



Youkobo PLUS

“Returning from the Mountains of India”

3rd July(Wed)-14th July (Sun) 2013



Youkobo Art Space is pleased to announce the launch of a new support program for individual artists and artist groups in the presentation of new and experimental work in the form of “Youkobo PLUS” providing a platform for the promotion of the challenging new expressions of artists who are determined to explore through art the very grounds of our society, pointing towards the importance of art engagement beyond the art market. In the very first exhibition of this program Youkobo is excited to present the work of art group Prominority (headed by Sohei Iwata), a group which continues to develop a sustainable art project with the Santal people of East India, which includes the construction of various necessary resources such as water tower and library for a rural village.

The Santal people incorporated art, music and creative expression into their everyday lives without question, and living amongst them brings one, according to Iwata, to question the very purpose by which an artist makes art work. While grappling with this dilemma Iwata offers up one solution or approach in connecting the community of these ethnic minority with contemporary art. In this exhibition Prominority presents the outputs of this undertaking through a series of maquettes (produced by Iwata) and a documentary video (produced by Hiroyuki Oki).



Exhibition Details

Exhibition Title : Youkobo PLUS "Returning from the Mountains of India"

Dates : 3rd July(Wed) – 14th July(Sun) 2013

Opening Hours : 12:00-19:00 (Until 17:00 on the final day)

Closed : Mondays and Tuesdays

Venue : Youkobo Art Space

Contact : 〒167-0041 Suginamiku Zempukuji 3-2-10

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Program : YOUKOBO Plus

Organizer : Youkobo Art Space

Co-organizer : Prominority

Support : Asahi Art Festival 2013

Access

JR Chuo Line Nishiogikubo Sta. 15mins walk or Take no.2 buses at North Exit, get off at Zempukuji stop.

JR Chuo Line or Tokyo Metro Ogikubo Sta. Take no. 30 buses at North Exit, get off at Zempukuji stop.

Oume Kaido Ave, South of Zempukuji 3-chome Junction, North of Momoshi Elementary School

[Exhibition Contents]

The exhibition will include documentation of the Masters of Soil ~Prominority Residence, as well as plans for the upcoming large scale installations to be showcased at Roppongi Crossing (Mori Arts Museum) and Setouchi.

[Group Profile Vol. 1]

Prominority

2013.1.15~2013.4.06 Masters of Soil ~Prominority Residence~

7 artists including Sohei Iwata and Hiroyuki Oki undertook a residence living alongside the villagers of the community of Sehalai.

Shohei Iwata : Created a Prominority kiosk from earth

Hiroyuki Oki : Developed a film based on the community of Santal people

Kaori Uematsu : Painted murals on the buildings of the village using natural pigments

Kenji Nakase : Created an installation of 10 large earth spheres set around the village

Nobuo Mitsunashi : Renovated a disused building in the village and turned it into a drinking place

Tomoko Momiyama : Researched the music of the Santal people and developed her own composition and performance

mahoutsukaiInc.: In collaboration with Prominority developed a RPG for the virtual experience of the village.

2013 OCT 'Masters of Soil', Sehalai & Japan Foundation, New Delhi.

2012 OCT 'Trans Arts Tokyo', Tokyo Denki University.

2011.11 「8 Japanese Artists – Mutual Sympathy in the Orient」

2010.11 How to start your art project in public space

2008-2012 'Apam Napat'

2007.08 SICE2007-"The Art Bar." Museum of Contemporary Art in Sarajevo

2006 SICE2006-Transition Compound- (Tokyo, Berlin, Sarajevo)

2005.08 SICE2005- "Re-Cultivation."-

2004.08 SICE2004-"The Sarajevo Living Room" -

Publications

2012 Tokyo/JAP, 「Building A Water Tower in Santal」 by [BIOCITY](#)

2011 Tokyo/JAP, 「Fascinated by primitive」 Japan Housing Authority Paper Association 『Housing』

2005 Tokyo/JAP, '[Social Arts](#)' Practica published by Film Arts.



Sohei Iwata (Born in 1979, Shiga, Japan)

2006-2008: Master Course of Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan:
MFA Inter-media arts

2010-2012: Visiting Fellow, Visva-Bharati, India

2011- Head of Prominority

Exhibition

2012 OCT 'Trans Arts Tokyo', Tokyo Denki University.

2011 OCT '8 Japanese Contemporary Artists', 'SSVAD' & 'Japan Foundation, New Delhi' , India.

2011 MAR 'Apam Napat' "Social Dive" '3331 Art Chiyoda' ,Tokyo

2010 MAR 'Field Work in Delhi', "In Context: public.art.ecology."

Khoj International Artist' Association, New Delhi

Grant

2011-2012 Subsidy, Pola Art Foundation

2010-2011 Subsidy, Yoshino Gypsum Art Foundation

2008-2010 Subsidy, Artist sent overseas by the Japanese Government



Hiroyuki Oki

Born in Tokyo in 1964. Currently resides in Kochi. Graduated from the Department of Architecture, University of Tokyo. Beginning film production in his school days he has since built up an impressive collection of over 100 works, including those screened at various film festivals including Berlin international Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, International Film Festival Rotterdam and Kerala International Film Festival. He has also presented his work in the form of installations and drawings in exhibitions such as How Latitude Become Forms (Walker Art Center), Roppongi Crossing (Mori Art Museum, 2004) and The Door into Summer: The Age of Micropop (Contemporary Art Center, Art Tower Mito, 2007). He is also engaged in diverse practices such as DJing and performance, writing, art event production and annual participation in Kochi Yosakoi Festival, as leader of Team M・I.