

Youkobo Art Space



Annual Report 2010

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¹ The Japan –East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths

² An International network of artist residencies

³ *Geidai Taitou Sumida*

⁴ Japan Artist in Residency

1. Annual Report 2010

This report is a summary of Youkobo's activities in 2010 which for the first time were clearly divided and managed according to the following programs.

- AIR Program
- Gallery Program
- Studio Program
- Related Activities: ①AIR support (research, popularization, J-AIR Network Forum, Res Artis, etc.)
②Community activities (Trolls in the Park/ Art in Parks, Art Kids)
③GIP (internship)

Within these programs, coordination of exchange between resident artists and those exhibiting in the gallery, schedule adjustment, management of the application process, and planning of a number of talk events is implemented.

In order to help build strong networks, we give priority to making connections with other AIR centers. This year provided many opportunities for exchange between domestic and overseas AIR professionals, building momentum for further activities. New collaborations were formed with a number of large institutions, notably the Japan Foundation, Res Artis and Tokyo University of the Arts. Resident artist Ismael de Anda's participation in the GTS Sightseeing Art Project (A collaborative community-based project organized between Geidai-Tokyo University of the Arts, Taito ward and Sumida ward) was a good opportunity to consider the role of Youkobo in society as a community-based art space

Among a number of significant changes for Youkobo in 2010, the significant development was the renewal of the Youkobo website. Designed by emerging local designer Ryuichi Maeda, the new website has made it easier for staff to update information and to keep archives of Youkobo activities. Our new website also enables easier access for visitors to gather information about our programs, events, and the application procedure of residence and exhibition at Youkobo. There are also links to a number of other important sites, notably the 'Trolls in the Park' Exhibition website .



Youkobo Website: www.youkobo.co.jp

Trolls Website: www.artinparks.net

To coincide with this renewal, alterations were made to studio 2 in order to create a new residency/studio space. From 2010, there are now three residency spaces (AIR 1, AIR 2, and AIR 3), two equipped with studios and one accommodation-only residence which is suitable for those wanting to do research in the fields of writing, curation, music, and so on. These alterations were made in order to give Youkobo greater flexibility in the selection of participants for the residency program.

2011 will be the tenth year of activity for Youkobo Art Space. It will also mark the tenth year of its longest-standing related activity, 'Trolls in the Park'. At this important milestone, it is hoped that the new connections and initiatives of 2010 can be further enhanced while also consolidating the achievements over the last ten years.

Special Thank You

The developments achieved together with the artists over 2010 were accomplished with the understanding and direct or indirect support of a large number of overseas establishments, related organizations, and art professionals. We would like to give our heartfelt thanks to Australian Embassy, Finnish Institute in Japan, Italian Embassy, Laos Embassy, Luxembourg Embassy, Norwegian Embassy, Turkish Embassy, Karl og Dagmar Thyrrer rejsesfond, Ragvald og Ida Blix Fond, Kansas City Artists Coalition, Res Artis, Asian Cultural Council, Alberta Foundation for the Arts, Japan Foundation JENESYS, Japan-US Friendship Commission, International House of Japan, G.T.S. Sightseeing Art Project, Tokyo University of Arts, Chubu Central Art School, Toyo Institute of Art and Design, TERATOTERA, Trolls in the Park Organizing Committee, Zempukuji Metropolitan Park, Tokyo, Momoshi Elementary School, Shinmachi Shoeikai, Radio Pachi Pachi, Abiko International Open Air Art Exhibition, Za Koenji Theater

We would also like to give special thanks to the EU-Japan Fest Committee for giving their understanding and financial support for Youkobo's activities. Our activities are also kindly supported by many volunteers and artists. We would also like to thank you for their generous and continuous help.

Youkobo ART SPACE Annual Report 2010

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2. Introduction to Youkobo Art Space

Art is essential to society, providing people with time to reflect on and make new discoveries in their daily lives. Through autonomous activities, Youkobo Art Space links the regional and the international, traditional culture and contemporary art, and such elements that appear to be in different directions. We generate situations and exchanges with a natural openness to and recognition in such diversities. With the objective of supporting creative expressions of artists who earnestly work, we will continue carrying out our art programs as a member of local community.

Vision

We aim to demonstrate the importance and the vital role of art in society, by being a flexible and supportive space for artists

Core values

- Openness and exchange:

We believe that art should be open to everyone, and that it is an essential tool in fostering communication and understanding between people of different cultures.

- Flexibility:

We recognize that the nature of art and the work that artists do requires a flexible approach in the way that we maintain our activities.

- Autonomy:

While recognizing the importance of maintaining strong networks with the community and other institutions, we also believe in individuality and diversity both in the artists and our own institution.

Mission

- Supporting artists who have a genuine commitment to their practice. (AIR program and gallery program)
- Encouraging dialogue and mutual understanding between overseas, local artists and residents, and building a society more open to diversity. (Artist talk and events).
- Building strong networks with other AIR centers and art spaces in order to increase accessibility to and promote a greater appreciation of art. (J-AIR Network, Res Artis, etc.)
- Developing a range of art activities that play a normalizing role where art is recognized as essential to society.

Youkobo Art Space is run by the following people:

Directors; Hiroko Murata, Tatsuhiko Murata

Staff members; Mika Harigai, Yuhri Kabata, Yuhko Kobayashi, Jaime Humphreys, Keiko Suzuki, Utako Shindo

3. AIR Program

It is one of Youkobo's lasting objectives that artists joining the residence program be given as much flexibility as possible in relation to their art activities during their residency. The transient and ever-changing nature of contemporary art practice requires that art centers and residency programs also take an adaptable approach to the running of their programs in order to support the diverse needs of artists.

