

Youkobo Art Space Annual Report 2019



youkoboART SPACE



The Artist in Residence Program of Youkobo Art Space was supported
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Youkobo Residence Program 30th anniversary 2019

Tatsuhiko Murata

30 years ago, in 1989, a couple of architect and sculptor from Istanbul, Turkey came to Japan with an invitation from the Matsumae Foundation to research residency in Japan for about six months.

The relationship between them was based on a local person who met in 1966, when I stayed in their country for about six months. In that time I was a student of engineering and stayed in their for half a year, and my main purpose was an internship in a laboratory at a new factory in the country for three months in summer. (The story of this is on another occasion)

We accept their residency somehow with the studio of Hiroko as my partner sculptor and our own living space, but by chance we were able to find an unoccupied house in Fujino-machi, Kanagawa Prefecture that could concentrate on appropriate creation and research. It began when it was rented as a branch of Youkobo. At that time, the Austrian government's guest house for the artists already existed in Fujino-machi, and the exchange there began naturally. And we came to know "the existence of AIR in the world".

Youkobo, a base for art activities in Suginami, Tokyo, has been involved in its own creative activities as well as interacting with creative colleagues, providing opportunities and places to stay.

This beginning continued and evolved in various forms afterwards, and the exchange with the community deepened and the roots grew firmly.

Mainly accepting foreign artists who wish to stay and work for creating as artist at our spaces in Youkobo, and also actively sending and introducing Japanese artists to overseas residences that can be connected to Youkobo in parallel, have been doing interactive AIR activities. It has been the last 30 years.

To date, the end of 2019, 343 artists from 50 countries have stayed and gained new experience through their residency activities, and more than 250 young artists from Japan and abroad have been holding exhibitions.

Looking back over 30 years, I believe that being able to live without any major accidents in any case is a unique and valuable achievement. It is the beginning of an important year to think about what Youkobo's stable and sustainable activities will be with those who have been involved in the past.

The Youkobo Returnee Residence Program, YRP, which began last year, is a re-invitation program with a limited budget, and it has been impressive, such as the first reunion in 10 years.

In addition to discussions within a narrow AIR management organization, such as the further spread of AIR and the verbalization and quantification of AIR evaluation scales, respect for artists who talk about things in the world through their own expressiveness. It was the year of the beginning of efforts to further shape.

Thanks for seeing the footprint of 2019 activities. I would like to aim for a unique AIR that also creates a place where you can listen to your thoughts.

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 art activities, Youkobo Art Space aims to become a platform where the regional and the international, traditional culture and contemporary art diverge to inspire new expressive forms. Youkobo enables situations and exchanges that have a natural openness to and recognition of diversity engendered by such activities. With the objective of supporting the creative expressions of artists who are committed to their practice, Youkobo continues to develop its international art programs as a member of a local community.

Vision

We aim to demonstrate the importance and vital role art plays in society by offering 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 contemporary art and the work that artists do requires a flexible approach in the way that we maintain our programs.

- Autonomy:

While recognizing the importance of maintaining strong networks with the community and other institutions, we also believe in individuality and diversity in the activities of artists and those of 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 international and local artists and residents, and building a society more open to diversity. (Artist talks 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.

Book Ends (a story)

Clinton King

(Youkobo Residency Artist 2019)

It was the summer of 2006 when I first arrived at the Youkobo Art Space. This also marked the beginning of what would be my first time living in Japan for an extended period of time—two years in all—that was profoundly transformative for me.

My arrival in Japan was accompanied by an identity crisis: After several months of living in Japan, the dust had settled, and the initial excitement of being immersed in a new culture gave way to a deeper sense of unease. In this new context, I felt the inadequacy and limits of what had previously been comfortable, perhaps inherited, customs and habits. When your friends don't share your humor, when your clothes don't quite work, when your language fails you, when your references fall flat, when no one knows your favorite music or movies, you discover

how much of your identity is dictated by external, context-specific signifiers. I felt raw. The person I realized I wasn't fell away on that first trip. And I had to rediscover my true self in Japan.

Something changed in me during my first visit to Youkobo, which I will always remember as the stomping grounds of my first transition to adulthood. The time I spent there forced a dramatic evolution in how I conceived of myself and my relationship to the world, and, by extension, my artistic practice.

For these reasons, returning to Youkobo, after more than a decade away, meant far more to me than simply attending an artists' residency. For me, Youkobo offered much more than the time and space to work in Japan. It offered an opportunity to consider all that had happened in the intervening twelve years I had spent, since leaving Youkobo, as an artist in New York. As artists build their careers, there is a push to always be moving forward and trying something new—to show in a new gallery, to partner with a new curator, to attend a new, different residency program. But there is a genius in Youkobo's adherence to hosting returning artists. As I found, it is, ironically, in returning someplace one has been before that one can fully grasp how much has changed, and be honest about how one has evolved.

This pilgrimage back to Youkobo, after a decade of working in New York, helped bring to the fore phenomena that I find difficult to recognize in my own environment. It provided, as on my first visit, a perspective that I am sure I could only have gained at Youkobo, which represents a formative time in my life.

Being at Youkobo had both immediate and longer-term influences on my work. As on my first visit, I went through a period of shedding preconceived ideas of who I was and what my practice consisted of. Though I received an MFA in sculpture, I have, in recent years, turned away from sculpture to work primarily in painting. Yet being back at Youkobo gave me the freedom, and urge, to revive my sculpture practice. I made several mobiles while I was there, each of which drew from uniquely Japanese forms: One, for example, incorporated a crow feather from a Shinto shrine, a black seed pod from a local plant, and black rubber forms from Tokyu Hands. Another consisted in part of a miniature temple bell, an air plant, an imitation persimmon, an Ultraman toy, several Japanese dolls, and a Haniwa figurine.

Being forced to work in such a tight period of time made me see the limitations and strengths of my practice. My painting involves extremely time-intensive, time-oriented work, and, under the time constraints of Youkobo, I was forced to sit back and let my intuition take control. It made me discover how much room there is for intuition in my practice, and that I want to be freer in dispensing with preconceived ideas of what can and can't be with my work, while letting the practice take over.

While at Youkobo, the artist Julie Curtiss and I listened to a book on tape in our studio: Haruki Murakami's *Kafka on the Shore*. In Murakami's novel, there is a supernatural stone that the main character turns over to enter a parallel world—the stone serves to open and close the way to this alternate realm. Reflecting on Murakami's work and my time at the residency, I saw that Youkobo had been, for me, a bookend: It represented the opening and closing of the artistic practice that has occupied me for the last 12 years in New York. I realized that it was, in some respects, time for a closing, and a time for a new opening. As I had been on my last visit to Youkobo, I was ready to start fresh with a new approach to my work, and a new body of work.



Circling back

Julie Curtiss

(Youkobo Residency Artist 2019)

This past fall, I had the privilege of returning to Youkobo Art Space as part of their Returnee Residency Program. I had previously been in residency at Youkobo more than ten years prior, in 2008, and both tenures proved to be formative artistic experiences, each in their own way.

When I first arrived as a Youkobo resident ten years ago, I was just beginning my career as an artist and, fresh from school, feeling somewhat isolated as I sought to connect with an artistic community with which I could exchange knowledge and ideas. Youkobo not only linked me with an international brain trust of artists and provided me with a platform that enabled me to push myself and my practice, but, most importantly, showed me what a supportive, encouraging, and compassionate art community looks like.

My initial time at Youkobo helped lay the foundation for the work I am doing now. During that visit, I was drawn to the elaborate beauty regimens that are marketed to Japanese women and illustrated in almost perturbing detail in instructional pamphlets, which I collected along with local fashion magazines and adapted into drawings using Sumi ink. This body of work, presented in a two-person show with Clinton King titled “Split Ends,” addressed themes of artifice and nature, beauty and the uncanny, cultural norms and the body—themes that continue to inform my practice.

On my most recent visit to Youkobo, I returned eager to pursue a new body of work focused on a phenomenon, unique to Japan, that has long fascinated me: food sampuru, the hyper-realistic, strangely-beautiful plastic food samples that restaurants use to entice visitors. Food has become a recurring theme in my work, often as a way to explore the porousness between the seductive and the repulsive, as well as to investigate the surrealist elements of modern life, in which our corporeal appetites are titillated with the extravagant, abnormal, and bizarre. Thanks to my residency, I was able to create an entirely new series of sculptures, using materials I would not otherwise have had access to, and surrounded by sources of inspiration that deeply enriched the work. I also used the residency as an opportunity to return to painting in black and white—this time in gouache—and to lay the foundation for future work. During my time in Japan, I traveled to see Shinto shrines, ukiyo-e prints, Buddhist temples, and other forms of traditional Japanese art that have left me invigorated with new directions, ideas, and questions I am keen to tackle in my practice. For example, seeing the iconography, use of space, and painting techniques used in painted panels at temples and shrines has inspired me to embark on a new series of prints that will draw heavily from this firsthand experience.

