

PRESS RELEASE

Asian Art Award 2017 supported by Warehouse TERRADA Announcing 5 Finalists



Art Tokyo Association has announced the 5 finalists for the Asian Art Award 2017 supported by Warehouse TERRADA. The finalists are: Akihiko Taniguchi, Tomona Matsukawa, Takayuki Yamamoto, Chikako Yamashiro, and contact Gonzo.

For the first iteration of the award, 5 young and internationally minded curators each nominated 5 artists or artist groups based in Japan through a process of discussion about contemporary art. From these 25 candidates, a shortlist of 5 finalists has now been selected. These finalists will present new or recent work at an art space at Warehouse TERRADA between September and October 2017. During this exhibition, a jury of 7 judges based in Singapore, China and Japan will decide the winner of the Grand Prize. In anticipation of further expanding their career overseas, the recipient will receive prize money, a studio space for creating work, a solo exhibition in Singapore, and a solo exhibition at ART FAIR TOKYO 2018 next spring.

On March 18th, a launch event will be held at Tokyo International Forum, the venue for ART FAIR TOKYO 2017. At a press conference (from 16:30), representatives from the organizers and main sponsor will make speeches, followed by an explanation on the award and selection results by Yuko Hasegawa, who is a member of the Selection Jury, and Keisuke Ozawa, the Director of the Asian Art Award. The event will then continue with a talk, "Issues in Contemporary Art and the Direction of Art Awards" (from 17:30), featuring Selection Jury members Yuji Akimoto, Ryutaro Takahashi and Daisuke Miyatsu, and Junya Yamamine from the Finalists Shortlist Selection Jury.

Reports on the jury screenings and the information on the autumn exhibition will be announced online from May.

Asian Art Award 2017 supported by Warehouse TERRADA 5 Finalists

Akihiko Taniguchi

Born in Saitama Prefecture in
1983

Resides in Saitama



Akihiko Taniguchi works in a variety of media, include sculpture, video, Internet art and new media art. Along with Tomoya Watanabe, he is a member of Omoide Yokocho Information Science Art Academy, an ephemeral and Art Informel community related to media art discovered at the Omoide Yokocho eating and drinking district in Shinjuku, Tokyo. His recent group exhibitions include “Open Space 2016” (NTT InterCommunication Center) and SeMA Biennale Mediacity Seoul 2016 (Seoul Museum of Art).



Something Similar to Me / About Seeing Things
(2016)
Computer, projector, game controller



Cumhur Jay - On & On (2016)
Music video 5'30"
Music produced by Cumhur Jay
Video produced by Akihiko Taniguchi

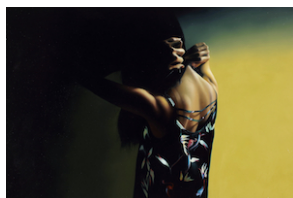
Tomona Matsukawa

Born in Aichi Prefecture in
1987

Resides in Osaka Prefecture



Tomona Matsukawa's paintings explore themes of contemporary vanity and solitude through traces of the things around us. Her major solo exhibitions include “Artist Meets Kurashiki Vol.12 Tomona Matsukawa” (Ohara Museum of Art, Okayama, 2016). Major group exhibitions include “Roppongi Crossing 2016: My Body, Your Voice” (Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, 2016) and “If Only Bella Abzug Were Here” (Marc Straus Gallery, New York, 2016).



Please wait for me until 4:00am (2015)
Oil on panel 130.3 x 194 cm
Courtesy Yuka Tsuruno Gallery, Tokyo



But then, finally I could be myself (2016)
Oil on panel 130.3 x 194 cm
Courtesy Yuka Tsuruno Gallery, Tokyo

Takayuki Yamamoto

Born in Aichi Prefecture in
1974

Resides in Aichi Prefecture



Based on his experience as an elementary school teacher, Takayuki Yamamoto creates encounters with the unknown through workshops with children, critiquing the education system while searching for alternatives through art. In recent years he has conducted research in different areas with a focus on folklore, making work themed around the relationship between modern social systems and the individual. His exhibitions include the Kochi-Muziris Biennale (India, 2016–17) and “Constellations: Practices for Unseen Connections/Discoveries” (Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, 2015).



The Moon over the Mountain (2017)
HD video installation

ART FAIR TOKYO PR: Li Yi / Yuko Shimada / Akane Miki

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Chikako Yamashiro

Born in Okinawa in 1976

Resides in Okinawa



Photo: Ryudai Takano



Mud Man (2016)
3-channel high-definition video installation
23'00"
Thanks to Aichi Triennale 2016
©Chikako Yamashiro
Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba Associates



The Beginning of Creation: Abduction / A Child (2015)
HD video 18'00"
©Chikako Yamashiro
Courtesy of Yumiko Chiba Associates (AAC, APMoA
Film No.24, 2015)

Chikako Yamashiro uses both video and photography to create video work that explores the geopolitics of her native Okinawa. In recent years she has drawn on overseas narratives and history in order to develop her interpretation of the problems in Okinawa as not just a local issue, but a story of the weak being oppressed by the strong in the same way as can be seen all over the world. Recent exhibitions include "From Generation to Generation: Inherited Memory and Contemporary Art" (Contemporary Jewish Museum, USA, 2016–17) and the Aichi Triennale 2016 (former Meidi-ya Sakae Building).

