

Youkobo Art Space

Annual Report

2021



The Artist in Residence Program of Youkobo Art Space is supported by the Agency of Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2020, till March 2021.

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Preface – Souvenir from the Residency Artists in Youkobo – 30-years treasure of Youkobo

Tatsuhiko and Hiroko Murata

In 2021, Youkobo was forced to stop accepting artists from abroad, and the exchange program went dormant. Acceptance (including new applications) was suspended from March 2020, and the second year of the COVID-19 Corona disaster was in a terrible situation. In the first half of 2021, it continued to work carefully as an art space for local artists to work, but it was completely closed after June due to the anxiety of the Corona disaster caused by the compulsory hosting of the Olympic Games.

In order to make use of this gap in long-term activities, we have begun organizing materials for the activities of Youkobo, which has been accumulated for over 30 years but has been postponed. It was a big task to collect all the works, catalogs, activity record materials, etc. from overseas artists and local artists at the time. Fortunately, we were able to secure sufficient time and work space in the process of organizing activities with the background of activities over the past 30 years. And "what we can do now" and "what we want to do" have become clear. This work is being carried out in parallel at the two studios of Youkobo, and in the gallery space on the first floor, the works left by the artists who residency in Youkobo, the works obtained at the exhibitions of local artists, etc. are related also started organizing various materials.

In the large studio space on the 2nd floor, we organized mainly recorded documents, including documents such as work catalogs.

As a result of this work, a sub gallery space was also set up in the gallery space on the 1st floor, and the exhibition arrangement of works was promoted according to the characteristics of these spaces.

In the studio on the second floor, documents about the artist's activities, status, and spread were organized based on the time axis. Eventually, a big picture scroll of the history of Youkobo appeared on the wall of this studio. It's still in the process of being completed.

As the work progressed and the medical collapse in Tokyo, which began with the turmoil of the Olympic Games, settled down, we decided to open the exhibition together under two themes.

- (1) Visualize the "truth of AIR" through the exhibition of works placed by the artist.
- (2) Visualize the "essence of AIR" by clarifying the various exchanges that were born from the artist's stay production.

In conjunction with the annual open air art exhibition "Trolls in the Park" held at the nearby park "Zempukuji Park", it hold in November as "Souvenir from the residency Artists of Youkobo vol.1". After that, in December, "vol.2 of the same title" was continued.

<https://vimeo.com/696402705>, for the video record

In the coming 2022, we would like to take advantage of what we learned from the Corona disaster and resume careful and steady activities from the New Year when the pandemic will settle down.

And thinking through these work and exhibition opportunities during the last six months of the pandemic from the summer of 2021, we were able to take this opportunity to hear through direct dialogue and online conversation, as well, thank you. "Why did we start AIR program?", "What is AIR?", "What is an artist?", furthermore, "expecting to the next generation" etc. ... we want to complete the picture scroll, "Youkobo Mandala". And we want to move forward in a new peaceful society with Corona.

(New Year's Eve 2021)

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.

1 Overview of Activities

1-1 AIR Program

(2020.04.01 – 2020.09.30 Temporarily closed due to COVID-19 pandemic)

2020.12.03 - 2021.02.28 Utako Shindo [Japan] C

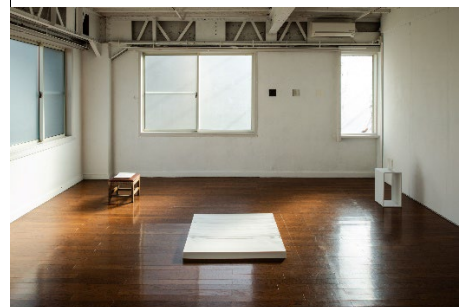
2020.12.03 - 2021.02.28

Utako Shindo [Japan]

Born in Tokyo, who works internationally in scholarly and studio pursuit of the untranslatability of art. Her recent works focus on 'nuanced shadow' that appears in shade/light (noh-tan) and line as it 'transfers' (utsuru in Japanese, indicating variants on transfer: trace, reflect, project and emerge) between darkness and light. Through her yearlong research and creative project (2019-2020) in New Mexico, the U.S.A., with fellowship support from Agency of Cultural Affairs, Japan, she sought a deeper understanding of Agnes Martin's 'abstract expression'.

From December 2021, as a resident artist at Youkobo Art Space, Utako made a body of new work that summarizes her explorations of the recent years. This presented at this exhibition, 'Meeting and Greeting Like Shadows'.

Her activities at Youkobo have been since her solo exhibition was held in 2010, and since then she has been working as a gallery & residence operation staff (2011-2013).