The unique community fostered at the Youkobo Art Space continues to be a defining part of the residency, and something for which I am deeply grateful. Both during the organized talk event in which I participated and via more informal channels, I was able to engage in rich dialogue with the fellow residents, which I believe left each of us with a more nuanced and more global perspective on the art world. From hearing from fellow resident Yang Chen about the differences between Japanese museums compared and their overseas counterparts, to sharing my perspective as a New York resident on the relationship between politics and art, these conversations offered important opportunities for cross-cultural exchange. I was gratified to share my work with the local community through Youkobo’s “Trolls in the Park” festival and my two-person exhibition, “Tandem,” with Clinton King. In both instances, I was delighted to see how my sampuru-inspired sculptures provoked people to think differently about a familiar phenomenon. It was clear from viewers’ reactions that the series had shifted their perception of these sampuru—highlighting, perhaps, the artistry in these everyday objects, while also probing the uncanniness of objects that both repel and attract. I welcomed the conversations I was able to have about craft and process—discussions that are different from those I’ve had with viewers of the work in other contexts.







As Youkobo Art Space celebrates its third decade of existence, and more than a decade of shaping me personally, I can’t help but look back with deep gratitude on an organization that has provided me with the space, community, and resources to travel beyond the familiar and tap into invaluable wellsprings of inspiration. Though the residency has come to an end, Youkobo’s influence on my practice will continue for many years to come.















1 Overview of Activities







1-1 AIR Program

2018.12.01 - 2019.01.31	Antti Nyyssölä	C M
2018.12.02 - 2019.02.28	Lillian O'Neil	C
2018.12.04 - 2019.01.31	Svetlana Fialová	C M E
2019.02.01 - 2019.03.31	Natalia Escudero López	C
2019.03.01 - 2019.03.30	Päivi Lukkarila	
2019.03.01 - 2019.04.30	Kai Rennes	C
2019.04.01 - 2019.05.31	Julia Santoli	C
2019.04.01 - 2019.04.30	Marianne Backlén	
2019.05.01 - 2019.06.14	Gillies Adamson Semple	C M Y
2019.05.01 - 2019.05.31	Jyrki Heikkinen	
2019.06.04 - 2019.07.31	Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr.	C
2019.06.16 - 2019.07.31	Daria Blum	C M Y
2019.06.16 - 2019.07.29	Jean-Baptiste Lagadec	C M Y R
2019.06.19 - 2019.07.31	Eleanor Turnbull, Lydia Davies	C M Y R
2019.07.01 - 2019.08.31	Borja Gomez Diez	C M Y
2019.07.15 - 2019.07.25	Graham Ellard	C M Y R
2019.08.01 - 2019.09.30	Helena Kaikkonen	C M
2019.08.01 - 2019.09.30	Franck Miltgen	C
2019.09.01 - 2019.11.30	Hikalu Clarke	C
2019.10.01 - 2019.11.30	Clinton King & Julie Curtiss	C R
2019.10.01 - 2019.11.30	Yang Chen	C M Y
2019.10.01 - 2019.11.30	Ryozo Takashima	C
2019.12.01 - 2020.01.31	Teemu Korpela	C
2019.12.01 - 2020.01.31	Benjamin Woods	C
2019.12.01 - 2020.01.31	Anita Jensen	C

<p>2018.12.01 - 2019.01.31 Antti Nyyssölä [Finland]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Finnish Artists' Studio foundation. He is a Finnish artist, whose work is based on painting and it's tradition. Yet in realisation he utilises many different sorts of found, everyday materials such as cuttings, tarp, adhesive tapes, stickers and paper. The chosen material partly forms the content of the work, and also leads the way for the visual motif. Sublime and classy themes are dealt with using aesthetics familiar to low or countercultures. The works exist between abstract and figurative, painting and sculpture, or they are all of these at the same time. During his residency he continues his work with unique, hand made artist books and showed them at the open studio.</p>	
<p>2018.12.02 - 2019.02.28 Lillian O'Neil [Australia]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Asialink. She is an artist who works in large-scale analogue collage. Each work in its scale and narrative stakes a claim for its own elegiac cosmology, an encapsulation of time passing, grand ruins, prehistoric mythologies, eroticism and mortality which, subject to the collage process, builds complex, mythic and often ironic scenarios in the face of nature and technology. During the residency, she sourced pre-digital photographic offset prints found in archives, pre-digital books, and magazines and presented large collages at the open studio and exhibition.</p>	
<p>2018.12.04 - 2019.01.31 Svetlana Fialová [Slovakia]</p> <p>Participant in a reciprocal exchange program between K.A.I.R. and Youkobo. She continually develops drawing as a medium, while she tries to push its customary boundaries and confute speculations about its exhaustibility. During her stay, she explored the social structure of Japan, especially the status and role of women in Japan, and presented drawings, woodcuts, and installations at the open studio.</p>	
<p>2019.2.01 - 2019.03.31 Natalia Escudero López [Spain]</p> <p>She is a visual artist whose practice attempts to collect the scattered fragments of a totality that only exists as a fluctuating idea. In her installations - delicate assemblies of founded objects, words and videos - the boundaries between art and life disappear, showing life and art as a cycle while re-creating the feeling of attachment latent among the different pieces. Her practice served to deepen the experience of the processes of fragmentation, restoration, and transformation, stating -moreover- the potential resemblances between the Japanese physical geography and the recent popularization of Kintsugi.</p>	
<p>2018.03.01 - 2019.03.30 Päivi Lukkarila [Finland]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Union of Finnish Writer. She is interested in Japanese arts and culture. As she practised Wado Ryu Karate for several years she became fascinated by the concept of zanshin, the state of total awareness. In Youkobo, she is working on a manuscript of a novel for young adults. In this book contemplated the idea of achieving zanshin in everyday life where instead of martial enemies one has to be prepared to meet his inner opponents.</p>	
<p>2019.03.01 - 2019.04.30 Kai Rennes [Finland/Sweden]</p> <p>He is an artist living in Brussels and Barcelona. His works are (post-)phenomenological notes and reflections about different fields of human knowledge from science to arts and crafts, from philosophy and religion to art. The significant common feature for his works is the interaction of different human spheres of knowledge in the same work. He created works using a variety of media, especially research many possibilities of photo printing on Washi paper, which gives the opportunity to more flexible use of the paper as a part of the artistic expression. He had an open studio and showed photographs and installation.</p>	

<p>2019.04.01 - 2018.05.31 Julia Santoli [USA]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Asian Cultural Council. She is a multi-disciplinary artist, experimental musician and composer based in Brooklyn, New York. Creating immersive and precarious environments with voice, feedback, electronics, and installation, her work melds the physical import of a collaborative, site-specific sonic approach while retaining the narrative accessibility of song structures. At Youkobo she will be continuing work on her "Siren Sore" cycle, initiated last year while in residence at ISSUE Project Room in NYC. This long-term mutant project manifests as visual work, recorded album, and live performance through genre-crossing collaborations.</p>	
<p>2019.04.01 - 2019.04.30 Marianne Backlén [Sweden/Finland]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Union of Finnish Writer. She is a Swedish-Finnish writer Finland-Swedish writer who has published 14 books, most of them novels. She also writes for various culture magazines. Her novel Karma has a Buddhist theme, following the Noble Eightfold Path. In her latest novel from 2015 she explores her family history, how wars wound and separate people. During the residency, she wrote her novel include a chapter set in contemporary Japan.</p>	
<p>2019.05.01 - 2019.06.14 Gillies Adamson Semple [Scotland/UK]</p> <p>London / Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2019 invited artist. Artist and curator. To create and present visual grammar, they are often produced using displays and devices to isolate the moment from conversations and communication systems. His work takes the nostalgic rearrangement of history as a counterweight, and portrays personal encounters and moments of wider events as reconstructed material in his own visual language. During his stay, he worked on essay videos, photographs and installations using research materials such as museum exhibitions and city advertisements, and presented them at the open studio.</p>	
<p>2019.05.01 - 2019.05.31 Jyrki Heikkinen [Finland]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Union of Finnish Writer. He is a Finnish poet, graphic novel artist, and illustrator. Over the past ten years, Heikkinen's visual poetry project has been developing through the forms of images, comics, poetry, exhibitions and publications. He continues to research the connection and separation between images and words, how they fit together in time and how different mediums affect the final work. During his stay, he conducted his work with the last part of his poetry trilogy. He exhibited his sketch in Tokyo and held a talk event.</p>	
<p>2019.06.04 – 2019.07.31 Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr. [Philippines]</p> <p>They are dancers and choreographers based in Manila, Philippines. Having had individual dance careers, they made the decision to work together in 2012 in Kyoto Art Center as Artists-in-Residence. After embarking on duet work, they are one of the few in contemporary dance in the Philippines to consciously create a body of work as a duo. During the residency, create a multi-disciplinary performance piece entitled "Pahayag" (Expression) and showed at open studio. Dance workshops were held at Youkobo, local elementary schools and dance classes.</p>	
<p>2019.06.16 - 2019.07.31 Daria Blum [UK]</p> <p>London / Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2019 invited artist. Her live performances and video installations use different styles of movements and outfits, and her own poetry and songs, focusing on the conflict between self-representation and the use of the (female) body in performance. During her stay, she experienced butoh and Japanese contemporary dance, studying the unfamiliar situation of Japan and the repercussions of the cultural "unknown". At the end, she presented installation and performance in an open studio at the end of her stay with Yohei Chimura.</p>	