In 2010, a total of 16 overseas artists from 11 different countries participated in the AIR Program. This year, many of the residency artists came to Japan to conduct research or to prepare for the production of future work and exhibitions. As a result, there were fewer open studios than in previous years. Some of these artists participated in artist talk shows organized by Youkobo, while others focused on projects that had been developed with other institutions. While it is important to recognize the needs of the artists in residencies of this kind where there is no pressure to present results, it is also important for Youkobo to find a balance between the number of residency artists whose projects are purely research-based and those who intend to present work in some form either in an open studio or talk presentation. A program with equal numbers of both types of residency will allow more scope for interaction between residency artists and the Youkobo community.

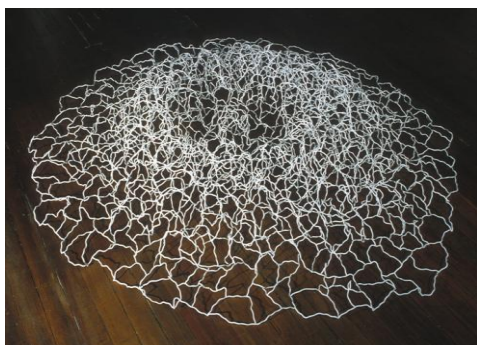
There were also a number of firsts for Youkobo this year. We welcomed Souliya Phoumivong as the first residency artist from Laos, and Valerio Berruti as the first artist from Italy to join the program. It was also the first time to host a winner of the Res Artis Award, Merve Ertufan from Turkey.

What follows is a short summary of residency artists' activities in 2010]

Michele Kong (USA)

2009.10.1 – 2010.4.20, Residence 1+Studio 1 (stayed at annex building from 2010.4.1 – 4.20)

Michele Kong conducted a residency at Youkobo with the support of the Japan-US Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and I-House of Japan. Her goal was to carry out research on traditional Japanese arts such as garden design and the tea ceremony in preparation for new work. Michele gave a talk presentation about the work she had made leading up to the residency and showed excerpts from two video works-in-progress which she made during her residency in response to collaborations and interviews with a number of Japanese creators and traditional arts practitioners.



Swell, 2004

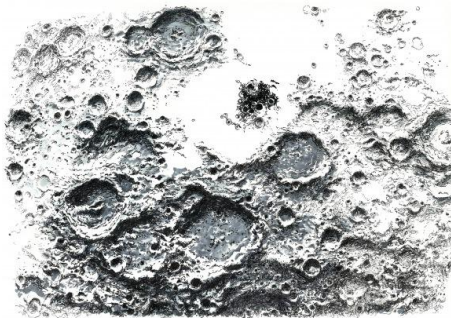


Keeping a Balance: The Legacy of Shigemori Mirei,
Excerpt from video made during residency

Tim McCormack (Canada)

2009.12.26—2010.3.31, Residence 3

Tim McCormack, who is teaching Animation at Sheridan College in Toronto, conducted 3 month research into the postmodern popular culture of *manga* and *anim*. Having a base in Youkobo, he made visits to Suginami Anime Museum and A small Animation School, investigating the role which Manga and Anime have played in reconfiguring pictorial concepts developed in Europe and America by 18th and 19th century Romantic painters.

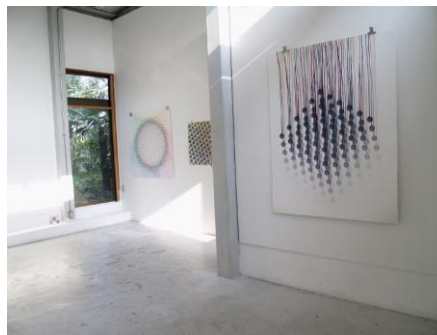
**Jaakko Mattila (Finland)**

2010.4.1—6.30, Residence 1+ Studio 1

Jaakko Mattila made use of his first residency abroad to create a new series of works exploring Japanese art materials such as hand-ground ink and traditional goathair brushes. Jaakko productively created a number of large-scale works on paper which were shown in an open studio in the final month, take part in an artist talk event held in his studio, and a panel discussion about AIR centers in the Arctic Circle held as part of the J-AIR Open Forum at the Norwegian Embassy



Jaakko Mattila working in his studio



Open Studio: *Made in Japan*, 6.10 – 6.27

**Souliya Phoumivong (Laos)**

JENESYS Program Participant

2010.3.23—5.31, Residence 2 + Studio 2

Souliya aimed for his two-month residency to learn about animation and create an experimental work with the medium which is currently not covered in the course curriculum at the National Institute of Fine Arts (NIFA) in Vientiane (Laos) where he lectures. Youkobo's supporting members: artists and a local art teacher Mr. Motonaga assisted him and enabled his access to the elementary school for his creating work. Souliya participated in a number of Youkobo related events such as a lecture at Tokyo University of the Arts, the 'Trolls in Spring' Exhibition, and Art Kids workshops. He also made many visits to galleries and museums in support of Youkobo.



Souliya Phoumivong
Open Studio: *Small World*, 5.26 – 5.29



Presentation at Tokyo University of the Arts, 6.20

Pat Warner (USA)

2010.4.1 – 4.30, Residence 3

Pat Warner conducted a one-month residency at Youkobo to research traditional Japanese painting which depicts imagery of the natural world, and to prepare preliminary sketches for a large-scale drawing installation to be made after her return to the US. Pat gave a presentation about her recent work and the research she carried out while in Japan.