1-2 Gallery Program

2021.01.15 – 2021.02.16 Meeting and Greeting Like Shadows | Utako Shindo

2021.03.25 – 2021.03.29 House of My Emotion |
Rin Takahashi, Mariana Kameta, Xiaotai Cao

Y

2021.04.17 – 2021.04.25 Lottery exhibition - Ai Mi Tagai 2021 |

Y

Alice Jacobs·Anais Comer·Daria Blum·Eleanor Turnbull·Ryunosuke Goji·Gillies Adamson Semple·
Takashi Horiuchi·Yuuki Horiuchi·Kenta Kawagoe·O JUN·Tuli Litvak·Youhei Watanabe

2021.06.19 – 2021.06.27 Ai mi Tagai 2021 | Ai mi Tagai 2021 |

Y

DariaBlum YoheiChimura Anais Comer LydiaDavies GrahamEllard&StephenJohnstone
NobuyukiFujiwara RyunosukeGoji ShioriHigashiyama TakashiHoriuchi YuukiHoriuchi AliceJacobs
KentaKawagoe Jean-BaptisteLagadec TuliLitvak OJUN EleanorTurnbull Hitomi Usui

<2021.07.01 - 2021.09.30 Temporarily closed due to VID-19 pandemic>

2021.11.03 – 2021.11.23 "Souvenir from the residency Artists in Youkobo" | Youkobo

2021.12.15 – 2021.12.21 "Souvenir from the residency Artists in Youkobo" Vol.2 | Residents

Virtual project continued from the previous year

2020.11.19–2021.12.31 Ai mi Tagai 2020 London, Web Project

C Y

2021.01.15 – 2021.02.16

Utako Shindo

Meeting and Greeting Like Shadows

Her works internationally for her scholarly and artistic pursuit of ‘the untranslatable’. Her recent works explore ‘shadow’ in nuanced shade/light (Nohtan) and line drawn as they ‘transfer’ (utsuru in Japanese, indicating variants on transfer: trace, reflect, project and emerge) between darkness and light.

Her yearlong research and creative project (2019–2020) in New Mexico, USA, with fellowship support from Agency of Cultural Affairs, Japan, sought a deeper understanding of Agnes Martin’s ‘abstract expression’. From December 2021, as a resident artist at Youkobo Art Space, Utako has been making a body of new work that summarizes her explorations of the recent years. This is presented at this exhibition, ‘Meeting and Greeting Like Shadows’.

• video record:

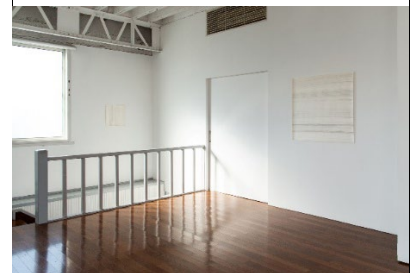
<https://www.utakoshindo.info/sp/exhibition2021/video/>

<https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/02/meeting-and-greeting-like-shadows.html>

• Online Artist Talk : Saturday, February 20, 12:00 – 13:00

Utako Shindo with guest, Linda Swanson (Artist, Educator, Writer, Director of Forde Visser Archive) *Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85791129328?pwd=amNFanByS2FIZdWT3BHb3UxT1ZlUT09>



2021.03.04 - 08; 1st Part and 03.25 - 29; 2nd Part

Rin Takahashi, Mariana Kameta, Xiaotai Gao [Japan, Mexico, China]

House of My Emotion

The exhibition by three students from Japan, Mexico, and China, selected by the Department of Global Art Practice (GAP) at Tokyo University of the Arts. The exhibition was held two parts.

This is the support program for young artists in collaboration with Tokyo University of the Arts GAP and Youkobo Art Space.

Talk event : On Friday 26 March at 19:00

Guest: Yuko Morih

https://youtu.be/Sg0_I0npgvk



2021.04.17 – 2021.04.25

Alice Jacobs · Anaïs Comer · Daria Blum · Eleanor Turnbull · Ryunosuke Goji · Gillies Adamson Semple · Takashi Horiuchi · Yuuki Horiuchi · Kenta Kawagoe · O JUN · Tuli Litvak · Youhei Watanabe [Japan · England]

Lottery Exhibition – Ai Mi Tagai 2021

· Document: https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/10/09/2021_LE_AimiTagai2021-1_v3_Man_SS.pdf

In 2020, the London version of the “Ai Mi Tagai” exhibition was scheduled to be held in London, but it was virtually canceled by COVID-19. This project is an exhibition planned to confront and respond to this era of infectious diseases again in response to the cancellation of the planned exhibition. First, one person, the “installer,” is selected by lottery. Instead of exhibiting their own works, the selected installer decides the arrangement from the works of each artist and composes the exhibition. The installer, who happens to be assigned the role, constructs the exhibition with his own interpretation, without each artist showing or interacting with the exhibition method suitable for his own work when arranging (installing). The installer’s own sensibility or hobby may also intervene there. Just like watching an actual exhibition, imagining the appearance of a possible exhibition is also a theme to be experimented with in this exhibition.