<p>2019.06.16 - 2019.07.29 Jean-Baptiste Lagadec [France/UK]</p> <p>London / Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 5th Anniversary Exhibition "Ai mi Tagai" 2019 invited artist (LYE2017 invited). He was born in Paris in 1992, graduated from Central Saint Martin's School of Art in 2016. Coming from a digital practice, Jean-Baptiste playfully seeks alternatives to the screen, responding to certain codes of the digital conception of images, with tangible means, in an effort towards an empirical actualization of this new cultural in heritage within the timeless history of painting. He believes the subject and the object of the painting practice are one; tableaux tell or hide the history of their making, inviting the viewer to a formal investigation of their surface. During the residency, he participated in the exhibitions and forums and participated in planning for next year.</p>	
<p>2018.06.19 - 2019.7.31 Eleanor Turnbull, Lydia Davies [UK]</p> <p>Turnbull was born in Co. Durham (UK) in 1992. Lives and works between London and Cornwall. Working with sculpture and film. Davies was born in 1991 in Dorset, UK. Currently lives in Glasgow, UK. Working with still and moving image, sound and writing. During the residency, they participated in the exhibitions and forums and participated in planning for next year.</p>	
<p>2019.07.01 - 2019.08.31 Borja Gomez Diez [Basque, Spain]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Cultural Department of Bizkaia Regional Government, Spain. Winner of 2019 ERTIBIL BIZKAIA, undertakes a two-month residency at Youkobo. During the first half of the residency, participated in Y-AIR collaborative activities between Hinuma Lab., Joshibi University of Art and Design and Youkobo, and held an open studio alongside creation work at co-ume lab. The second half continued creative works and held exhibition at Youkobo Studio.</p>	
<p>2019.07.15 - 2019.07.25 Graham Ellard[UK]</p> <p>Based in London. He is an artist and professor of Fine Art at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design, and is an advisor for the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme. He have collaborated with Stephen Johnstone since 1993. Their work has been exhibited internationally in museums and galleries. During his residency, he attended exhibitions and forums and proceeded with plans for implementing the program in London next year.</p>	
<p>2019.08.01 - 2019.09.30 Helena Kaikkonen [Finland]</p> <p>A textile artist based in Finland. She explored time, northern nature, and the fragility and power of life. The origin of the materials and their past life affect the content of her art works. Change and repetition set the pace for the seasons and the everyday life of human beings. Time passes, things move on, yet nothing is ever final or complete. During the residency, she explored Japanese history, culture, nature and life and had an open studio with collages of different materials.</p>	
<p>2019.08.01 - 2019.09.30 Franck Miltgen [Luxembourg]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Embassy of Luxembourg. Based in Luxembourg and expresses in various media. The questioning with a broader and more ambitious reflection regarding the evolution of human perception through the ages, and the modalities of sharing the real and its experience according to place and time. During his stay, he explored traditional Japanese crafts and attempted to put them into practice from a philosophical perspective. The installation and video was presented in an open studio for a one-day performance event at Youkobo and an exhibition was also held at the embassy.</p>	

<p>2019.09.01 - 2019.11.30 Hikalu Clarke [New Zealand]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Asia New Zealand Foundation. He is interested in how architecture facilitates societal control and how its implemented material language can reveal its inherent ideological drivers. He engages with the difficult relationship between public and privatised spaces through his interest in passive aggressive spatial philosophies such as Hostile Design and Counter Terrorism architecture. The body of work was developed during the course of his residence. Anchored by research into the history of the Olympics and its ailed alternatives, the work explores the fallacies within centralized and decentralized power dynamics. He showed installations at "Trolls in the Park" and participated in an artist talk.</p>	
<p>2019.10.01 - 2019.11.30 Ryozo Takashima [Japan]</p> <p>Participant of the Youkobo Returnee Residency Program 2019. The relationship between the individual and the collective, and the idea of the nation as a broader form of the collective have been the driving force of my art practice. In modern Japan, where my practice is based, it seems as if 'toughness' is thought to be the only qualification for the 'right' leader. Without interrogating its true meaning, everyone seems to follow the image of a strong, authoritative figure. I cannot help but sense the oppressive air of conformity looming. Concerned with such trends in the modern world, I have explored the totalitarian slogans from George Orwell's novel 'Nineteen Eighty Four', as the theme of my practice for the past few years. He showed installations at "Trolls in the Park" and participated in an artist talk.</p>	
<p>2019.10.01 - 2019.11.30 Clinton King & Julie Curtiss [US & France/US]</p> <p>Participant of the Youkobo Returnee Residency Program 2019. King is an artist who practice extends to a multitude of mediums, spanning sculpture, video, and painting. Curtiss enjoys associating humour with darkness, the uncanny and the mundane, grotesque shapes to vivid colours. After 12 years of residency at Youkobo in 2007, they returned for a two-month residency and presented a series of works created on site at "Trolls in the Park" and participated in an artist talk.</p>	
<p>2019.10.01 - 2019.11.30 Yang Chen [China/UK]</p> <p>Participant in a reciprocal exchange program between studionAme and Youkobo. She is a third-year doctoral student at the University of Leicester, UK. Her research aims to clarify the theoretical framework for understanding the relationship between the postwar Japanese art collective experimental studio and the Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum. She visited libraries, archives, and art museums and conducted research. She presented the results of the research at "Trolls in the Park" and made an appearance at an artist talk.</p>	
<p>2019.12.01 - 2020.01.31 Teemu Korpela [Finland]</p> <p>Invited artist for the International AIR Program (Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation). The development of Korpela's expression is defined by a conceptual inquiry that he has made to the history and the possibilities of his medium, the painting. For many years Korpela's paintings have been mostly taken forms of installations, but recently he has returned to work with two dimensional format. Korpela feels that the possibility to observe abstractions through tangible forms gives us a possibility to grasp understanding about the forces that dictate our experience of the existence.</p>	
<p>2019.12.01 - 2020.01.31 Benjamin Woods [Australia]</p> <p>Born in Melbourne, Australia (Wurundjeri and Boon Wurrung country) in 1988, and grew up with two older sisters, who were both role models for a creative life. Because of this environment, Ben got on the path to become an artist early. He studied piano, flutes, double bass, and singing. This was a joy. He then began to also enjoy visual arts; and studied painting, drawing and sculpture. After studying sculpture at university, he began publicly sharing artwork from 2011 onwards. Ben is interested in how sculpture relates to bodily awareness, especially regarding the spatiality of care and closeness between people and their milieus. This interest often presents itself in sonic and movement investigations of sculptural forms.</p>	







2019.12.01 - 2020.01.31
Anita Jensen[Finland]






Born 1957 in Helsinki, Finland. Independent visual artist and printmaker. Her art draws attention to the ephemerality of time, to deformation and to the forms and variations of beauty in Japanese art. In her practice, she seeks to introduce new perspectives on the forms of presentation, techniques and materials in the area of photography and graphic art. Through her imageries, she reinterprets the formats, concepts and terminology of Japanese aesthetics from her own perspective. The combination of ancient Japanese materials and presentation formats with latest techniques and materials in printmaking and photography, introduces interesting new dimensions in her work.









