

TOKAS Creator-in-Residence 2023 Exhibition

As Above, So Below

Part 1 | 2023/7/1 (Sat) – 8/6 (Sun)

Part 2 | 2023/8/19 (Sat) – 9/24 (Sun)

Tokyo Arts and Space Hongo

— Group exhibition by the artists who stayed and worked at Creator-in-Residence

Since 2006, Tokyo Arts and Space (TOKAS) has been implementing the “Creator-in-Residence” residency program, which offers opportunities for artists active in various disciplines to stay and create works in Tokyo or at various overseas destinations.

This exhibition presents works by 11 artists who completed overseas residencies at partner institutions, or stayed in Tokyo, through the TOKAS residency program in 2022.

■ Exhibition Information

Exhibition Title: **As Above, So Below** [TOKAS Creator-in-Residence 2023 Exhibition]

Artists: Part 1 | **ASHIKAWA Mizuki, Tyler COBURN, HAYASAKI Manami, Tracey SNELLING, WATANABE Takuya, Zakkubalan (Albert THOLEN & SORA Neo)**
Part 2 | **ARAI Takashi, Bertrand FLANET, LarbitsSisters (Bénédicte JACOBS & Laure-Anne JACOBS), OHTA Haruka, Grzegorz STEFAŃSKI**

Period: Part 1 | 2023/7/1 (Sat) – 8/6 (Sun)
Part 2 | 2023/8/19 (Sat) – 9/24 (Sun)

Venue: Tokyo Arts and Space Hongo (2-4-16 Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo)

Open Hours: 11:00 – 19:00 (Last Entry 18:30)

Closed: Mondays (Except 7/17, 9/18), 7/18 (Tue), 8/7 (Mon) – 8/18 (Fri), 9/19 (Tue)

Admission: Free

Organizer: Tokyo Arts and Space, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo,
Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture

Partner institutions: Atelier Mondial (Basel, Switzerland), WIELS / Government of Flanders (Brussels, Belgium), HIAP [Helsinki International Artist Programme] / The Finnish Cultural Foundation (Helsinki, Finland), Treasure Hill Artist Village / Artist-in-Residence Taipei (Taipei, Taiwan)

URL: <https://www.tokyoartsandspace.jp/en/>

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Exhibition Overview

Our society is shaped by a wide range of systems. How do macro-level structures, such as ecosystems, politics, and economics, affect micro-level processes such as our individual consciousness, words, actions and interpersonal relationships? And how do these processes then cycle back to the macro level? The 11 artists and groups showcased in this exhibition explore increasingly complex social structures and their own relationships with them from a range of unique perspectives, offering insights by rendering visible the presence and inner workings of various systems. Their works reveal how seemingly unrelated elements of social systems are interconnected, as when countless gears of all sizes interlock and unexpectedly conduct movement throughout the whole.

Related Events

*Please note that the schedule and participating artists are subject to change.

Part 1

【Artist Talk】

7/1 (Sat) 15:00 – 16:30 *With Japanese-English interpreter
Tyler COBURN, HAYASAKI Manami, Tracey SNELLING

7/15 (Sat) 15:00 – 16:30 *Available only in Japanese
ASHIKAWA Mizuki, WATANABE Takuya, Zakkubalan (appearance on video)

【Performance】

“Candlestick Man” *Booking required.

Performer | Tyler COBURN (English), NAGANUMA Wataru (Japanese)

Date	Time	Language
7/2 (Sun)	16:00 – 16:30	English
7/2 (Sun)	18:00 – 18:30	Japanese
7/9 (Sun)	15:00 – 15:30	Japanese
7/9 (Sun)	17:00 – 17:30	English
7/17 (Mon)	15:00 – 15:30	Japanese
7/28 (Fri)	18:30 – 19:00	Japanese
8/5 (Sat)	15:00 – 15:30	Japanese

Performance detail and booking form:

<https://www.tokyoartsandspace.jp/en/archive/event/2023/20230702-7224.html>

Part 2

【Artist Talk】

8/19 (Sat) 15:00 – 16:30 *With Japanese-English interpreter
Bertrand FLANET, LarbitsSisters, Grzegorz STEFAŃSKI

9/2 (Sat) 15:00 – 16:30 *Available only in Japanese
ARAI Takashi, OHTA Haruka

* Other events are also scheduled. Details to be announced at a later date on the TOKAS website.

Artists *Please contact PR for more images.

Part 1

ASHIKAWA Mizuki

Local Creator Residency Program

Residency Period: 2022.6-7

With the theme of “Festival Traces,” Ashikawa visited reclaimed land in the vicinity of Tokyo Bay, including the sites of Olympic competitions and the athletes’ village, in search of post-Olympic cityscapes. She explored the usage and ownership of urban spaces and the new ecosystems that are emerging within them. Here she will exhibit lithographs and drawings, which take cues from an overwhelming sense of the absence of some fundamental and essential element in these meticulously crafted sites.