2021.06.19 – 2021.06.27

Daria Blum Yohei Chimura, Anaïs Comer Lydia Davies, Graham Ellard & Stephen Johnstone, Nobuyuki Fujiwara, Ryunosuke Goji, Shiori Higashiyama, Takashi Horiuchi, Yuuki Horiuchi, Alice Jacobs, Kenta Kawagoe, Jean-Baptiste Lagadec, Tuli Litvak, OJUN, Eleanor Turnbull, Hitomi Usui [Japan · England]

Ai mi Tagai 2021

· Document: https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/10/09/2021_GSJ_AimiTagai2021-2_v3_Man_SS.pdf

This exhibition has been held following the “Lottery exhibition —Ai mi Tagai 2021 Tokyo” held in April. Taking advantage of the relationships between artists that have been cultivated through past activities, this series of projects has been continued with cooperation. We believe that this is an indispensable attempt for a sustainable society by deepening mutual understanding, cooperation and coexistence between international countries.

This exhibition had been postponed as a place to practically express what has been gained through the continuation and trials so far, after the turmoil in the Corona disaster. And we are looking forward to re-planning and implementing “Ai mi Tagai London Edition” in the near future.



Souvenir from the residency Artists in Youkobo

Exhibition in November, vol.1

Exhibition in December, vol.2

Video Record: <https://vimeo.com/696402705>

企画展示のお知らせ

11月企画

・会期:11月3日(水・祭)～ 11月23日(火・祭)
・開場:13:00～18:00 会期中、月・火休み、但し、最終日・11月23日はオープン。
・タイトル:「アーティストの置き土産 vol.1」
・内容:
遊工房に滞在したアーティスト達のプレゼント作品を中心に展示し、この30数年間360人余りの滞在制作をした、アーティスト達が、アートを通して残してくれたもの、人との繋がり、生き方、考え方、気付き等々を思い紡いでいきます。

12月・師走企画・開場:13:00～18:00、

・タイトル:「アーティストの置き土産 vol.2」
・内容:

vol.1の展示を基に、遊工房で展示・発表をした在京アーティスト達が残した作品を展示に加え、在京、滞在アーティスト相互のアートを通じた交流や繋がりを考え、レジデンス・プログラムの価値を究めます。

vol.1・2とも会期中の展示は日々変化していきます。

2021.11.03 – 2021.11.23

Residency Artists who came and went in the last 30 years

Souvenir from the residency Artists in Youkobo, vol.1

To show the works which gave us as gifts from the residency artists in Youkobo, more than 360 artists since the past 30 years. We would like to spin what the artists who stayed have left behind through art, connections with local artists and peoples, ways of life, ways of thinking, awareness, etc., and we will spin them. The exhibition changed day by day during the exhibition period and followed vol.2.



2021.12.15 – 2021.12.21

Artists who have been active in Youkobo during the last 30 years

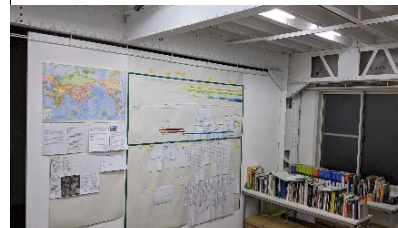
Souvenir from the residency Artists in Youkobo, vol.2

Based on the exhibition of vol.1, we add the works of local artists who exhibited at Youkobo during the times.

We explore the value of the residence program by considering exchanges and connections between the residency artists and local artists through art and life as the artists.