1-2 Gallery Program

2019.01.23 - 2019.01.27	Svetlana Fialová[Slovakia] I love you
2019.01.23 - 2019.01.27	Antti Nyyssölä[Finland] Antti Nyyssölä
2019.01.23 - 2019.01.27	Lillian O'Neil[Australia] OPEN STUDIO by Lillian O'Neil
2019.02.20 - 2019.02.24	Lillian O'Neil [Australia] Wall of mist
2019.03.20 - 2019.03.24	Natalia Escudero López [Spain] Archipelago
2019.03.20 - 2019.03.24	Ayako Sakuragi, Koji Kato [Japan] Warmth of Stone(and) Trace of Breath
2019.04.24 - 2019.04.28	Kai Rennes [Finland/Sweden] Gray matter
2019.05.24 - 2019.05.26	Julia Santoli [USA] Shadowplay: spectral land
2019.05.24 - 2019.05.26	Jyrki Heikkinen [Finland] Absence of mind
2019.06.05 - 2019.06.09	Gillies Adamson Semple [Scotland / UK] Intimate Terms with the Prairie-(Open Studio)
2019.07.19 - 2019.07.28	Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura, Lydia Davies, Graham Ellard & Stephen Johnstone, Nobuyuki Fujiwara, Ryunosuke Goji, Shiori Higashiyama, Takashi Horiuchi, Yuuki Horiuchi, Dan Isomura, Alice Jacobs, Abbi Jones, Kenta Kawagoe, Jean-Baptiste Lagadec, Sean Lavelle, Tuli Litvak, O JUN, Wataru Ozu Gillies Adamson Semple Eleanor Turnbull [Japan, UK] Ai mi Tagai
2019.07.04 - 2019.07.13	Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr. [Philippines] PHAYAG
2019.07.25 - 2019.07.28	Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura [Switzerland(UK), Japan] Utting Orners
2019.08.24 - 2019.08.28	Borja Gomez Diez [Basque, Spain] The empty shape of pleasure
2019.09.18 - 2019.09.22	Helena Kaikkonen [Finland] On Japanese Path
2019.09.18 - 2019.09.22	Franck Miltgen [Luxembourg] Apeiron
2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23	Hikalu Clarke [New Zealand] In the spirit of good sport
2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23	Ryozo Takashima [Japan] 1984 + 36
2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23	Clinton King & Julie Curtiss [US, France/US] TANDEM / tandem

<p>2019.01.23 - 2019.01.27 Svetlana Fialová[Slovakia] I love you</p> <p>She explored Japanese social structure, especially the status and role of women in Japan. This activity is combined with her ongoing research, including the roots of male dominance and gender stereotypes. While interacting with local residents, we observed and understood everyday reality. He examined various layers of Japanese pop culture and the expression of women against it, or his close relationship with western pop culture and visual culture, and published prints and installations with particular interest in idol culture.</p>	
<p>2019.01.23 - 2019.01.27 Antti Nyyssölä[Finland] Antti Nyyssölä</p> <p>He continued to create unique handmade large artist books, collecting material from his works from the streets, markets, public and semi-public, and antique locations in Tokyo. In these books, seemingly random items create tactile maps and gain their meaning by being combined with other random items.</p>	
<p>2019.01.23 - 2019.01.27 Lillian O'Neil[Australia] OPEN STUDIO</p> <p>She sourced pre-printed digital photos of offset printing from archives, pre-digital books and magazines, and assembled images into large collages while continuing to address the materiality of old-fashioned printing technology. We are announcing the work in progress for the next month.</p>	
<p>2019.02.20 - 2019.02.24 Lillian O'Neil[Australia] Wall of mist</p> <p>Pre-digital photography, which the world has almost let go of, is a raw material and offers a certain illusion in clear contrast to the high-speed digital images that grow infinitely on the Internet. In other words, it is a monument to the essence of the fading picture. The accumulation of this material became a kind of atlas that bound the activities, interests, and beliefs of mankind.</p>	
<p>2019.03.20 - 2019.03.24 Natalia Escudero López [Spain] Archipelago</p> <p>During her time in Japan, she approached the Japanese technique of Kintsugi as a material response to the breaking forces of geological phenomena. This practice serves to deepen her interest in the processes of fragmentation, movement, and transformation, stating the resemblances between the Japanese landscape?an archipelago?and the recent popularization of Kintsugi. She says of her project, "The broken pieces of fired clay reminded me of islands, drifting on fluid ideas, while these islands became objects that I wished to approach."</p>	
<p>2019.03.20 - 2019.03.24 Ayako Sakuragi, Koji Kato [Japan] Warmth of Stone(and) Trace of Breath</p> <p>Youkobo Y-AIR Studio Program.It was held as an exhibition of Tokyo University of the Arts New Master's Program Global Art Practice Major. Koji Kato, an artist who explores his relationship to society and hidden structures of power, primarily through video artworks, and Ayako Sakuragi, an artist who originally studied fashion before beginning to create works that question life and death and everyday beauty following the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami. Despite their different interests, both artists featured in this exhibition, through their pursuing the theme of the meaning of "humans" and "nature" today, intersect in all sorts of unexpected and provocative ways.</p>	

<p>2019.04.24 - 2019.04.28 Kai Rennes [Finland/Sweden] Gray matter</p>	
<p>"Gray matter" continues a series of exhibitions with phenomenological notes on human knowledge in different manifestations. Gray matter refers to the substance in our brains consisting of neurones. Gray is also the colour of fog that interferes visibility. The world is shown for us as an endless network of meanings. By reconnecting meanings and meaningfulness and by operating with different levels of abstraction it is possible to create new ways of thinking.</p>	
<p>2019.05.24 - 2019.05.26 Julia Santoli [USA] Shadowplay: spectral land</p>	
<p>She presented an installation of light, sound, and play. Shadow-form compositions shift with the tide of the day, creating a form of sunlit cinema through shadowed landscapes. A song emerges. "We watch the scenes and tableaux of our history as if they were theatrical pieces performed time and time again. They are retold and re-membered. The ghost becomes the agent of social memory, reminding us of our previous lands, estates, epochs, languages, and continents. It is congealed history in spectral, semaphoric form." -- Martyn Hudson "Ghosts, Landscapes, and Social Memory" 2017, Rutledge Press</p>	
<p>2019.05.24 - 2019.05.26 Jyrki Heikkinen [Finland] Absence of mind</p>	
<p>Even though his poetry and images carry a narrative, it is not an intrinsic value. What is more important are the feelings risen, echoes of the dreams and paths that do not lead to anything or anywhere. When you draw a line you separate order from the disorder but you also call forth or invite something unexpected and restless to exist and to a visible form.</p>	
<p>2019.06.05 - 2019.06.09 Gillies Adamson Semple [Scotland / UK] Intimate Terms with the Prairie-(Open Studio)</p>	
<p>Presenting new work made during a 5 week residency. He showed a body of work that demarcates a new frame for an object and image presentation. Using the studio as a site of sorting, assemblage and investigation; objects and images have been brought to, and created within, the architecture of the studio. Physical objects then filmed, rendered and photographed have been documented through various processes to see them now through a new lens, both with sentiment and a proposal of their new potentiality.</p>	
<p>2019.07.19 - 2019.07.28 Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura, Lydia Davies, Graham Ellard & Stephen Johnstone, Nobuyuki Fujiwara, Ryunosuke Goji, Shiori Higashiyama, Takashi Horiuchi, Yuuki Horiuchi, Dan Isomura, Alice Jacobs, Abbi Jones, Kenta Kawagoe, Jean-Baptiste Lagadec, Sean Lavelle, Tuli Litvak, O JUN, Wataru Ozu Gillies Adamson Semple Eleanor Turnbull [Japan, UK] Ai mi Tagai</p>	
<p>Organized to mark the fifth year of the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme (LYE) since its launch in 2015, the Ai mi Tagai exhibition and forum was held with artists who were previous participants and professors who are acting advisors for the program. This Programme was developed through a continuous process of trial and error, in which artists of the same generation who have yet to develop their careers support one another with an awareness of the other's circumstances, while also sharing new experiences provided through the Programme. Ai mi Tagai (meaning "mutual empathy," namely to understand the situation of another in similar circumstances and offer mutual support) was chosen as the title of this exhibition as it encapsulates the particular characteristic of the LYE Programme, while also signifying what we consider to be the meaning of international exchange. Ai mi Tagai London will be held in 2020.</p>	