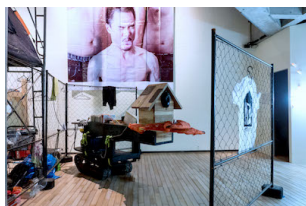
contact Gonzo

Formed in Osaka

Prefecture in 2006



Performance at Museum of Modern Art / NY
(2014)
Photo: Choy Kafai



Exhibition view of *Physicatopia* (2017 Watari-um Museum)
Photo: Takuya Matsumi

Constructing an original pastoral theory of the sublime starting from physical collision, contact Gonzo creates improvisational performances, video, photography, and magazines. Its name derives from 1970s gonzo journalism and is also the name for its own methodology and practice. Current projects include firing various kinds of fruit at speeds of 100km/h at a body, "mountain surfing" down mountainous inclines, and creating video games with digital materials.

March 18th, 2017 / Tokyo International Forum (inside ART FAIR TOKYO 2017)

***Japanese language only**

16:10 Open

16:30-17:15

Asian Art Award supported by Warehouse TERRADA Press Conference

Venue: AFT Cafe Lounge

Guests

Naohiko Kishi	Representative, Art Tokyo Association
Yoshihisa Nakano	Chief Executive Officer, Warehouse TERRADA
Yuko Hasegawa	Selection Jury, Asian Art Award / Artistic Director, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo Professor, Tokyo University of the Arts
Keisuke Ozawa	Director, Asian Art Award / Curator

17:30-18:45

Asian Art Award supported by Warehouse TERRADA Launch Talk:

Issues in Contemporary Art and the Direction of Art Awards

Venue: AFT Cafe Lounge

Guests

Yuji Akimoto	Selection Jury, Asian Art Award Director, The University Art Museum, Tokyo University of the Arts Director, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
Junya Yamamine	Finalists Shortlist Selection Jury, Asian Art Award Curator, Contemporary Art Center, Art Tower Mito
Ryutaro Takahashi	Selection Jury, Asian Art Award / Psychiatrist / Art collector
Daisuke Miyatsu	Selection Jury, Asian Art Award Art collector / Visiting Professor, Kyoto University of Art and Design

Curator

Keisuke Ozawa	Director, Asian Art Award / Curator
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18:45-20:30

Asian Art Award supported by Warehouse TERRADA Party

Venue: TERRADA Premium Lounge ART FAIR TOKYO 2017 For invitees only

Overview

Title: Asian Art Award 2017 supported by Warehouse TERRADA

Organizer: Art Tokyo Association

Special Sponsor: Warehouse TERRADA

Sponsor: Helutrans-Terrada Co., Ltd.

Supported by: Agency for Cultural Affairs

Prizes: Grand Prize: 100,000 JPY

Award-winning work exhibited in Singapore and Tokyo

Art studio space rental for 6-12 months (TBC)

Special Award: Art studio space rental for 6-12 months (TBC)

Exhibition Venues (TBC): Art space at Warehouse TERRADA (Tokyo): Finalists (5 artists)

Gallery space at Helu-Trans(s) Pte. Ltd. (Singapore): Grand Prize winner (1 artist)

ART FAIR TOKYO 2018 (Tokyo): Grand Prize winner (1 artist)

Website: <http://asianartaward.com>

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Features of the Award

A selection jury of 5 young curators in their thirties and forties will debate the art that best expresses the dilemmas of contemporary society, drawing up a shortlist of 5 finalists from 25 nominees. The framework for the award is deliberately flexible and organic, allowing for consistent inquiry into the complexities of Asia where many different value systems and perspectives intersect. Through a discussion between emerging art scene leaders and curators that examines the ambiguous nature of Asia in a multifaceted way, the award aspires to respond to the spirit of the times. The output of this discussion will also be released on the official award website from May.

Finalists Shortlist Selection Jury

Keisuke Ozawa	Director, Asian Art Award / Curator
Katsura Kunieda	Curator, Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art
Sachiko Shoji	Curator, Fukuoka Art Museum
Hiroyuki Hattori	Curator, Aichi Triennale 2016
Junya Yamamine	Curator, Contemporary Art Center, Art Tower Mito

Selection Jury

Yuji Akimoto	Director, The University Art Museum, Tokyo University of the Arts Director, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
Yuko Hasegawa	Artistic Director, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo Professor, Tokyo University of the Arts
Yoko Hayashi	Senior Specialist for Arts and Culture, Agency for Cultural Affairs
Joyce Toh	Curatorial Co-Head, Singapore Art Museum
You Yang	Vice Director, Ullens Center for Contemporary Art
Ryutaro Takahashi	Psychiatrist / Art collector
Daisuke Miyatsu	Art collector / Visiting Professor, Kyoto University of Art and Design

Special Jury Member

Kengo Kuma	Architect / Professor, University of Tokyo
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Asian Art Award supported by Warehouse TERRADA Management Office

Art Tokyo Association: (Mr.) Hiroaki Sumiya / (Ms.) Akane Miki

ART
TOKYO
ASSOCIATION



Art Tokyo Association

Art Tokyo Association organizes and produces a range of art-related enterprises with the aim of developing the art market in Japan and promoting culture and art. Alongside running ART FAIR TOKYO, the largest art fair in Japan, it contributes to the development of the Japanese art scene by harnessing the network cultivated by the fair to conduct market research and surveys on the art industry in Japan as well as plan art tourism projects introducing regional Japan to foreigners through the framework of art.

Warehouse TERRADA

Since the foundation in 1950, Warehouse TERRADA has been receiving a great reputation both in Japan and abroad in the field of storage technology for highly specialized products, including artwork, audio-visual media, and wine. In recent years, Warehouse TERRADA has focused particularly on a proactive effort to expand art-related business such as organizing museums, an art supply lab, rental art studios and art awards, aiming to make Tennoz a focal point for bringing together, showcasing and disseminating art.

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