1. *Rinkai park*
Lithograph on paper 2022

[Profile] Born in Shizuoka in 1994. Lives and works in Tokyo. Enrolled in a PhD in Production of Art at Musashino Art University. Recent exhibition: “3rd Print Art Triennale in Kyoto 2022,” Kyoto City KYOCERA Museum of Art.

Tyler COBURN

International Creator Residency Program

Residency Period: 2023.1-3

Coburn works with counterfactuals, or alternate histories. For *Candlestick Man* (2023), he looks at Japanese portrayals of the first Europeans to arrive in the country, with a particular focus on historical and speculative relationships between human migration and disease. This project takes form as an installation and performance, including wall sculptures made with *gofun* (a white medium made of oyster shells) and *Oribe Nanbanjin* candlesticks that depict Europeans.



2. *Candlestick Man*
Performance 2023

[Profile] Born in United States in 1983. Lives and works in New York. Graduated with an MFA in Art from the University of Southern California, Roski School of Art and Design in 2012. Recent publication: *Solitary*, Sternberg Press and Art Sonje Center, 2022.

HAYASAKI Manami

Tokyo-Basel Exchange Residency Program

Residency Period: 2022.4-6

In Basel, a city located at the intersection of three national borders, Hayasaki explored the concept of borders through the lens of the ecosystem. In this exhibition, she presents an installation including a video documenting a project to plant dandelions from Switzerland to France via Germany, as well as a cut-paper map showing the project’s route with national borders omitted and a board game enabling visitors to vicariously experience the project’s activities.



3. Studio work at Atelier Mondial
2022

[Profile] Born in Osaka in 1980. Lives and works in Tokyo. Graduated with a BA in Fine Art from Chelsea College of Art and Design in 2007. Recent exhibition: “Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale 2022,” Niigata.

Tracey SNELLING

International Creator Residency Program
Residency Period: 2022.5-7

Based on her interest in specific places and what people experience there, Snelling conducted research on Japan's love hotels and male host clubs. At love hotels she interviewed costumed collaborators about love and interpersonal relationships, while at host clubs she interviewed hosts (young male entertainer / companions) and documented their services such as pouring drinks and chatting with female customers. She will present the resulting photographs and videos, as well as miniature 3D sculptures of love hotels and host clubs, to replicate the experiences of denizens of the neon-lit streets.



4. *Hotel Rochelle SM*
 Photograph (also detail of sculpture) 2022

[Profile] Born in California in 1970. Lives and works in Berlin. Graduated with a BFA in art studio from the University of New Mexico in 1996. Recent exhibition: "Suddenly Wonderful," Berlinische Galerie Museum of Modern Art, Berlin, 2023.

WATANABE Takuya

Tokyo-Brussels Exchange Residency Program
Residency Period: 2022.7-12

Inspired by his interactions with a young Moroccan immigrant during his residency in Brussels, Watanabe focused on the model of masculinity sought by this young man inhabiting a zone between traditional and globalized value systems. He will present a video installation series exploring complex intersections of identities among those who migrate to cities across national borders and into different cultural areas, juxtaposing this material with images of fruits from various places of origin brought together in urban spaces.



5. *T'es content d'avoir passé une journée avec moi? #2*
 (Are you happy to have spent a day with me? #2)
 Triple channel video 2023

[Profile] Born in 1990. Lives and works in Tokyo. Graduated with an MFA in Intermedia Art from Tokyo University of the Arts in 2016. Recent exhibition: "Exhibition of AAUK virtual Residency Project 2021" Art Action UK, Online, 2022.

Zakkubalan (Albert THOLEN & SORA Neo)

International Creator Residency Program
Residency Period: 2022.9-12

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Great Kanto Earthquake that struck the Tokyo region in 1923, and the artist duo Zakkubalan drew inspiration from *namazu-e* (prints depicting a gigantic catfish believed to cause earthquakes) and disaster preparedness drills to create works that engage with our collective image of earthquakes. In this exhibition, they will present a sculpture of an imagined city that expands during the exhibition, made with a quantity of one-yen coins equal to the number of days that have passed since the Great Kanto Earthquake, as well as a video documenting people playing a card game that simulates the operations of an evacuation center.



6. *Imagined Earthquake 01: One Yen City (Seismograph)*
 One yen coins, 75cm x 175cm table 2022

[Profile] Albert THOLEN: Born in Washington, D.C. Lives and works in New York. Graduated with a BA in Film Studies from Wesleyan University in 2015. SORA Neo: Born in New York. Lives and works in New York and Tokyo. Graduated with a BA in Film Studies and Philosophy from Wesleyan University in 2014. Recent exhibition: "Below the lighthouse is the darkest part of the night" The David Ireland House, San Francisco, 2021.