<p>2019.07.04 - 2019.07.13 Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr. [Philippines] PAHAYAG</p> <p>They focused to create a multi-disciplinary performance piece entitled "Pahayag" (Expression). Their initial jump-off point is the theme of population; with a distinct difference between Japan's dwindling population versus the over-population of the Philippines and the correlation with other cultural aspects, such as expressiveness, interaction, and communication translated into the performing body. During the exhibition, dance workshops were held for adults, kids and parents, as well as dance lessons at nearby elementary schools and dance studios.</p>	
<p>2019.07.25 - 2019.07.28 Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura [Switzerland(UK), Japan] Utting Orners</p> <p>Joint exhibition as a report on the results of the London / Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program. Informed by Blum's own fallibilities and investigations into trans-generational trauma, the narratives of her personas strive to prove the status of suffering as driving forces in creative and (re-)generative processes, contrasting dynamics such as audience and performer, humour and tragedy, truth and fabrication. Through sculpture, installation and performance, Chimura's work expresses the preservation and release of forms that transcend humanity.</p>	
<p>2019.08.24 - 2019.08.28 Borja Gomez Diez [Basque, Spain] The empty shape of pleasure</p> <p>During his residency, he participated in the Y-AIR collaborative activity between Joshibi University of Art and Design, Hinuma Lab and Youkobo in the first half, open studio with creation at co-ume lab. He exhibited drawing made using the technique of scooping out a thin piece of Japanese paper and oil paintings. Before returning to Basque in August, both Youkobo and Koganecho AIR artists reported on their activities.</p>	
<p>2019.09.18 - 2019.09.22 Helena Kaikkonen [Finland] On Japanese Path</p> <p>Where I have found my materials and where they come from, the traces of time that they carry and how delicate they feel are very important to me. I have often said that I think with my hands. The textures of the materials in my fingertips guide my thoughts. During the residency, She explored history, culture, nature and life in Japan and create different material collages. She presented installation using plants collected around Youkobo and create sculptures inspired by Japanese binding.</p>	
<p>2019.09.18 - 2019.09.22 Franck Miltgen [Luxembourg] Apeiron</p> <p>The title Apeiron is an ancient Greek philosophical term designating "the beginning of all matters" or "the most primordial status", and is characteristic for the transition from the previous existing mythical way of thought to the newer rational way of thought. Considering such historical references and the unconventional methods he has, we can glimpse the desire to inquire the restraints and releases from what defines art. This process arouses various interpretations, for instance it can be taken as an abandonment of the imitation technique, since it prerequisites contact to earth's surface layer. In this sense it changes drawing into a collaboration between the artist and nature.</p>	
<p>2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23 Hikalu Clarke [New Zealand] In the spirit of good sport</p> <p>He focused his research upon the architectural shifts that are occurring within Tokyo in the lead up to the 2020 Olympics. He was interested in the "scrap and build" architectural philosophy of Japan which contrasts with Western architectural notions of permanency. He also explored the errors in centralized and decentralized power dynamics based on the history of the Olympics and research on alternatives to its missteps, and presented an installation centered on GENEFO (Emerging Nations Games).</p>	

2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23
Ryoza Takashima [Japan]
1984 + 36

He have explored the totalitarian slogans from George Orwell's novel 'Nineteen Eighty Four', 'WAR IS PEACE. FREEDOM IS SLAVERY. IGNORANCE IS STRENGTH.' as the theme of my practice for the past few years. This exhibition brought together a new series of works with the title '1984+36'. As suggested in the title, this body of work imagines the state of Japan in the very near future, 36 years after 'Nineteen Eighty Four'. We must continue to ask ourselves and others to interrogate the status quo and our own standpoint in order to orient ourselves toward the right direction; to welcome the year '2020', not '1984+36'.



2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23
Clinton King & Julie Curtiss [US, France/US]
TANDEM / tandem

Clinton King and Julie Curtiss presented their first joint exhibition titled "split end" at Youkobo in 2007. The show explored their time living as expatriates in Tokyo and examined the nature of relationships and the dynamics of personal transformation. After a 12 years hiatus, they are back for a two-month-long residency at Youkobo, presenting a series of works created onsite. This new show reflects on the growth of their art practice both individually and in Tandem.



1 – 3 Events - Artist Talks & Critique Sessions

Artist Talks

- 2019.01.25 Svetlana Fialová 「I love you」
- 2019.01.25 Antti Nyyssölä 「Antti Nyyssölä」
- 2019.01.25 Lillian O'Neil 「OPEN STUDIO by Lillian O'Neil」
- 2019.01.25 Presentation AIR Exchange Program KAIR & FASF
- 2019.02.22 Lillian O'Neil 「Wall of mist」
- 2019.03.22 Natalia Escudero López 「Archipelago」
- 2019.03.22 Ayako Sakuragi, Koji Kato 「Warmth of Stone(and) Trace of Breath」
- 2019.04.26 Kai Rennes 「Gray matter」
- 2019.05.25 Jyrki Heikkinen 「Absence of mind」
- 2019.05.25 Julia Santoli 「Shadowplay: spectral land」
- 2019.06.05 Gillies Adamson Semple 「Intimate Terms with the Prairie-(Open Studio)」
- 2019.07.25 Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura 「Utting Orners」
- 2019.08.28 Borja Gomez Diez 「The empty shape of pleasure」
- 2019.09.18 Helena Kaikkonen 「On Japanese Path」
- 2019.09.18 Franck Miltgen 「Apeiron」
- 2019.11.10 Hikal Clarke 「In the spirit of good sport」
- 2019.11.10 Ryoza Takashima 「1984 + 36」
- 2019.11.10 Clinton King & Julie Curtiss 「TANDEM / tandem」
- 2019.11.10 Tang Chen 「The Vortex System in the Histories of Japanese Museum and Art」

Critique Sessions

- 2019.06.08 Gillies Adamson Semple | Guest: Manabu Kanai (Artist), OJUN (Tokyo University of the Arts)
- 2019.07.25 Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura | Guest: Graham Ellard (CSM), Nobuyuki Fujiwara, OJUN (Tokyo University of the Arts)

Live Performances

- 2019.05.25 Julia Santoli 「Shadowplay: spectral land」
- 2019.06.28 Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr. 「DANCE WORK SHOP」
- 2019.07.19 Alice Jacpbs 「Ai mi Tagai」
- 2019.07.04 - 06 Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr. 「PAHAYAG」
- 2019.07.11-13 Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr. 「PAHAYAG」

2. Related Activities

Through the running of an AIR program, Youkobo aims to establish AIR as an inseparable element of artists' creative practice, while at the same time establishing it as a vital presence within society. Pivoting its activities on the AIR program, we have four main components of the Related Activities. "AIR Exchange Program"; Youkobo also considers it has an important mission to provide domestic artists with opportunities to conduct activities overseas, and works to promote exchange through programs with international AIR, AIR management training through offering experiences of running AIR, and nurtures human resources through an internship that supports artists resident at Youkobo. "Networking"; Youkobo is also actively developing networks with AIR programs and organizations supporting AIR activities in Japan and overseas. "Community Art"; Connections with the local community are fostered through Youkobo's continuing participation in the outdoor art exhibition Trolls in the Park held in Zempukuji Park. "Research"; Youkobo continues to present research into AIR through activity reports that reveal the infinite potential for the greater dissemination of AIR and collaboration between AIR and universities of art. Especially, Youkobo put emphasis on a existence of Microresidence and the cooperation with the network. Since 2013, Youkobo has also developed Y-AIR concept which came out of collaboration between AIR and art universities. In order to reflect on 30 years of AIR activities and explore the value of the Youkobo AIR program, in 2017 Youkobo launched the Youkobo Returnee Residency Program (YRRP).

2-1 AIR Exchange Programs

In addition to hosting international artists, Youkobo is also proactively developing reciprocal exchange programs with international AIR, born out of contact with artists and AIR-related institutions. In 2018, reciprocal programs were implemented with the following two organizations.

Reciprocal Exchange Programs 2019

In addition to hosting international artists, Youkobo is also proactively developing reciprocal exchange programs with international AIR, as a means of exchange resulting from contact between artists and AIR organizations. In 2019, reciprocal programs were implemented with the following three organizations.

• Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation (Helsinki, Finland)

2019 marked the third year of this reciprocal exchange with the Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation (FASF), following the signing of a memorandum. The program involves a reciprocal exchange with Tapiola Guest Studio, an artist studio in Helsinki that is a member of FASF. Tomoko Kawai travelled from Japan to Helsinki, while Teemu Korpela travelled from Finland to Tokyo to undertake a two-month residency which culminated in an exhibition.

2019.05.01-06.30 Tomoko Kawai (Tapiola Guest Studio)

2019.12.01-2020. 01.31 Teemu Korpela (Youkobo Art Space)

Report:

2019.10.29 18:00- Finnish Institute 30 participants (Tomoko Kawai)

2020.01.22 18:00- Youkobo Art Space 30 participants (Teemu Korpela)

Record booklet "AIR Exchange Program 2019 Youkobo × Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation"



• studionAme (Leicester, UK)

StudionAme, located in Leicester, was founded by two artists, Yuka Namekawa and Steven Allbutt. In addition to operating a studio for artists, he also operates AIR. Under the Toru Namekawa residency program, an AIR exchange program with Youkobo began in 2019. studionAme is also promoting collaboration with two universities in Leicester (De Montfort University and Leicester University). Akira Ishiguro from Japan spent three months, and Yang Chen from the UK spent two months creating and presenting.