Garden, Spring, 2008



Inside Outside, Outside Inside
2005



Garden, Spring 2008

Ara Kim (Korea)

2010.5.2 – 6.30, Residence 3

Ara Kim is a theater director based in Korea who has led a number of large-scale avant-garde theater productions. During her two-month residency, Ara directed 'Lear', a contemporary rendition of the Shakespeare play involving a number of Japanese and Korean actors which was presented at Za Koenji theater in Koenji, Tokyo. Her tight schedule did not allow time to hold her presentation at Youkobo, but she pro-actively participated in our opening events and artist talks. It is hoped that the connections made with Za Koenji theater will bear fruit in the years to come.



Namu – Commemoration of G20 Seoul Summit 2010

Merve Ertufan (Turkey)

2010.6.4—7.31, Residence 2 + Studio 2

Res Artis Award winner, Merve Ertufan, used her two-month residency to make work based around her interest in self-representation, cross-cultural transition and the ways in which we establish interpersonal relationships. Using her own experiences in Japan, she made a series of text-based work and presented it in an open studio. She also participated in two artist talks organized by Youkobo. (More information in page)



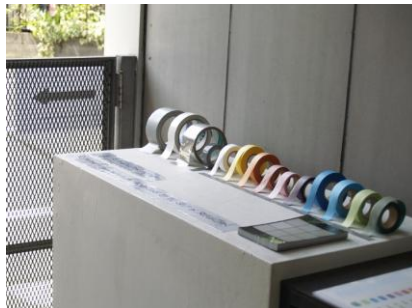
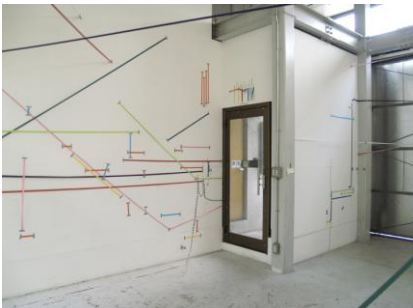
Merve Ertufan

Open Studio: Jet-lagged, 7.15 – 7.25

Dimple Rajyaguru (Australia)

2010.7.1—8.30, Residence 1 + Studio 1

During her two-month residency, Dimple Rajyaguru developed an installation where she intended to make a visual map of the journeys he made leading up to and during her stay. Dimple's work is an exploration of her encounters with new cultures and how they impact her own identity formation and idea of cultural belonging in a foreign country. Dimple presented her ideas and previous work in a presentation held with Susan White.



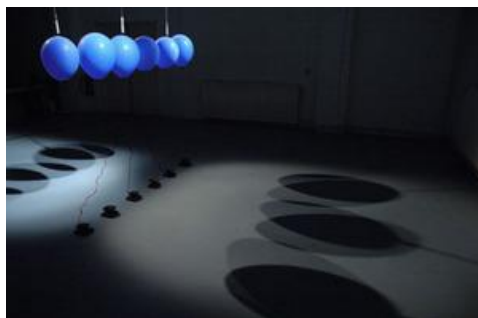
Dimple Rajyaguru

Open Studio: *The Reconstruction Project: Love in Tokyo*, 8.21 – 8.29

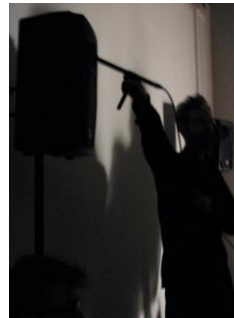
Martijn Tellinga (Holland)

2010.7.8 - 7.29, Residence 3

Martijn Tellinga is an artist working in the field of musical composition often using media to create acoustic installations. He developed an existing work which uses computers to aid composition of a spatial installation, and made a presentation of this at Superdeluxe in Roppongi and a number of other sites in Tokyo.



Ballonnenveld, Sound Installation, 2006

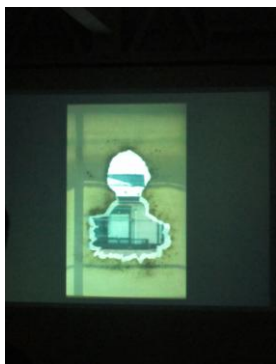


Microphone, performance 2009

Susan White (USA)

2010.8.1—8.31, Residence 3 + Studio 2

Susan White conducted research into the meaning of 'sanctuary' as an expression of architectural, aesthetic, and spiritual space. Using photographic and video documentation, she explored a number of public venues such as museums and temples in relation to this theme. She presented the findings of her research in a talk show held with Dimple Rajyaguru and also showed pyrographs or burn drawings on paper made during her residency.



Pyrograph from Open Studio



Mindgames, 2009

Valerio Berruti (Italy)

2010.9.1—10.31, Residence 1 + Studio 1

Valerio Berruti works in various fields from drawing and sculpture to video-animation, to create delicate portraits of children. For his new series, he created portraits of children from the neighboring elementary school through liaison between Youkobo and the art teacher Mr. Motonag. Some of his work produced during his residency will be exhibited in his solo show at the Pola Museum Annex in Tokyo in January 2011. He was granted an award by the ISPC in New York (the International Studio and Curatorial Program),



L'ottavo clima, (con)temporary Art, Milan 2008



The Girl and the Tree, Seoul 2008



La Figlia di Isacco, Venice Biennial 2009

Ismael de Anda (USA)

2010.9.1—11.5, Residence 2 + Studio 2

Prior to his Youkobo residency, Ismael de Anda conducted research into the similarities between the Japanese Obon Festival and the Mexican Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), a festival also celebrated in Los Angeles. During his residency, Ismael produced a colorful large-scale screen which integrated elements from Japan, Mexico, and his own background and participated in the GTS Sightseeing Art Project 2010, organized by Tokyo University of the Arts. Ismael also gave a presentation at Tokyo University of the Arts, organized through associate professor O JUN. He also held a printmaking and face painting workshop for visitors to his open studio at Youkobo relating to the themes of the Day of the Dead celebration.