Related to the implementation of this exhibition, an archive center for AIR activities will be set up and open to the public in Youkobo, "History of Youkobo-with artists and Microresidences"



2020. 11. 19 – 2021. 12. 31

Ai Mi Tagai Artists: Jean-Baptiste Lagadec Takashi Horiuchi Gillies Adamson Semple Alice Jacobs Lydia Davies Dan Isomura Tuli Litvak Abbi Jones Yohei Chimura Kenta Kawagoe Anaïs Comer Hitomi Usui Hannah Doucet Eleanor Turnbull Daria Blum Sean Lavelle Yohei Watanabe Yuuki Horiuchi Ryunosuke Goji Shiori Higashiyama [Japan, UK]

Ai mi Tagai Web Project – Ai mi Tagai2020 London

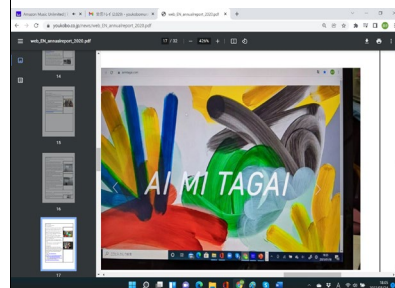
“London Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program (LYE)”, conducted every year since 2015. As a milestone of the 5th year, the team Ai mi Tagai organized a group exhibition by participating artists and cooperating art school faculty members of LYE and open forum for evaluating this activities of LYE with Japanese-English collaborative program, held in Tokyo in July 2019.

The plan to hold the event in London in 2020 was canceled due to the pandemic, but online creative activities launched mainly by artists from both countries as the Ai mi Tagai Web Project.

It has launched on 19 Nov. to be released on the Web according to the exhibition preview schedule originally planned.

This online activity is continuing throughout 2021, and exchanges through active creation have begun.

- WEBSITE: <https://www.aimitagai.com>
- WORKSPACE: <https://www.notion.so/4bca1ef141d2423f8c1871e00c0e83d5>
- SHOWSPACE: <https://www.aimitagai.com/show-space>
- INSTAGRAM: https://www.instagram.com/london_tokyo_y_air/
- CSM SPEAKING WITH EMPATHY INSTAGRAM:
<https://www.instagram.com/speakingwithempathy/>



1-3 Events - Artist Talks & Critique Sessions

• Artist Talk:

2021.02.20 Utako Shindo

Guest, Linda Swanson (Artist, Educator, Writer, Director of Forde Visser Archive)

<https://www.utakoshindo.info/sp/exhibition2021/talk/>

2021.03.26 Rin Takahashi, Mariana Kameta, Xiaotai Cao [Japan, Mexico, China]

Guest, Yuko Morhi (Artist, Literature GAP Course, TUA)

https://youtu.be/Sg0_I0npgvk

2021.04.17 Lottery exhibition - Ai Mi Tagai 2021

Guest, OJUN (Artist) 、 Prof. Teiko Hinuma (JOSHIBI Univ. of Art and Design)

'Document Book' : <https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/09/ai-mi-tagai-202146.html>

2021.06.26 Ai mi Tagai 2021 Tokyo

Guest, Prof. Nobuyuki Fujiwara, Chizuru Usui (Sener Program Officer, ArtsCouncil Tokyo)

'Document Book' : <https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/09/ai-mi-tagai-202146.html>

• Symposium, Session:

2021.01.22~02.15, 19guests

“Artist Residencies and the Pandemic Survey” Interview-centric individual sessions

For details, see 2-5. Research in 2. Related Activities.

2021.11.03 “20th Anniversary Symposium of Trolls in the Park”

<http://www.trollsinthepark.com/symposium/>

2021.11.03~12.23 for Vol.1 and 12.15~21 for Vol.2

“Souvenir from the residency Artists in Youkobo, vol.1 and vol.2”

open talk about Exhibitions and the Youkobo Mandara

For details, see 2-5. Research in 2. Related Activities.

Document Video Record: <https://vimeo.com/696402705>

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).

Based on the above concept, here described in the following 6 sections.

2-1 AIR Exchange Programs

2-2 Y-AIR

2-3 Networking

2-4 Community Art

2-5 Research

2-6 Archives

2-1 AIR Exchange Programs

1. Exchange Program with International Organizations in 2021: All stopped at COVID-19

- Embassy of Luxembourg with the Cultural Ministry since 2011
- Asia New Zealand Foundation since 2015
- Finnish Writers Union since 2016
- Passa Porta, Belgian Org, scheduled to start in 2020

2. Exchange Program with Overseas AIR Activity Organizations: All stopped at COVID-19.

- KAIR, Kosice Artist in Residence since 2013
- Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation (FASF), Helsinki since 2017
- studioName, Leicester, UK since 2019

2-2 Y-AIR Programs

1. Y-AIR Network Forum 2021 London:

This continuation forum was planned to be held in London in 2021 (University of the Arts London CSM school), but it was canceled due to Corona.