2019.09.01-11.30 Akira Ishiguro (studionAme)

2019.10.01-11.30 Yang Chen (Youkobo Art Space)

Report:

2019.11.10 14:30- Youkobo Art Space 30 participants (Yang Chen)

2020.02.22 16:00- Youkobo Art Space 20 participants (Akira Ishiguro)

Record booklet "studionAme & Youkobo Art Space - micro residency pilot collaboration-"



• Exchange Program with Luxembourg

- Accepting Luxembourg artists

The reception of Luxembourg artists selected by the Luxembourg Embassy and the Luxembourg Ministry of Culture began in 2011, with the ninth reception in 2019.

2019.08.01-09.30 Franck Miltgen (Youkobo Art Space)

- Dispatch of Japanese artist to Luxembourg

For the first time in 2019, an artist from Japan was sent to Luxembourg. Annexes du Château de Bourglinster (on the outskirts of Luxembourg) (The two sides have been discussing a survey on opportunities for Japanese artists to experience AIR in Luxembourg)

2019.07.01-09.30 Anne Kagioka (Annexes du Château de Bourglinster)

Report:

2019.09.24 18:00- Embassy of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg 30 participants (Franck Miltgen)

2020.02.22 16:00- Youkobo Art Space (Anne Kagioka)

Record booklet "An exchange program between Luxembourg and Japan through AIR programs"



2-2 Y-AIR

Launched in 2013, the concept of Y-AIR (AIR for Young) is an initiative that aims to create an environment granting easier access to artist-in-residencies (AIR) for art university students and young art graduates, implemented with the understanding and support of various art university professors. The results of which are evaluated with a view to establishing a framework for sustainable programs of exchange.

• London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2019

Established in 2015, this reciprocal exchange program is a collaboration between Central Saint Martins (CSM) and the Associates Studio Programme (ASP) in London, and Tokyo University of the Arts (TUA) and the Y-AIR Studio Program (see below) at Youkobo Art Space in Tokyo. ASP was initiated in 2013 to support the activities of young artists based in London. 2019 was the fifth year of this exchange. Over three months between May and July, Yohei Chimura travelled from Japan to London, and Gillies Adamson Semple travelled from the UK to Tokyo for a six-week period to undertake research, produce new work and hold an exhibition.

Leg 1: May 1-June 14, 2019 | Gillies Adamson Semple (Youkobo Art Space) ⇔ Yohei Chimura (ASP Program)

Leg 2: June 15-July 31, 2019 | Daria Blum (Youkobo Art Space)

Critics | Manabu Kanai(Artist), OJUN & Nobuyuki Fujiwara (Tokyo University of the Arts), Graham Ellard (CSM)

Record booklet 'London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme 2019 Activity Report'



• Youkobo Y-AIR Studio Program 2019

A program that utilizes the Youkobo studios with the aim of supporting young, Tokyo-based artists. In 2018, the fourth year of the program, the period of implementation was revised from six months to three months, inviting two young TUA graduates through the cooperation of TUA. Running parallel to the LTYE Program above, the participating artists used the studios for their own creative activities for the same six-week period that the artists from London were in residence at Youkobo.

- Yohei Chimura 2019.06.15-07.31



• London/ Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme 5th Anniversary Exhibition Ai mi Tagai

Organized to mark the fifth year of the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme (LTYE) since its launch in 2015, the Ai mi Tagai exhibition and forum was held with artists who were previous participants and professors who are acting advisors for the program. This Programme was developed through a continuous process of trial and error, in which artists of the same generation who have yet to develop their careers support one another with an awareness of the other's circumstances, while also sharing new experiences provided through the Programme. Ai mi Tagai (meaning "mutual empathy," namely to understand the situation of another in similar circumstances and offer mutual support) was chosen as the title of this exhibition as it encapsulates the particular characteristic of the LTYE Programme, while also signifying what we consider to be the meaning of international exchange. Ai mi Tagai in London will be held in 2020.

7.19. — 28, 2019 13:00-18:00 Open everyday *Last day till 15:00 at Daigaku Kaikan

Venue : Denchu Hirakushi House and Atelier, Yuga Gallery and Daigaku Kaikan, Tokyo University of the Arts

Organizer : Executive Committee of Ai Mi Tagai (office : Youkobo Art Space)

Cooperation : Tokyo University of the Arts; Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London; Double agents; Acme Studios; Ibara

City, Okayama Prefecture; Denchu Hirakushi House and Atelier; Taito Cultural & Historical Society; Yanaka-no-Okatte

Support : Arts Council Tokyo(Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan

in the fiscal 2019; Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation

Artists : Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura, Lydia Davies, Graham Ellard & Stephen Johnstone, Nobuyuki Fujiwara, Ryunosuke Goji, Shiori

Higashiyama, Takashi Horiuchi, Yuuki Horiuchi, Dan Isomura, Alice Jacobs, Abbi Jones, Kenta Kawagoe, Jean-Baptiste Lagadec, Sean Lavelle

Report :

2019.07.20 15:00- Lecture room 6, Central Bldg., Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts 30 Participants

Record Booklet "London/ Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme 5th Anniversary Ai mi Tagai"



• **Y-AIR Artist Exchange Program, Finland and Japan, 2019**

The project was launched on the occasion of the opening of the AIR program for the international art festival "TENKU Art Festival" which started in Tomi City, Nagano Prefecture in 2016, at the request of Tomi City, the organizer of the event, and Tokyo University of the Arts, the cooperating organization. This pilot program was started with the cooperation of the local executive committee, the Geidai laboratory, and the University of Lapland (Rovaniemi, Finland) with the support of the ArtBreak AIR program manager and the University of Lapland (Rovaniemi, Finland). In 2019, Yuko Takahara from Japan and Laura Tavvanainen from Finland were in residence for three months, and both exhibited at the festival.

2019.06.01-08.31 Yuko Takahara
2019.09.01-11.05 Laura Tavvanainen

Report:

2019.10.29 18:00- Finnish Institute 30 Participants

Record booklet "Y-AIR trial between Finland and Japan, Part 3 Collaborative Activities through environmental art, a collaboration of AIR and Art University"



• **Y-AIR International Dispatch Program – ArtCamp, University of West Bohemia 2019**

Realized through cooperation between Youkobo and art universities in Japan, this program dispatches art students and artists to ArtCamp, an international, art and design summer school organized annually by the University of West Bohemia (UWB) in Pilsen, Czech Republic, and the dispatch program was initiated in 2013. The program offers opportunities for cross-cultural creative exchange through a short three-week stay overseas. In 2019, three students participated in ArtCamp, and one artist joined as an instructor.

2019.07.22-07.26 Tomoko Fukushi : Course 「comics - manga」

2019.07.08-07.26 Noe Maeda, Sari Sunakawa, Rena Isono (Joshi University), Hanako Kudlic

Report :

2019.11.11 18:00- Czech Center 50 Participants

Record booklet " Collaboration of AIR and Art University through 'ArtCamp'"



• Young Basque Artists' Residency in Japan, 2019

In response to a request from the winners of the "ERTIBIL BIZKAIA" program of the Spanish Basque Country's young artists' support program for young artists, the support program for young artists started in 2018 as part of the Y-AIR activities in collaboration between AIR and art universities, in collaboration with Youkobo Art Space (Tokyo) and Joshibi University of Art and Design. Last year, the program was held with Studio Kura, a micro-residence in Kyushu, and in 2019, the program was held in collaboration with Koganecho AIR (Yokohama), with one artist each running a two-month residency and exchange program in July and August. Mutual visits and debriefing sessions were conducted during the activities. Also held the final presentation together with Koganecho AIR and Joshibi.

- Borja Gomez Dies : 2019.07.01-08.31

Survey to Koganecho AIR : 2019.08.23

Report :

2019.08.28 15:00- at Youkobo, 20 Participants

Record booklet "Young Basque Artists' Residency in Japan Part 2 - A Collaboration of AIRs and Universities"



• Lectures Relating to Y-AIR

Kyoto Seika University

2019.07.02 Special Lecture Tatsuhiko Murata

Collaboration project between Youkobo and Joshibi AP

2019.07.08 Borja Gomez Dies, Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr., Makiko Tsuji

2019.08.02-03 「OPEN STUDIO」 Borja Gomez Dies

As a special lecture at Joshibi University of Art and Design

2018.11.22 Hikalu Clarke

Artist Talk, Art & Communication class, Musashino Art University

2019.05.20 Julia Santoli

2019.11.07 YangChen



2-3 Network

Aim at AIR to be a social existence, we participate domestic and international networks of AIR and also we are developing independent activities through Microresidence Network established in 2012. Through these networks and exchange between AIR and organizations that support AIR, we aim to offer direct support to the artists and researchers who are the users of AIR by creating opportunities that can sustain their activities, and devising means of funding artists' activities and the running of AIR, while also carrying out research together with other institutions in relation to the range of activities encompassed by AIR.