Face painting workshop, 11.23



Open Studio at Youkobo, 11.23



Open Studio, Detail

Mikkel Niemann (Denmark)

2010.9.1—9.30, Residence 3

During his one-month residency, Mikkel Niemann sought a means of integrating his interest and twenty-year engagement in Karate into his artistic practice through the medium of performance. His creative work often takes the form of miniature or large-scale installations using the simple materials of paper, cardboard, and paint. They inform his interest and background in architecture. Mikkel gave a presentation of his work which he concluded by showing an unfinished video performance combining elements of both Karate and his artwork.



Mikkel Nieman *Byophobninger*, 2009

Benjamin Law (Australia)

2010.10.11—10.31, Residence 3

Benjamin Law was the first non-fiction creative writer to be welcomed to Youkobo. His short three-week stay was used to research young queer communities in Tokyo as part of extensive research he was carrying out in South East Asia for a collection of creative essays to be compiled as a book.



Benjamin Law

Hye-Seung Jung (Canada)

2010.11.15—12.31, Residence 2

Hye-Seung held a five-day open studio at the end of her six-week residency where she showed work made in response to the objects discovered and experiences gained on her frequent outings during the residency. Taking inspiration from Japanese traditions which involve making wishes, such as *daruma* dolls or 'ema', votive cards on which people traditionally write their hopes for the year, Hye-Seung created a variety of works where cards written by the visitors were used in the creation of sculptures and installations.



Open Studio, 12.22 – 12.26



Marte Kesseling (Germany)

2010.12.01—2011.1.31, Residence 1

During her two-month residency, Marte Kiessling created a new video work comprised with a series of drawing and CG, for which she incorporated her imagination and dream, together with the Tokyo's city scape and Youkobo's residency environment. At the end of her residency, she will hold an open studio and exhibition at Youkobo Studio1.



Stills from Metropolis, 2011

4. Exhibitions Program

The Youkobo exhibitions program aims to provide Japanese and Japan-resident artists with the opportunity to present work and try out new ideas at minimum costs, while also encouraging exchange with the overseas artists joining the AIR Program and people in the local community

In 2010, a range of exhibitions were held again with an emphasis on installations that utilize the unique gallery space. Of the artists who exhibited this year, the majority were returning artists who have shown on previous occasions. Ryozo Takashima, Naoko Tamaki, Takahiro Ishii, Chihiro Kabata, Yuichiro Kurono, and Mika Sato have all shown in previous years. Familiar with the particular qualities of the gallery and studio spaces, it has been interesting to see how these artists found new ways to use the space.

A number of first-time artists also brought fresh ideas and approaches, notably Michiko Tsuda who collaborates with French artist Caroline Bernard to produce work that explores recent technology such as mobile phone cameras, web cams, and GPS (Global Positioning System), and Kotaka Takuro whose work lies between the boundaries of video installation, documentary, and video diary.

2011 Exhibiting Artists

Ryozo Takashima

¥ 0 Project

10.03.06 - 03.09

As part of 'Thank You Art' Day held on March 9th (pronounced 'san-kyu' in Japanese), Ryozo Takashima organized his *¥ 0 Project*, inspired in part by the common sight in Japan of residents offering unwanted bric-a-brac in boxes outside their homes to whomever will take them. Taken to the extreme, Ryozo created a wall of boxes printed with the project title containing various household items which were offered to passers-by.

Takashima's *¥ 0 Project* won second prize in the eco art category of the Eco Japan Cup 2009.



Installation view

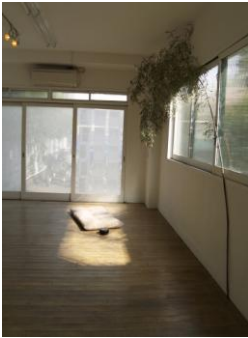
Utako Shindo

Tsumurumitsumeru_Behold

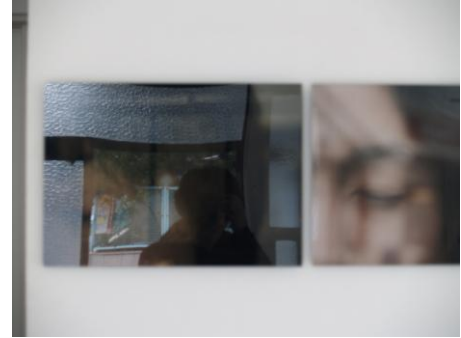
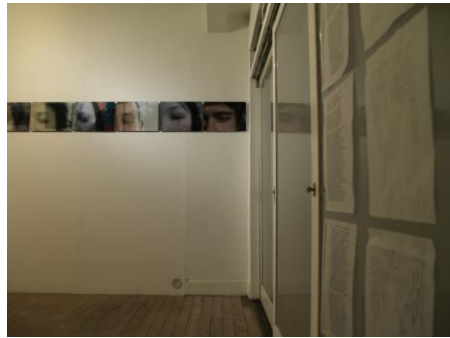
10.03.11 – 03.28

The exhibition *Tsumurumitsumeru-behold* by Utako Shindo was the result of six weeks of preparation spent in the gallery space where she made drawings and gathered textual and photographic recordings from conversations with a number of invited guests. This material was then used to produce a photographic series where images of places inspired by the conversations were digitally superimposed onto the faces of the interviewees who have

their eyes closed. In the exhibition, these photographs were displayed along with poetry and a subtle drawing of shadows cast through a bamboo branch of leaves placed in the gallery, inviting visitors to contemplate their own memories of places close to them.



Installation view



Naoko Tamaki

An Observer in the View

10.04.01 - 04.18

The element of restructure is important in Naoki's landscapes. Delicately handworked paper shapes flower-like in appearance are gradually restructured into an artificial world of her own. As the artist states, it is this process which gives her the freedom to restructure the changes taking place within herself. Naoko's third installation at Youkobo involved, for the first time, the use of sculptural elements where new shapes protruded from the wall.