Part 2**ARAI Takashi****Tokyo-Helsinki Exchange Residency Program****Residency Period: 2022.9-12**

Having mastered the daguerreotype, a process dating from the earliest days of photography, Arai has recently focused on nuclear-related themes, such as weapons testing and power plant accidents. During a stay in Finland, he researched the areas surrounding nuclear power plants and the Onkalo waste repository, a final disposal site for highly radioactive spent nuclear fuel. Through photography and video, he explores a new language that connects the present to a world 100,000 years from now in which nuclear waste has been rendered harmless.



7. *The forest after 100,000 Years, Olkiluoto, Finland*
Daguerreotype 2022

[Profile] Born in Kanagawa in 1978. Lives and works in Kanagawa. Recent exhibition: “Squaring the Circles of Confusion: Neo-Pictorialism in the 21st century,” Royal Photographic Society, Bristol, 2022.

Bertrand FLANET**International Creator Residency Program****Residency Period: 2022.5-7**

Flanet mainly produces 3D animation videos in which he fictionalizes and reflects on latent forms of alienation in our societies. For this exhibition, he conducted research on Tokyo’s Sugamo Prison and on the crinum line that measures the growth of crinum lily in Japan. Based on the common elements that links the two, namely circumstantial and environmental limitations, he will present an installation that connects these seemingly divergent topics.



8. *Tempers*
3D live simulation 2022-2023

[Profile] Born in Schiltigheim (France) in 1986. Lives and works in Berlin. Graduated with an MA in Art History and Curatorial Practices from Université Rennes 2, France and from Städelschule, Frankfurt am Main in 2017. Recent exhibition: “Salon de Montrouge,” beffroi de Montrouge, Paris, 2021.

LarbitsSisters (Bénédicte JACOBS & Laure-Anne JACOBS)**International Creator Residency Program****Residency Period: 2023.1-3**

Dealing with the imbalances in art, technology and societal issues through media art, the artist duo LarbitsSisters observed various forms of life around street gardens adorning Tokyo’s residential areas. For this exhibition, they will present experimental work featuring a flowerpot that photosynthesis crafted out of an uncanny symbiosis between a man-made terracotta flowerpot and cyanobacteria, the oldest inhabitants of Earth’s ecosystems. This is a reflection on their research they conducted during their residency in Tokyo on plant life in urban environments as a critical concern within the climate debate for urban regeneration.



9. *Research during TOKAS Residency Program*
2023

[Profile] LarbitsSisters was formed in 2010, by Bénédicte Jacobs, the social media researcher, and Laure-Anne Jacobs, the media artist. Recent exhibitions: “Life/Likeness,” (NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC], Tokyo 2022), “NTAA’22,” Liedts-Meesen Foundation, Ghent, Belgium, 2022.

OHTA Haruka**Tokyo-Taipei Exchange Residency Program****Residency Period: 2022.10-12**

Ohta's works explore the ambiguity of boundaries by inverting the interiors and exteriors of architectural spaces, or causing them to coexist. This exhibition features his work dealing with the elaborate window grills called *tiěchuānghuā* (lit. "iron window flowers") that are common in Taiwan. Through an installation incorporating the spaces outside these window grills, which are extensions of indoor spaces, he challenges viewers' conceptions of interior and exterior and the boundaries that separate them.

10. *Inland Outside*

Wood, aluminum tape, window etc. 2022

Photo by Treasure Hill Artist Village

【Profile】Born in 1984. Lives and works in Saitama. Graduated with an MA from Musashino Art University in 2010. Recent exhibition: "I always wish you good luck." Art Plug Yeonsu, Incheon, Korea, 2022.

Grzegorz STEFAŃSKI**International Creator Residency Program****Residency Period: 2023.1-3**

Stefański observes his own behavioral patterns in interpersonal relationships and analyzes them through film. Addressing the home as social environment and architectural space, he will present the first part of a moving image triptych investigation power structures in relationship. It has been shot in a traditional Japanese house that reflects the pattern of dynamics replayed in a relationship between protagonists.

11. *no sticks and stones can ever break our bones*

Video 2023

【Profile】Born in Człuchów (Poland) in 1983. Lives and works in London. Graduated with an MA in Media from UCL Slade School of Fine Art in 2018. Recent exhibition: "sleeper," Tick Tack, Antwerp, 2022.

TOKAS Creator-in-Residence 2023 Exhibition “As Above, So Below”
Application Form for Image Data

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To : **Public Relations Section, Tokyo Arts and Space**

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