

First announcement of participating artists

Yokohama
Paratriennale
 2014

www.paratriennale.net


August 1, 2014 (Friday) - November 3, 2014 (Monday, National Holiday)

Main period: August 1 (Friday) -September 7(Sunday)

Venue: Zou-no-Hana Terrace, Yokohama

An international contemporary art exhibition born of the collaboration between individuals with disabilities and professionals from a wide range of disciplines, the Yokohama Paratriennale aims to create opportunities for people to meet and work together, contributing to a society in which everyone has a sense of their place and role.

Event Outline **Yokohama Paratriennale 2014**

Theme: First Contact
 Period: August 1, 2014 (Friday) – November 3, 2014 (Monday, National Holiday)
 Main period: August 1 (Friday) –September 7(Sunday)
 Venue: Zou-no-Hana Terrace, Yokohama
 Organizers: Rendez-vous Project Yokohama Committee *,
 SLOW LABEL (Specified Nonprofit Corporation)
 Co-Organizers: City of Yokohama, Culture City of East Asia Executive Committee
 Support: SHI/EIDO
 Sponsored by: Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (tentative), Kanagawa Prefecture
 Agency for Cultural Affairs (FY 2014 Originating from Local Communities
 Initiative for Cultural and Artistic Creation and Dissemination) 

*Yokohama Rendez-vous Project Executive Committee: City of Yokohama Culture and Tourism Bureau, City of Yokohama Health and Social Welfare Bureau, Spiral/Wacoal Art Center, Yokohama Arts Foundation, Kanagawa Shimbun

Yokohama Paratriennale 2014 Theme **First Contact**

We have designated this inaugural year of the Yokohama Paratriennale as an opportunity to encounter new people and new worlds, and we will introduce the vision of the Yokohama Paratriennale as we present the artistic experimentation and endeavors that will be undertaken in the three years leading to the next exhibition. We will host demonstrations and other events to stir the interest and enthusiasm of the public, engaging local citizens in our effort as we work towards the Yokohama Paratriennale 2017.

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The Yokohama Paratriennale is:

■An opportunity to introduce the world to innovative new art

In this exhibition, Yokohama presents the world with new forms of artistic expression, made possible by the joint efforts of individuals with disabilities and professionals from many fields who invest time and effort in the pursuit of artistic experimentation and new challenges.

■A place to foster the development of first-rate "accompanists"

For many artists with disabilities, the "accompanists" who assist them are an indispensable part of their creative activities. We will focus the spotlight upon these accompanists, in addition to the creative individuals they assist, working to build experience and expertise while also uncovering and nurturing fresh talent in this field.

■A festival for all, regardless of one's level of ability or disability

Rather than limiting participation in this festival to a select group of individuals who have artistic talent as well as a disability, we instead promote a collaborative effort between disabled and non-disabled individuals, who work together to staff the venues, carry out publicity, assist with the production of artworks, and perform the other tasks necessary for the operation of this event.

■A way to actively promote community livability for every citizen

Participants with and without disabilities work together to design an exhibition that offers visitors with physical impairments easy venue access and an enjoyable viewing experience, and in turn apply what they have learned to society as a whole.

■A platform upon which to reevaluate our conventional wisdom

By reconsidering the accepted notions and preconceived ideas that exist in our society, we take a fresh new look at what it means to have a "disability".

Exhibition Venue

The main Yokohama Paratriennale venue will be situated at or around the Zou-no-Hana Terrace, located in the Yokohama waterfront area. This venue is within walking distance of the Yokohama Triennale venues.

※ A Tie-Up Program shuttle bus is scheduled to run between the Yokohama Triennale venues and Creative City Core Areas during the exhibition period.



Key Visual

Namiko Kitaura: *Revolution/Recurrence – Back to the Source*

In a fundamental reevaluation of our preconceived notions of "disabilities" and an exploration of new creative possibilities, this work will serve as a visual representation of the Paratriennale concept.