Installation View

Takuro Kotaka

Traveling Africa with a POTATO

10.05.12 - 05.16

Takuro Kotaka's video installation was a documentary-style project which the artist began during his travels to Africa. After hearing the rumor that there are no potatoes in Egypt, he decided to take a potato bought in a market in South Africa on a journey to the northernmost region of Egypt. Together with his potato Kotaka visited 14 countries overland over a 7-month period, recording their epic adventure where they traversed the African continent. The potato also made its appearance in the exhibition, sitting on a plinth next to the video projection.



Installation View

Michiko Tsuda*Holes in Gaps – Cinematographic Weavings from the Migratory Project*

10.05.28 - 05.30

Using various filming resources such as cell phones, webcams and GPS, the Migratory project, a collaborative project between Caroline Bernard and Michiko Tsuda, proposes and experiments with new filming forms that replay, distort and weave space and time. The exhibition organized by Michiko Tsuda reflected on the past three years of collaboration, presenting documentation and some of the experiments that were carried out in the three-year period.



Hachioji: Hole in Gap, 2008

**Kenji Ide***"I think I want to live here"*

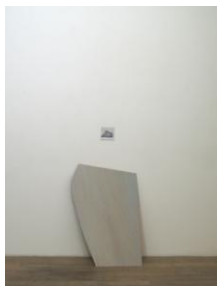
10.06.10 - 06.27

Kenji Ide often uses found objects and 'trash', as the artist names it, for the construction of his installations.

Taking inspiration from his situation of not having a house and staying with different friends at the time, for his exhibition he imagined living in the gallery and built a living space for himself complete with sleeping bag inside.

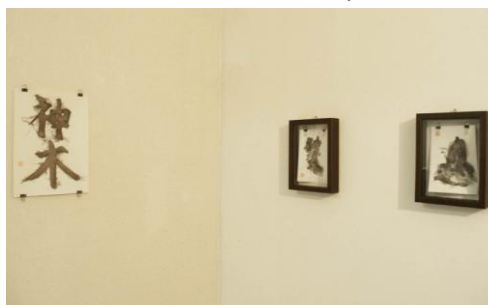


Kenji Ide Exhibition

**Takahiro Ishii***Sacred Tree*

10.07.08 - 07.25

In his third Youkobo exhibition, Takahiro Ishii took inspiration from an event in his childhood where a tree near the temple in his neighborhood was damaged by lightning. He had a strong affection for the tree, imbuing it with a spiritual presence, and it is the relation between the 'shrine' represented by the three hand-made boxes which contain items often given as offerings at shrines, and the 'tree' represented by the sculpture that interests him. He intended to make a visual connection between the world close at hand and the spiritual world within.



Installation View

Chihiro Kabata

Event Horizon - Innerscape

10.09.09 - 09.26

For her second solo exhibition at Youkobo, Chihiro Kabata presented three site-specific works which were drawn or glued directly onto the walls of the gallery. These works were an experiment in recording different stages in the process of painting; beginning, doubt, and affirmation. At first glance what is apparently a blank white space on the opposite wall reveals the trace of the artist's hand marks. Her continuing interest is in trying to give shape to images beyond her own conscious perception.



Installation View

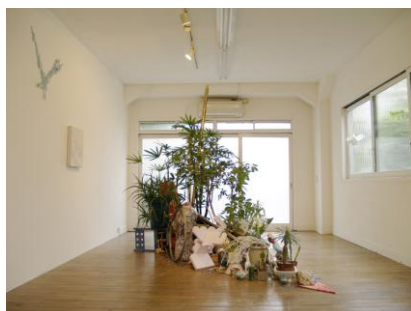


Aya Murakami

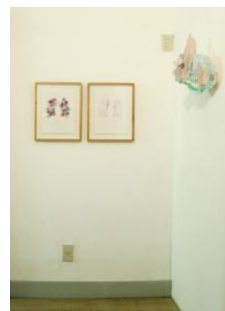
Fragmentary Landscape

10.10.16 – 10.29

In her first exhibition at Youkobo, Aya Murakami presented an installation and a number of delicate drawings and paper-based works. Interested in finding a total harmony between the elements within each work, she selects motifs from a plethora of personal and external sources which form an image or story completed by the viewer.



Installation View



Yuichiro Kurono

TSUKINISORA

10.11.03 - 11.14

For his third show at Youkobo, Yuichiro Kurono again combined plaster with natural plant fibers to create a site-specific installation. Exploring the quick-drying properties of plaster to create surfaces which preserve the visual appearance of the liquid state in which it is first applied, Kurono made a fragile wall-like structure which forced visitors to move carefully within the gallery space. The sculpture's fragility brought into question the permanence of its existence, and is a reference to the artist's own experience of suffering from a VSD from birth.



Installation View



Sayato Yamada

hole of troll

10.11.17 - 11.28

Sayato Yamada transforms the rudimentary materials of cardboard sheeting and glue into large weighty sculptures and small delicately-shaped objects. For his exhibition at Youkobo, he displayed a number of works made in response to the theme of the 'Trolls in the Park' exhibition which took place at the same time.



Installation View



Mika Sato

10.12.01 - 12.12

Mika Sato used dried pressed flowers and the seed pods of balloon vines in large quantity in an installation questioning the boundary between opposing states of living and dying, and past and present. This was Mika Sato's second exhibition at Youkobo, taking a very different approach to her kinetic installation last year but continuing to explore the relationship between conscious action and emotion.