I_Topics of 2019

1. International Conference

• ResArtis Kyoto, Kyoto 6-8 Feb.

The annual international meeting of ResArtis, the global membership-based AIR network. On the second day of the workshop, "Workshop #2: Group 2 Microresidencies", about 10 directors of Microresidencies from Japan and overseas were invited at the Kyoto Art Center to introduce their activities. We discussed the charm and possibilities of Microresidencies with the artists.



• Microresidence Meeting 2019 Kyoto in NISHI-JIN, Kyoto 9-10 Feb.

Discussed the possibility of further social recognition, establishment and utilization of micro residence. In collaboration with Microresidence member NPO ANEWAL Gallery and others, held a two-day workshop at Zen temple Koshouji in Nishijin, Kyoto. We gained knowledge on the existence of various programs in Japan and overseas, as well as knowledge on the use of AIR, and shared the actual operation of the program. Two practical courses were held to support the creation and realization of opportunities for participation in overseas AIRs, participation in AIR business, and network building.



• Networks + Artworks, Kyoto 8 Feb.

As a satellite event of the ResArtis conference, Villa Kujoyama hosted the event in collaboration with the Dutch Embassy and was invited to participate as the Microresidence Network. Short presentations on various aspects of AIR and speed dating sessions provided an opportunity for participants interested in AIR to meet and interact directly with experts from Japan and abroad.



• FIN JPN LAB, Tokyo 29 Oct.

Five artists from Japan and Finland presented their art activities and experiences of their residency program at the Finnish Institute in Japan. Tomoko Kawai who participated in the exchange program between FASF and Youkobo, Laura Tavvanainen and Yuko Takahara who participated in Finland Y-AIR program, and Fumio Ohashi who reported on the workshop and "VALO HIKARI" exhibition jointly organized by the University of Lapland and Tokyo University of the Arts in Finland. Moderated by Director Anna-Maria Wiljanen.



• Form of exchange between Czech and Japan-Cultural exchange through AIR, Tokyo 11 Nov.

The project to send artists and students from Japan to ArtCamp, held every summer in the city of Pilsen, Czech Republic, is now in its seventh year, and the number of participants has exceeded 30. In addition to looking back on the rich exchange between the Czech Republic and Japan, which celebrated its centenary the following year, the program's role and significance were examined through the experiences of AIR participants.



• 2019 AIR Case study & Talk Show, Tokyo 29 Nov.

An AIR study workshop led by the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park was held at Joshibi University of Art and Design with the theme of "Visualizing the results of residency activities in country side in the city". As a case study presentation, a report on the activities of the Y-AIR program centered on regional art festivals that Youkobo and the Finnish micro residence "Waria ArtBreak" are collaborating on, as well as the possibility of collaboration between AIR and art universities were presented.



2. Youkobo Networking

• Microresidence Networking - Armenia Night, Tokyo 15 Feb.

Introducing micro-residence with Mr. Mkrtich Tonoyan, representative of ACOSS, a micro-residence in Armenia who was studying at Youkobo, and presented AIR activities in Armenia and networking activities via Caucasus, Russia and Europe. Heidi Vogels introduced the global network "Res Artis", and presentations were given by some new Tokyo-based small-scale residency directors.



• Y-AIR Networking - Philippine Case, Tokyo 10 March

Rikuzentakata AIR, Joshibi University of Art and Design, BM Lab. and Asia Pacific College collaborated on the art project "DISPLACED". By having art students and young artists work together as interns, they provide a place for deeper experience that is different from studying abroad. Also they shared information and discussed the significance of social activities through art and how to contribute to international society through practical learning programs and future exchanges.



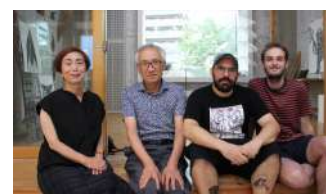
• LTYE 5th Anniversary - Ai mi Tagai, Tokyo 19-28 July

Organized to mark the fifth year of the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme (LTYE) since its launch in 2015, the Ai mi Tagai exhibition and forum was held with artists who were previous participants and professors who are acting advisors for the program. This Programme was developed through a continuous process of trial and error, in which artists of the same generation who have yet to develop their careers support one another with an awareness of the other's circumstances, while also sharing new experiences provided through the Programme. Ai mi Tagai (meaning "mutual empathy," namely to understand the situation of another in similar circumstances and offer mutual support) was chosen as the title of this exhibition as it encapsulates the particular characteristic of the LTYE Programme, while also signifying what we consider to be the meaning of international exchange. Ai mi Tagai was held in Tokyo in 2019, and will be in London in 2020.



• Y-AIR Networking - Basque Case, Tokyo 23, 28 August

In response to a request from the winners of the "ERTIBIL BIZKAIA" program of the Spanish Basque Country's young artists' support program for young artists, the support program for young artists started in 2018 as part of the Y-AIR activities in collaboration between AIR and art universities, in collaboration with Youkobo Art Space (Tokyo) and Joshibi University of Art and Design. Last year, the program was held with Studio Kura, a micro-residence in Kyushu, and in 2019, the program was held in collaboration with Koganecho AIR (Yokohama), with one artist each running a two-month residency and exchange program in July and August. Mutual visits and debriefing sessions were conducted during the activities. Also held the final presentation together with Koganecho AIR and Joshibi.



• Y-AIR Networking - Melbourne Case, Tokyo 11-12 Sep.

As part of RMIT's "The Japanese Contemporary Art Study Intensive (J-CASI)", undergraduate students and teachers visited Youkobo for two days. Through the introduction of Youkobo's activities and visits to the artist's studio, we provided an opportunity to understand and interact with AIR. Mr. Andrew, RMIT AIR program coordinator, shared a case study and discussed the future development of the exchange, including the Y-AIR exchange in the next fiscal year. (RMIT new graduate to Youkobo in 2020)



• Y-AIR Networking - Armenia Case, Tokyo 18 Dec.

Mr. Mkrtich Tonoyan, who completed his research residency at Rikuzentakata AIR, gave a report on his activities, and presented on his micro-residence ACOSS, the art scene in the Caucasus and Y-AIR's activities.



II_Individual consultation / consultation

1. AIR establishment, activation study group

- Ikebukuro Montparnasse Plan (Nishida atelier) : 5/4
- Kanagawa Shonan AIR (Sudo Museum, Shonan Art Space, Odawara City, CONNECTIVE) : 10/16、11/15
- Sadogashima Microresidence : March
- Abiko Microresidence : April
- Kurume Microresidence : May, November
- Airbnb meeting
- Shell Award AIR consulting

2. AIR experience opportunity consulting

- Art students, Young artists who just graduated from art university
- Artists

2-4 Community Art

Youkobo considers it important that its activities are visible to the surrounding community, while at the same time trying to increase awareness of the role artists play within society. Youkobo has continued numerous community-focused activities since 2002, continuing to cooperate with Trolls in the Park, an open-air exhibition that creates opportunities to experience contemporary art in familiar surroundings, and Art Kids, a children's art workshop taking place in the local elementary school. Youkobo is also proactively developing relations with various art organizations working in the local area.

Trolls in the Park 2019

The theme of this annual open-air exhibition was "Whisper" (3-23 November). Taking place in metropolitan Zempukuji Park, the Open-air × Art Program of Trolls in the Park combines dynamic installations, workshops (weekends and national holidays) and a range of performances presented on an outdoor stage. 37 artists and performers energized the park grounds in a varied series of events. In the Town × Art Program, 30 artists and groups participated in a range of exhibitions and performances that link Nishiogikubo town with Zempukuji Park.

Hikaru Clarke "In the spirit of good sport"
Clinton King & Julie Curtiss "TANDEM / tandem"
Ryoza Takashima "1984 + 36"



2019.11.10 Artists' Talk "Reflection and Expectation"

In Part 1, "Reasons for everything?" Hikaru and Takashima had an artist talk with Taro Igarashi, an architecture critic, as a guest. Through questions from the audience, we discussed how the artist's work is conceived, developed, and given form to it, as well as the current state of the domestic and international art scene. Also, in Part 2, "Youkobo 30th Anniversary – How We Achieved Everything?" along with the presentation of Yang's research results, Clinton and Julie who were returning artists for the first time in 12 years, and Takashima, who has been working with Youkobo for a long time, looked back on 30 years of AIR activities to date and discussed the significance and value of AIR with the artists and visitors.

2019.11.04 「Nishi-Ogi Art Scene-Nishi-Ogi Art in the Future」

As a collaborative project of the Trolls in the Park, participated in a talk event at Nishiogi Workshop / Art Week. Together with a local elementary school teacher and a gallery director, talked about the current art scene in Nishiogikubo and how it will develop in the future.

