County Museum of Art), Dr. Deepanjana Klein (Kiran Nadar Museum of Art), and Yuko Hasegawa (Independent Curator).

## PROGRAM AND SATELLITE EVENTS

An extensive program of tours, activations and special events took place during the week of Tokyo Gendai, welcoming collectors from across the globe. An intimate, guided tour of the **Setouchi** region, known for its distinctive blend of contemporary art and natural beauty, took visitors to the renowned **Benesse Art Site Naoshima**, which consists of **Naoshima**, **Inujima** and **Teshima**. A private visit to **Enoura Observatory**, designed by celebrated artist **Hiroshi Sugimoto**, invited visitors to a remarkable space where art, architecture, and landscape beautifully converge along the Odawara coastline.

Throughout the week of the fair, Japan's leading galleries and institutions hosted a diverse array of exhibitions, events and activations, as well as buzzing celebrations and reception evenings, marking this unmissable week. **The Mori Art Museum** presented **Ron Mueck**; **The National Art Center, Tokyo** presented **Masterpieces of the Renaissance from the Musée du Louvre**; **The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo** presented **Hiroshi Sugimoto: Extinction**. Additional satellite events during the week included a special tour of **UESHIMA MUSEUM**, and an evening reception at the **TERRADA ART COMPLEX**, one of the largest gallery complexes in Japan during the annual **TENNOZ ART WEEK 2026**, in Tennoz, Tokyo.

**The fifth edition of Tokyo Gendai takes place 4-7 November 2027 at Ariake GYM-EX, Tokyo.**

## OFFICIAL PARTNERS

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## **GALLERIES**

A Lighthouse called Kanata; Ceysson & Bénétière; GALLERY SIDE 2; Gana Art; Kaikai Kiki Gallery; KOSAKU KANECHIKA; KOTARO NUKAGA; Mizuma Art Gallery; NANZUKA; Pace Gallery; Sadie Coles HQ; space Un; Sundaram Tagore Gallery; Taka Ishii Gallery; TARO NASU; The Page Gallery; Upsilon Gallery

## **HANA 'FLOWER'**

A2Z Art Gallery; AAIE; Art of Nature Contemporary; ARTCUBE 2R2 Gallery; AWASE gallery; CON\_; Dom Art Gallery; Gallery Common; GALLERY MONMA; HARUKAITO by ISLAND; Jacob Arthur Gallery; JD Malat Gallery; Kamakura Gallery; LA BIBI GALLERY; Lett Thomas; Lux Feminae; MAKI Gallery; Marco Gallery; MISA SHIN GALLERY; MtK Contemporary Art; NOGADA; Nomadic Gallery; noon; Sofi Gallery; STANDING PINE; Suppoment Gallery; TAOS GALLERY TOKYO; THE HARTZ PROJECT; Verduyn Gallery; W-Galería; Wada Fine Arts Y++; Yoshiaki Inoue Gallery; YUMEKOUBOU GALLERY; Yutaka Kikutake Gallery;

## **EDA 'BRANCH'**

Ippodo gallery Tokyo; MIZOE ART GALLERY

## **MIKI 'TRUNK'**

ART ON SPACE; BANGKOK CITYCITY GALLERY; Boogie Woogie Photography; Curatorial Gallery; Fabrik Projects; Form Photography Gallery; HART GALLERY; John Szoke Gallery;; The Tolman Collection; UP Gallery; X Contemporary Art

## **TANE 'SEED'**

Chi-Wen; Double Square Gallery; Project Fulfill Art Space; TAEX; Takuro Someya; Contemporary Art

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**Tokyo Gendai** is an international art fair showcasing curated presentations by internationally recognised contemporary art galleries. Launched in 2023 and situated in one of the most dynamic art and design scenes in the world, the fair is a platform for commercial, artistic and intellectual exchange, and a nexus of cross-cultural discovery. Taking place in November during a moment of extraordinary

cultural activity, Tokyo Gendai is accompanied by an extensive VIP program of exhibition and museum openings, studio visits and cultural experiences, as well as a public program centred on art awareness and education, allowing visitors to sample a wide spectrum of what the Japanese art scene has to offer. [tokyogendai.com](http://tokyogendai.com)

**SMBC Group** has a history of commercial banking service over the centuries in Japan and has expanded its comprehensive financial services to the world: leasing, securities, consumer finance, credit card, IT solutions, and investment management. SMBC Group also has a long history of supporting artistic activities through the ages, and is committed to supporting artists' expressive endeavours and providing opportunities for people to experience artworks more closely through sponsorships of various events and art exhibitions. SMBC Group will continue to share the appeal of art and contribute to the realization of a society filled with happiness and well-being.

**DIOR's** founder, Christian Dior was a collector fascinated with arts who ran a gallery with several friends at the age of 23. From the founding of his Maison in 1946, he transformed his dreams into irresistible creations, and in ten years, he revolutionized the conventions of elegance. Driven by this same passion for art, his successors have perpetuated his legacy by celebrating artists and their works, particularly through wonderful, bold, ground-breaking alliances.

**Perrier-Jouët** is one of the most historic Champagne houses in France founded in 1811 in Epernay. Known for its elegant, floral style crafted primarily from Chardonnay, the Maison embodies a deep connection to nature and art. In 1902, artist Emile Gallé created the iconic anemone design that became the brand's symbol. Since then, Perrier-Jouët has collaborated with renowned artists, blending heritage, craftsmanship, and creativity to offer a distinctive Champagne experience celebrated around the world.

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