Installation View

Jyunichi Kanaboko

10.12.15 – 12.26

Taking inspiration from childhood memories of playing with marbles and the realization when his grandmother passed away that the number of times a human heart beats, no matter how large, has a limit, Jyunichi Kanaboko created an interactive installation in which the movement of multi-colored marbles in a kaleidoscopic drum projected onto the gallery ceiling corresponded to the viewer's heartbeat.



Installation View

5. Studio Program

Utilizing the environment of the Youkobo studio and maintaining a flexible approach to its use, from 2010 we have made the studios available for use by artists resident in Japan for one-month periods in periods when it is not in use for the AIR Program and gallery program.

Depending on the Youkobo schedule, there are cases when the period has been extended.

O JUN

2010.2.1 - 3.20

Making the most of studio 2 with its natural light and generous size, Japanese artist O JUN used the time to complete a series of oil paintings to be shown at Mizuma Art Gallery, Tokyo.

Work in Progress in Studio 2



Utako Shindo

2010.2.1 - 3.31

Using the gallery space for a two-month period, Japanese artist Utako Shindo created a series of site specific works in an installation that was later shown in an exhibition at the end of March.

Drawing works in progress
at Youkobo gallery space



6. Talk Events

Youkobo continued its objective of holding regular artist talks throughout the year in order to facilitate communication and exchange between domestic and overseas artists and the wider community. There were a number of developments this year, notably a presentation given by Youkobo residency artist Souliya Phoumivong and Ismael de Anda for the under and post graduate students of Painting department, Tokyo University of the Arts, achieved with the cooperation of artist and lecturer, O JUN. There was also a talk show given by Chihiro Kabata held in front of her work in which Yoshimi Chinzei, curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, investigated the artist's intentions for the work on display.

Another talk show of note was that given by Michiko Tsuda and French artist, Caroline Bernard. The artists have worked together on many projects over the last few years, and some of the work shown by Michiko at Youkobo was produced in one of these projects. Caroline joined the talk via skype.



Talk by Jaakko Mattila, Merve Ertufan,
And Kenji Ide, 05.10



Talk by Dimple Rajyaguru and Susan White, 08.28



Talk by Ismael de Anda, Tokyo University of the Arts, 10.22



Talk by Chihiro Kabata with special guest Yoshimi Chinzei,
(curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo) 9.24

List of Artist Talk Events in 2010

Pat Warner and Michele Kong

Studio 2, 2010.01.15

Utako Shindo

Gallery, 2010.03.13

Jaakko Mattila, Merve Ertufan and Kenji Ide

Studio 1, 2010.05.10

Souliya Phoumivong, Tatsuhiko and Hiroko Murata (Youkobo co-directors)

Tokyo University of the Arts

2010.05.28

Michiko Tsuda and Caroline Bernard

Gallery, 2010.05.29

Takahiro Ishii and Merve Ertufan

Studio 2, 2010.07.24

Dimple Rajyagaru and Susan White

Studio 1, 2010.08.28

Chihiro Kabata and Mikkel Niemann

Gallery and studio 1, 2010.09.24

Ismael de Anda

Sumida Asahi Hall, 2010,10.21

Ismael de Anda, Tatushiko and Hiroko Murata (Youkobo co-directors), Ritsu Yoshio (ACC)

Tokyo University of the Arts, 2010.10.22

‘Yonshiki’ Talk Event

O JUN, Keishin Nakaseko, Hiroki Tsutusi, Emi Otaguro, Hiromi Iuchi

Studio 1, 11.13

7. Global Internship Program

The Global Internship Program was established in 2006 with the aim of giving gifted young curators and art managers a chance for hands-on experience in art management in Tokyo, while also assisting in the development of Youkobo into an interactive center for experimentation in Tokyo both for overseas and domestic artists.

No participants were accepted for the Global Internship Program in 2010 in order to give time to re-consider the aims and management of the program. Utako Shindo, a Japanese artist who has been based in Melbourne, Australia for the past seven years will be joining the program in 2011.

8. Network Development

JENESYS Program

An important development for Youkobo this year was the start of a collaboration with the Japan Foundation. The JENESYS Program, 'The Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths' is an invitation program for young artists and creators from Asia. Youkobo became one of a number of host institutions for the program, inviting Souliya Phoumivong, a young artist and lecturer at the National Institute of Fine Arts (NIFA) in Vientiane, Laos, to undertake a two-month residency.

There were only positive results from this collaboration. Through Youkobo's support, Souliya was able to achieve his goals, while thanks to Souliya a number of new alliances and networks were created. It is the hope of both Youkobo and Souliya that there will be further opportunities to work together in the future. Youkobo will be hosting another JENESYS participant in 2011.



Souliya Phoumivong, JENESYS Program

Trolls in Spring workshop, 04.22



Presentation at Tokyo University of the Arts

6.20

Res Artis Award

In early September of 2009, Youkobo joined the 14th Biennial of Young Artists from Europe and the Mediterranean held in Skopje as one of 9 artist-in-residence centers hosting the Res Artis Award. In collaboration with BJCEM, Res Artis, an international network of artist residencies, offered 9 fully funded residencies as an award to artists selected from the Biennial by the host institutions. The artist selected by Youkobo, Merve Ertufan

from Istanbul, Turkey, joined the residency program for two months in June and July 2010.

Youkobo's goal as host was to give Merve an experience that would contribute to her development as a professional artist. In what was inevitably a very short period in which to adjust to a new environment, make a new body of work, and present it in an open studio Merve was, with Youkobo's assistance, able to build connections with other resident and exhibiting artists and hold an open studio of new work made during her residence. Notably, the connection made with Michiko Tsuda was particularly fruitful, both artists deciding to collaborate in a new project after the residency.