*The Beginnings of Trolls in the Park Trolls in the Park began in 2002 as an open-air exhibition in metropolitan Zempukuji Park (Suginami-ku) led by artists from Youkobo Art Space. 2017 marks the 16th year of this international event. In 2011, a committee of local residents led the event after ten years of organization by Youkobo, and in 2013 Trolls in the Park expanded to include the Nishiogikubo station area, presenting a range of events including exhibitions in cafes, performances in restaurants and billiard halls, and walking tours that focus on the history of the local area.

Community Activities

Youkobo is also actively pursuing links with local art NPOs, art classrooms and galleries. Regional collaboration and use of local resources is also an important aspect of Youkobo's activities.

• Momoshi Elementary School

Introducing local jobs as a career supporting program for elementary school students.

2019.11.12 Presentation, workshop for 6 grads students.

• NPO TFF

2019.06.08 Lecture called "Suginami local University" about Youkobo activities for Art supporters of Suginami ward.

• Nishiogi Workshop Art Map

Participated in a mapping that posted alternative spaces in Nishiogikubo. (Organized by Senyudo)

2-5 Research

Youkobo continues to carry out research through independent research and reciprocal visits to partner art spaces based on face-to-face dialogue, study meetings, and public forums and symposiums. It's an importance activity to appeal the existence of AIR as a valuable function in society. Youkobo is trying to share information through the publication of reports through website and publish them depends on the budget.

Survey visits, exchange

2019.02.06-07 ResArtis Kyoto (Kyoto) Tatsuhiko Murata, Hiroko Murata, Makiko Tsuji
2019.02.09-10 Microresidence Meeting 2019 Kyoto in NISHI-JIN (Kyoto) Tatsuhiko Murata, Hiroko Murata, Makiko Tsuji
2019.02.08 Networks + Artworks (Kyoto) Tatsuhiko Murata, Makiko Tsuji
2019.05.04 Ikebukuro Montparnasse (Tokyo) Tatsuhiko Murata, Hiroko Murata
2019.08.23 Koganecho AIR (Kanagawa) Borja Gomez Dies, Tatsuhiko Murata, Makiko Tsuji
2019.10.16 Shonan AIR (Odawara) Tatsuhiko Murata, Hiroko Murata
2019.11.15 Shonan AIR (Odawara) Tatsuhiko Murata, Hiroko Murata

Forums and symposiums

2019.02.15 Microresidence Networking "Armenian Night" @Youkobo Art Space
2019.06.08 Suginami Area University @Youkobo Art Space
2019.06.09 Lecture series - Artists Career @Akibi Tamabi (Tokyo)
2019.07.20 LTYE 5th Anniversary - Ai mi Tagai @ Lecture room 6, Central Bldg., Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts (Tokyo)
2019.08.28 Activity Report of Young Basque Artists @Youkobo Art Space
2019.10.29 FIN/JPN Lab. @Finnish Institute (Tokyo)
2019.11.04 Nishi-Ogi Art Scene-Nishi-Ogi Art in the Future @Sukiwa Gallery (Tokyo)
2019.11.10 Artists' Talk "Reflection and Expectation" @Youkobo Art Space
2019.11.11 Form of exchange between Czech and Japan-Cultural exchange through AIR, Tokyo @Czech Center (Tokyo)
2019.11.29 AIR Case study & Talk Show @Joshibi University (Tokyo)
2019.12.18 Y-AIR Networking-Armenia Case @Youkobo Art Space



2-6 Archives

Youkobo shares in the form of activity reports the results of surveys it conducts into activities related to AIR, seeking to bring greater visibility to microresidencies and explore the infinite possibilities offered by collaborations between AIR and universities of art. In addition, the information it gathers about AIR is stored in an archive together with documentation of activities by artists joining Youkobo's residency program. These archives are made available to the public, while Youkobo also provides consultation for artists wishing to participate in AIR, or those who wish to establish an AIR or connect with existing networks. Through research and surveys into AIR programs, Youkobo is working to disseminate the activities of AIR and microresidencies with the hope that, along with the activities of artists, they will be gain greater visibility within society.

・ Publications, Articles

1. Publications

- Finnish Writers in Youkobo 2019 # 4
- London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2019 Activity Report
- London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 5th Anniversary Ai mi Tagai 2019
- Collaboration of AIR and Art University through 'ArtCamp'
- Young Basque Artists' Residency in Japan Part 2 - A Collaboration of AIRs and Universities
- Y-AIR trial between Finland and Japan, Part 3 Collaborative Activities through environmental art, a collaboration of AIR and Art University
- An exchange program between Luxembourg and Japan through AIR programs
- studionAme & Youkobo Art Space - micro residency pilot collaboration-
- AIR Exchange Program 2019 Youkobo × Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation
- 1984 + 36 | Ryozo Takashima
- Crystallizing Ideas - The Youkobo Returnee Residence Program Part 3 "Reflection and Expectation"

2. AIR Exhibition Catalogs, Invitation Cards

Date	Title / Artist	Media
2019.02.20-2019.02.24	Wall of mist Lillian O'Neil	Invitation Card Catalog
2019.03.20-2019.03.24	Archipelago Natalia Escudero López	Invitation Card Catalog
2019.03.20-2019.03.24	Warmth of Stone (and) Trace of Breath Ayako Sakuragi, Koji Kato	Invitation Card Catalog
2019.04.24-2019.04.28	Gray matter Kai Rennes	Invitation Card Catalog
2019.06.05-2019.06.09	Shadowplay: spectral land Julia Santoli	Invitation Card
2019.07.04-2019.07.13	PHAYAG Mia Cabalfin and Rhosam Prudenciado Jr.	Flyer
2019.07.25-2019.07.28	Utting Orners Daria Blum, Yohei Chimura	Invitation Card
2019.08.24-2019.08.28	The empty shape of pleasure Borja Gomez Diez	Flyer Catalog
2019.09.18-2019.09.22	On Japanese Path Helena Kaikkonen	Invitation Card
2019.09.18-2019.09.22	Apeiron Franck Miltgen	Catalog
2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23	TANDEM / tandem Clinton King & Julie Curtiss	Flyer Catalog
2019.11.03 - 2019.11.23	1984 + 36 Ryozo Takashima	Flyer Catalog

3. Articles

Newspaper

- ・「朝日新聞 Asahi Shinbun」 11.02 (Trolls in the Park)
- ・「東京新聞 Tokyo Shinbun」 11.01 (Trolls in the Park)

Magazine

- ・『ランドスケープデザイン Landscape Design』 10.23 (Trolls in the Park)
- ・『中央線が好きだ。Chuo sen ga sukida』 vol.15 (JR East) 09.19 (Trolls in the Park)
- ・『散歩の達人 Sanpo no tatsujin』 10.21 (Trolls in the Park)
- ・『SUGINAMI ART SANPO イベントガイドVOL.02』 (Trolls in the Park)

Website

- ・なみじゃない杉並 Nami janai Suginami (Trolls in the Park)
- ・リビングむさしのweb Living Musashino 11.01 (Trolls in the Park)
- ・西荻ワークショップ・アートマップ Nishiogi Workshop Art Map (Youkobo Activity)

Catalog

- ・FIN/JPN LAB Program Catalog, Finnish Institute Tokyo (Exchange Program)

2019 - overview

		Space	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Youkobo	AIR1	Residence 1												
		Studio 1	Svetlana Fialová	Natalia Escudero Lopez	Julia Santoli			Mia Cabalfin & Rhosam Prudenciado Jr.		Borja Gomez Diez		Hikalu Clark		Teemu Korpela
	AIR2	Residence 2												
		Studio 2	Antti Nyyssola	Mkrtych Tonoyan	Kai Rennis		Gillies Semple Adamson (LTYE 2019)	Daria Blum (LTYE 2019)		Helena Kaikkonen		Clinton King & Julie Curtiss		Benjamin Woods
	AIR3	Residence 3												
					Ms Paivi Lukkanila	Ms Marianne Backlen	Mr Jyrki Heikkinen	Al-MI-TAGAI				Ryozo Takashima		Anita Jensen
		Studio 3	Lillian O'Neill		GAP								Yang Chen	

Exchange Program	London, UK							Yohei Chimura						
	Pilsen, Czech								Tomoko Fukushi					
	Finland							Tomoko Kawai		Yuko Takahara				
	Leicester											Akira Ishiguro		
	Luxembourg									Anne Kakioka				
Conference Meeting, Research														
	Local											Finnish Institute in Japan	Czech Center Tokyo	

■ Self-funded ■ Institutional Recommendation Program ■ Y-AIR ■ Youkobo Returnee Residency



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AIR_J



: Double agents



GAP



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