(reference image) visual image courtesy of Namiko Kitaura

Director Profiles**Kris Yoshie (Yokohama Paratriennale Director)**

After spending time in the fields of art, theater, event production, and manufacturing, Kris Yoshie completed her Master's degree in Business Design at Domus Academy (Italy). With Tokyo and Milan as her base, she then traveled the world, conducting discussions with professionals and corporations in many fields in a quest to create innovative new values. In March 2010, she took a hiatus from professional activity when a malignant bone tumor was discovered in her right leg, and in April 2011 she commenced a new life as an individual with a disability in her right leg. After being appointed director of the Yokohama Rendez-vous Project, she established the Slow Label project and brand, and she currently oversees all project planning, development, and promotion as the director of Slow Label.

Sachiko Namba (Curator)

After serving as curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Sachiko Namba set up I plus N Ltd., a company specializing in the planning and organization of art exhibitions and workshops with a specific focus on socially engaged art practices. She is a part-time lecturer at Tama Art University and has authored works including *Curating Contemporary Art in Japan: 1950s to the Present*. Her curatorial projects include "Garden for Children" (2010, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo) and "Breathing Atolls: Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition" (2012, National Art Gallery of the Maldives, Malé / Spiral, Tokyo). She currently serves as the Curatorial Project Manager for the Sapporo International Art Festival (SIAF) 2014.

Michiko Tanaka (Performing Arts Director)

Born in Sapporo city, Michiko Tanaka completed the Master's Course of the Graduate School of Letters at Hokkaido University, spending one year as an exchange student in the Art History Department at the University of Lille III (France). She discovered French contemporary circus while working at a newspaper, which led to her decision to dedicate her life to the world of the circus. After serving as performing arts coordinator at the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial and Setouchi Triennale, she independently founded "Circus-do 'Les Funambules'", a circus, street performance, and local performing arts center based in Takamatsu city, in 2011, and went on to establish the Setouchi Circus Factory in 2014.

Program ※ Artist profiles can be found at the end of this release

Exhibitions

Takahiro Iwasaki

Pieces of cloth that manifest the workings of the hands and hearts of the disabled individuals who created them will be transformed by Takahiro Iwasaki, an artist who specializes in turning mundane everyday objects into amazingly small and exquisite works of art, into a new world that lies at the intersection of a diversity of worldviews.



(reference image)
Takahiro Iwasaki *Out of Disorder (Cony Island)* 2012
Image courtesy of the artist and ARATANIURANO

Daito Manabe x Motoi Ishibashi x Masaki Teruoka x Shuichi Tsutsumi

Daito Manabe, who uses vibrations and ultra-low frequencies to create art that is experienced through a combination of senses such as touch and hearing, will seek to create a work that provides "images for those without sight and music for those without hearing." This summer will feature "Touch the Sound," which will make use of haptic devices in a collaborative effort with hearing-impaired dancers.



(reference image) Daito Manabe
FaltyDL Straight & Arrow
Photo: Kazuaki Seki

[Mé]

"What if we possessed an organ that allowed us to perceive worlds other than the world that we perceive now?" It is on this premise that the young contemporary artist unit "Me" will conduct research on disabled individuals in the Yokohama metropolitan area for an experimental project to be carried out with disabled Yokohama citizens.



(reference image) [Mé]
FICTIONAL SCAPER / 2013

Yui Inoue x SLOW FACTORY

As part of the effort to ensure that the Paratriennale is a festival in which anyone can participate, the SLOW FACTORY concept of participatory production will be applied to a project to decorate the Paratriennale venue with the help of visitors. Coordinated by Yui Inoue, who specializes in using the weaving and knitting techniques that have evolved as a practical element of our daily lives to create site-specific installations of woven art, this project will use special shape-retaining fibers that will be woven into three-dimensional works of art.



(reference image)
SLOW FACTORY event
(March, 2014) Photo: 427FOTO

Performances

Chrissie Kiyou & Kai Takatsu

An intensive four-day dance workshop for the disabled and non-disabled alike will culminate in a final-day performance featuring a dance created during the workshop.

Keisuke Kanai

A performance group made up of a diverse range of members, including those with intellectual disabilities and Down syndrome, will entertain Paratriennale visitors with an opening ceremony performance and other performances held mainly on weekends during the Paratriennale exhibition period. Guest instructor: Catherine Magis

Projects

Isabelle Boinot x SLOW LABEL Tokushima

In a collaborative effort with a Tokushima prefecture facility for disabled individuals that produces indigo-dyed products using a natural lye fermentation technique, this project will produce do-it-yourself kits with a quintessential Japanese landscape motif.