Feedback from Merve expressed a need to provide a longer residency period for future Res Artis Award winners in order for them to benefit fully from the time given to produce work in response to their experiences. Another possible development for the Award discussed at the Res Artis GM would be an exhibition for the Res Artis award winners so that they can present the results of their residencies to a greater audience.



Res Artis Award Ceremony, Skopje Biennial 2009



Merve Ertufan presentation, studio 1, 07.24

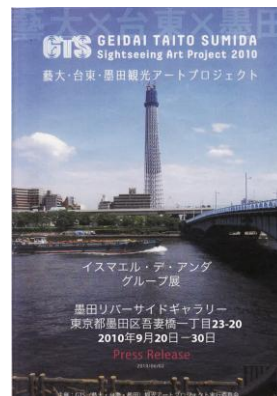
GTS Sightseeing Art Project 2010

The Geidai Taito Sumida (GTS) Sightseeing Art Project was launched by Tokyo University of the Arts with the support of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. Invited by Toyoko Hoshina, professor at Tokyo University and director of the international arts project of GTS, Youkobo was able to coordinate the participation of residency artist, Ismael de Anda.

As a three-year project, Youkobo intends to create further opportunities for Youkobo artists to collaborate in the GTS project in future years and build stronger ties with the institutions involved.



Ismael de Anda with his work in the GTS exhibition, 10.20 - 30



J-AIR Forum

10.06.11

The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Tokyo

The J-AIR Forum is an annual meeting of J-AIR Network members, AIR Program directors and art administrators, and Japanese artists who are earnestly seeking information about creative spaces in other parts of the world. The third open forum, co-organized by the Embassy of Finland, the Finnish Institute, and the Royal Norwegian Embassy, and with the cooperation of the Japan Foundation, focused on countries within the Arctic Circle to introduce a range of Artist Residencies active in that area.

This year's forum involved presentations by Henna Harri, director of Helsinki International AIR Program, about AIRs in Finland, and a presentation by artist Marita Solberg about her experiences on a residency at Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park. The forum was brought to a conclusion with a panel discussion involving the presenters, Finnish Institute representative Aarne Toivonen, and Youkobo residency artist Jaakko Mattila who was able to contribute his thoughts on his residency experience at Youkobo.

The debate generated during the panel discussion about the benefits of residency programs to artists and communities and how residency spaces might move forward in the future reflected a strong interest from the audience. The forum also continued its strong role of providing a platform for network-building to the artists and art administrators who attended. A database of AIR programs and centers in Norway, Finland, and Sweden created by Youkobo was also made accessible to participants and has now been uploaded to the J-AIR Forum website.



<http://www.endeavor.or.jp>

J-AIR Open Forum, 06.11

Res Artis General Meeting 2010

The general meeting of Res Artis, a worldwide network of artist residencies, was held over a five-day period from October 6 (Wed) to October 10 (Sun) in Montreal, Canada. Taking the theme 'The Americas: Independent Artistic Practices in the Era of Globalization', the diverse activities of AIR centers with a focus on Latin America and the American continent became the hot topic of discussion. Of the 20 participating countries and over 180 participants, the majority came from North America while participants from Western Europe and Asia (Japan and Korea only) also took part. The next general meeting is scheduled to be held in Japan in 2012, hosted by Tokyo Wonder Site. While also giving an opportunity to find out about AIR-related activities in Canada, it was also a chance to consolidate the role of Res Artis as a worldwide network, and increase exchange between those involved or interested in AIR centers.

Presentation at the Agency for Cultural Affairs:

Informal meeting to discuss Artist in Residence Centers

In the afternoon of October 26 (Tue), a meeting of domestic Artist in Residence Center managers and directors was held by the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Representatives from a total of 20 institutions were joined by the commissioner of the Cultural Affairs Agency in addition to media representatives in a meeting to exchange

opinions. As part of a plan for the revival of a healthy Japan through Art and Culture, the will of Mr. Kondo, the new commissioner of Cultural Affairs appointed in July, was reflected in his introduction of a new internationally-focused initiative to promote Art and Culture which will provide measures to support domestic AIR centers. While providing a chance to introduce the activities of local government-led centers, it was an invaluable opportunity for Youkobo to introduce some of its programs and to inform the participants about the challenges faced by independent centers in their efforts to continue their activities.

Noge Hana Hana Symposium

Yokohama, 2010.6.20

Youkobo participated in a symposium titled 'Art and Urban Development: Kamiyama×Noge', organized by Noge Hana Hana, a community-based art project. The panelists discussed the influence of Artist Residencies and urban development projects through the introduction of activities based in Kamiyama City and Yokohama City, and the suitability of the artists among other issues.

9. Projects organized by Youkobo

Trolls in the Park

2010.11.03 – 11.23

[Outline]

Trolls in the Park is an open-air art exhibition which takes place in Metropolitan Zempukuji Park. Started in 2002 with the aim of presenting contemporary art to a wide audience, the activities developed by the participating artists continue to enliven the community.

It was decided then to take a new approach to the 2010 exhibition, focusing on performance-based events taking place on a purpose-built stage developed by Netabarox, a three-member unit of artists who develop their own projects while working as producers of sets for TV shows. Performances in the park were coordinated by the local group Radio pachipachi, while a number of related events such as 'Yonshiki', a series of happenings and performances by four artists organized by O JUN, and 'Where sounds reside', a series of improvisational concerts and events organized by Arai Yoko, took place at Youkobo.

Site-specific artwork was limited this year to the orienteering-style work 'Your Fantasy' by artist and art director Keishin Nakaseko. Taking Alice in Wonderland as his theme, Nakaseko set some of the characters from the story within the park as blue silhouettes, and encouraged visitors to contemplate the riddles and telling words written on the surfaces.