(reference image)

Isabelle Boinot ©DR

Dialogue in the Dark x Mizuki Misumi

How do blind people navigate our cities, and what do they feel? The poet Mizuki Misumi will translate the perceptions of visually-impaired individuals into words that will be turned into information signs.

Participating Artists (as of April 22)

Namiko Kitaura

Born in Tokyo in 1977. Namiko Kitaura travelled to England to study painting in 1996. She shifted her focus to photography and began producing photographic works in 1997. While pursuing a career as a photographer, she also studied the visual arts, graphic design and art history in Milano, and modern art in London. In 2003, she won a sponsorship at Fabrica, the Benetton communication research centre as the first Japanese photographer in resident.

In addition to worldwide commissioned works, she also harnesses her unique photographic techniques to confront myriad issues that lurk in our society, creating works that use images to illustrate the shades of these issues which cannot be expressed in words.

Takahiro Iwasaki

Takahiro Iwasaki was born in Hiroshima in 1975. Using materials such as pencil lead from mechanical pencils and threads pulled from towels and clothing to build delicate towers, Ferris wheels, and other constructions, he dismantles everyday objects or elements of the existing environment and reconstructs them in completely unexpected ways. His works have been displayed at many of the world's premier exhibitions, including the Biennale de Lyon (France, 2009), the Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art (Australia, 2012), and the Asian Art Biennial (Taiwan, 2013).

Daito Manabe

Daito Manabe is a programmer and media artist. He was born in 1976 and graduated from the Department of Mathematics of the Tokyo University of Science Faculty of Science, and the Institute of Advanced Media Arts and Sciences (IAMAS). He uses an original perspective to reconsider everyday phenomena and materials, which he combines to create his works. His interest does not lie in the realm of "high-resolution" or "high-presence" but rather in the fundamental, where he seeks to uncover the fascinating possibilities inherent in phenomena, the human body, programming, and computers through a process of careful observation.

Motoi Ishibashi

An engineer and artist born in 1975, Motoi Ishibashi completed his studies at the Tokyo Institute of Technology Department of Control and Systems Engineering and the Institute of Advanced Media Arts and Sciences (IAMAS). While still a student, he collaborated with Motoki Koketsu to use the then only recently-developed ADXL202 accelerometer to create "G-Display," which allowed users to play games by tilting a display screen. Since graduating, he has worked on a freelance basis creating many interactive devices for fashion store installations and reception parties, in addition to designing and producing interactive systems for showrooms and permanent exhibitions at science museums and other facilities. In 2008, he established 4nchor51a6 with Daito Manabe. Specializing in device production, he is actively engaged in many undertakings including advertising projects, artwork creation, workshops, and music video production.

Shuichi Tsutsumi

Born in 1978, Shuichi Tsutsumi studied signal processing as a graduate student at Kyoto University and went on to carry out research and development in the fields of speech processing at NTT Data and image processing at Canon. He later became an iOS application developer at KAYAK Inc., releasing over 30 applications developed from scratch and receiving honors including Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity and App Store Best of 2012 awards. He is the author of *iOS Apuri Kaihatsu – Tatsujin no Reshipi 100* ("iOS App Development – 100 Expert Recipes") and currently works on a freelance basis. He is presently working on numerous iOS apps that use Bluetooth LE to connect with external devices.

Masaki Teruoka

Engaging in the creation of installation art and the development of laser lighting since his days as a student, Masaki Teruoka teamed up with media artist Yoichi Nagashima and other friends to create the art/technology group VPP in 1998. In the time since, he has been involved in collaborative production, research and development efforts in a wide range of genres, while also providing technical support for media art productions. With a focus on haptics, infrasonic vibrations and biological information sensing, he is exploring the application of biological information to artistic expression from a physiopsychological stance.

[Mé]

"Me" is a contemporary artist unit formed by Japanese artist Haruka Kojin and the "wah document" creative team. Launched in 2012, the unit conceives creative works that manipulate the "me", or eyes, of observers, intuitively drawing the viewer's consciousness towards never-before-seen worlds. The unit took part in the Setouchi Triennale 2013 and has organized exhibitions including the *Jokyo no Hairetsu* ("Scattered Circumstances") exhibition held at the Mitsubishi-Jisho Artium Gallery in Fukuoka.

Yui Inoue

Yui Inoue was born in Aichi prefecture in 1983. She developed an interest in two-dimensional weaving that grew into an increasing fascination with its three-dimensional possibilities and the concept of creating site-specific works. Her enjoyment of living life on the move was accompanied by a realization of the things that only become possible upon developing roots in an area, and she made the decision to move to Shiga prefecture, attracted by the lakes, mountains and rivers of the region. She finds herself intrigued by the manner in which interests in her daily life manage to link themselves to her creative production.

Chrissie Kiyou & Kai Takatsu

Chrissie Kiyou is a dancer and choreographer specializing in genres such as contemporary dance, Matt Mattox jazz dance, and Afro-Caribbean dance. She participated in the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games closing ceremony with the Candoco Dance Company, acting not only as dance instructor and choreographer, but also taking part in the performance itself. In addition to professional dancers, she provides dance instruction to a wide range of subjects including disabled individuals and children.

Kai Takatsu is a dancer and choreographer. He has taught dance to children and adults at the Orpheus Center, a facility for young disabled adults, in England, and has experience in interactive and creative activities with disabled individuals.

Keisuke Kanai

After graduating from the National Centre for Circus Arts (CNAC) in France in 2002, Keisuke Kanai joined Cyrk 13, a circus company directed by Philippe Decouflé, for a two-year tour of Europe. He subsequently forged a circus duo act with a French performer, performing in 36 countries in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and other regions over a five-year span. Returning to Japan in 2009, he supervised production of the Miffy CD *Papa to Sakasu* ("Papa and the Circus") and took part in the international performing arts festival TACT (Theatre Arts for Children and Teens) 2013. He continues his free-wheeling activities as a stage and street performer at a diverse range of venues, and is a member of the performing group Cru Cru Cirque DX.

Catherine Magis

In pursuit of physical circus training and instruction in theatrical expression, Catherine Magis attended schools specializing in the dramatic arts and commedia dell'arte, and went on to study at the world-renowned National Circus School in Montreal, Canada. After returning to her home country of Belgium, the lack of an environment conducive to circus creation prompted her to establish the Espace Catastrophe creative workspace and a circus company, while also embarking on a career as a circus director. In 2008, she began a circus project with intellectually disabled individuals.

Isabelle Boinot

A French artist based in Paris, Isabelle Boinot enjoys a versatile career as a designer and producer of books, notebooks and advertising flyers, a creator of artworks that use illustrations, photographs or collages, as well as an art object designer and an illustrator, with her works introduced and sold outside traditional mainstream channels. As a founding member of the Frédéric Magazine contemporary graphic artists collective, she is active in many projects related to the collective exhibitions and magazine.

Mizuki Misumi

Born in Kagoshima in 1981, Mizuki Misumi received the *Gendai-shi Techo* (Modern Poetry Notebook) Award and the Chuya Nakahara Prize while a student at Tokyo Zokei University. In addition to writing poetry, she actively engages in poetry readings, and was an invited artist at the Days of Poetry and Wine international poetry festival in Slovenia and the Druskininkai Poetic Fall international literary festival in Lithuania. Her recent professional activities have included the composition of lyrics for musicians including Miu Sakamoto, and participation in the "a poem written by 5 poets at once" project organized for the Japan Pavilion at the 55th Venice Biennale. She co-authored *Magicians of Gubo Island*, which was awarded the 51st Toson Shimazaki Memorial Rekitei Award, and seeks to convey a diversity of expression through her contemporary poetry.

Dialogue in the Dark

Conducted in complete darkness, the Dialogue in the Dark social entertainment experience allows participants to "see" the unseen. Hosted in 30 countries and 130 cities around the world, over 140,000 visitors have experienced Dialogue in the Dark at venues in Japan since 1999. Visually impaired guides, who are experts in the art of navigating the dark, lead groups of visitors on a journey through pitch black spaces, where they make full use of senses other than sight and communicate with each other while experiencing a variety of scenarios.