*The Art in Parks project, which was initiated as part of Trolls in the Park 2009. Organized in collaboration with Wimbledon College of Art, the second stage of the project was scheduled to take place in 2010 in Cannizaro Park in the UK. However, it has now been postponed until 2012 due to financial setbacks with the second stage of the Art in Parks project

Trolls in Spring

2010.04.30 –05.06

The goal of the 'Trolls in Spring Exhibition' is to give children the chance to work closely with an overseas artist and to provide an opportunity to experience making art in ways different from the classes in school.

The 2010 'Trolls in Spring Exhibition' was a collaboration between Momoshi Elementary School and Youkobo staff member and artist Jaime Humphreys. For this year's exhibition, the 4th grade children were challenged to create new species of plants, insects and animals, painting them onto veneer board and then displaying them in the park in locations of their choosing for the six-day exhibition period.

Building on the success of last year's exhibition, the children's work had a strong presence in the park which attracted lots of attention and positive comments from the local community. Perhaps more importantly, the exhibition gives the children the chance to explore and re-invent their surroundings in having the freedom to display their work in a public space.



Trolls Symposium – ‘Connecting Green and Urban Space – The Future of Trolls in the Park’

Continuing the success of the first Trolls symposium held at Tokyo University of Agriculture held last year, this year's symposium welcomed a variety of speakers who made up the eight panelists. Six key organizers, Tatsuhiko Murata (Youkobo co-director, Trolls co-director), O JUN (painter, curator of YONSHIKI), Machiko Watanabe (Radio pachipachi, organizer of a number of performances and open cafe), Akio Motonaga (art teacher of Momoi No.4 Elementary School), Keishin Nakaseko (art director, producer of 'Your Fantasy'), and Keiko Torigoe (soundscape researcher, organizer of the sound walk) were joined by two special guests, Nozomu Ogawa (TERATOTERA director) and Tomohiro Nishimura (art critic) to consider this year's exhibition and how it might be developed in future events.

With a focus on performances that encouraged greater interaction between performers and residents, the Trolls event was again well received with lots of visitors turning out to see the events held at weekends. However, it was clear that the program of performances in itself was not enough to fill the three weeks of the Trolls event, and, as discussed in the Trolls symposium, it is a definite goal for the tenth Trolls event in 2011 to organize both performances and an art exhibition.

Art Kids

Art Kids is an 'art workshop' taking place once a month at the neighboring Momoi No.4 Elementary School. Reaching its tenth year in 2010, a number of artists and creators have taught the children over the years, giving the children a chance to experience and communicate with the world through art. The workshops have taken many themes and forms over the years, utilizing a wide range of media from music and performance, to calligraphy and handicrafts. UK artist Jaime Humphreys lead the workshops this year, focusing on a series of experimental drawing and sculpture workshops where the kids tried out new materials and techniques following a variety of themes.



'Tunnel' Workshop, 06.12



'Join the Dots' Workshop, 07.1



'Cave' Workshop, 10.09

2010 Overview

Month	AIR•Studio Program			Gallery/Exhibitions	Talks	Networks	Trolls Events	Art Kids	Lecture						
	AIR 1	AIR 2	AIR 3												
1	Michele Kong (USA) 10.1.2009 – 3.31.2010	Construction work carried out	Tim McCormack (Canada) 12.26.09 – 3.31		1.15			1.16							
		2		O JUN (Japan) (Studio Program) 2.1 – 3.20	Utako Shindo (Studio Program) 2.1 – 3.10					2.12					
										3	Ryozo Takashima 3.6 – 3.9	3.13	thank you art 3.9	3.12	
4		Souliya Phoumivong (Laos) 3.23 – 5.31		Pat Warner (USA) 4.1 – 4.31	Utako Shindo 3.11 – 3.28			JENESYS Program start 3.23							
									5	Jaakko Mattilla (Finland) 4.1 – 6.30	Ara Kim (Korea) 5.2 – 6.30	Takurou Kotaka 5.12 – 5.16	5.1	4.25	
														Trolls in Spring Exhibition 4.30 – 5.6	5.8
6	Merve Ertufan (Turkey) 6.4 – 7.31	Kenji Ide 6.10 – 6.27	5.29	5.3											
				J-AIR Forum 6.11	6.12										
				7	Dimple Rajyaguru (Australia) 7.1 – 8.31	Martijn Tellinga (Holland) 7.4 – 7.29	Takahiro Ishii 7.8 – 7.25	7.24	6.27	7.1					
8	Susan White (USA) 8.1 – 8.31	Susan White (USA) 8.1 – 8.31	8.28						7.25						
									8.29						
				9	Valerio Berruti (Italy) 9.1 – 10.31	Ismael de Anda (USA) 9.1 – 11.5	Mikkel Niemann (Denmark) 9.1 – 9.30	Chihiro Kabata 9.9 – 9.26	9.24	9.11					
										9.26					
10	Benjamin Law (Australia) 10.11 – 10.31	Aya Murakami 10.16 – 10.29	10.22							Res Artis G M (Canada) 10.6 – 10.10	10.9	Geidai 10.22			
										GTS Exhibition 10.20 – 10.30	10.31				
				11	Trolls: Yonshiki	Trolls: Where Sounds Reside	Trolls: Yonshiki	Yuichiro Kurono 11.3 – 11.14	11.13	Trolls in the Park Exhibition 11.3 – 11.23	11.13	Toyo Bijutsu 11.11			
											Sayato Yamada 11.17 – 11.28				
12	Marte Kiessling (Germany) 12.2 – 2.1	Hye-Seung Jung (Canada) 11.15 – 12.31	Hye-Seung Jung (Canada) 11.15 – 12.31								Mika Sato 12.1 – 12.12		12.11		
													Junichi Kanebako 12.15 – 12.26		