An international forum that aims to create a system for international exchange programs through the sharing of various Y-AIR practical activities and activity evaluation through collaboration between AIR and art school.

Held in February 2020 at the Joshibi University of Art and Design in Tokyo as the first secretariat of the forum.

http://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/Y-AIR_Forum_2020_Tokyo.pdf

2. Y-AIR Practical Activities 2021: All stopped at Corona

①LTYE, London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2021 : The shift plan to 2021 had also been cancelled.

LTYE Program since 2015

Ai mi tagai Project, a new art activity exchange project that began to gather artists who experienced this program on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the LTYE program (an alumni association born in 2019)

At the reunion in Tokyo in 2019, they held group exhibitions in Tokyo and a forum to talk about the value of the exchange program of LTYEs.

<https://www.aimitagai.com/>

<https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/09/ai-mi-tagai-202146.html>

②Y-AIR Artist Exchange Program, Finland and Japan, 2021: Stopped

In 2020, due to the cancellation of the "Tenku Art Festival 2020", the subsequent exchange program had suspended.

The program since 2017. A Y-AIR exchange program by Finnish micro-residence Art Break and Lapland University, Japanese side, Youkobo and TUA.

③ArtCamp in the University of West Bohemia as Y-AIR Overseas Dispatch Program 2021: Stopped

As in 2020, we planned to dispatch students to Camp and artists who act as Camp instructors, but it was suspended due to the cancellation of Art Camp in 2021.

It started in 2013 with the introduction and cooperation of the "EU / Japan Fest Japan Committee (Tokyo)". A program to dispatch art college students and artists to the "Art Camp", an international summer school of art held every summer at the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic,

Short-term stay type (3 weeks) creative exchange opportunity in a different culture is to challenge international exchange while studying with art. From 2015, the dispatch of Camp instructors has also started.

④Young Basque Artists ' Residency in Japan, 2021: Stopped

As in 2020, 2021 stopped.

In response to a request for cooperation from Japan's AIR experience opportunity, the young artist of the "ERTIBIL BIZKAIA" an artist support program of the Basque Country of Spain.

As part of the Y-AIR activity in which AIR and art school collaborate, a young artist support activity started in 2018 in collaboration with Youkobo Art Space and Joshibi University of Art and Design.

Accepted with the cooperation of domestic AIR, and continues to collaborate with local art schools.

⑤Tokyo / Melbourne Y-AIR Exchange Program 2021: none

The acceptance plan for 2020 had canceled and the plan will be reexamined.

Melbourne's art school, RMIT's cultural arts training program, "The Japanese Contemporary Art Study Intensive (J-CASI)" in the wake of the exchange in September 2019,

As a plan to realize mutual exchange between AIR and art school between the two cities, we have signed an understanding for mutual exchange after 2021 and accept the first artist to Youkobo from 2020.

3. Youkobo Internship 2021: Stopped

There are two type of program, an international internship program, named the global internship program and a student internship program. To develop next-generation human resources for AIR management field, started activities in 2007 as a program to experience activities through practical training of AIR management at Youkobo. The student internship program started collaborated with domestic art schools since 2013.

2.3 Networking

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/

Topics in 2021:

1. Res Artis World Conference in 2021 in Bangkok



Defining the Next Decade 8 - 17 September 2021

The World Conference following the 2019 Kyoto Conference was not held in 2020. It was decided that 2021 will be held in Bangkok in September.

Res Artis Conference 2021 Bangkok will be held online for a net 6 days spanning 2 weeks from September 8th to 17th, 2021.

<https://resartis.org/res-artis-conferences/past-conferences/bangkok-2021/>

- Organizer: Res Artis,
Host Organizer: SAC Gallery, Bangkok
- Theme: " Defining the Next Decade"

Held by devising a time zone such as setting the time for 4 days in the evening and 2 days in the morning. The difficulties of online conference and events, such as the introduction of the host city and the difficulties of the participants with time differences, were oozing out. It was a meeting where expectations for the post-Corona and the hardships of the Corona disaster were shared.

- Participated session for us as Microresidence Network: September 16th (5th day)

Theme: Importance of networks (workshop)

Session members: Kai Latvalehto (Northern AiR, Finland), Tatsushiko Murata (Microresidence Network, Japan), Carolin Casey (Res Artis, Australia), Arda van Tiggelen (TransArtists, Netherlands)

After explaining each network outline from session members, discussion-centered development in workshop. We shared the resumption of activities after the corona according to the characteristics of each network.

The importance of networking: https://youtu.be/V_0icp9PvYk

2. Report of AIR & the Pandemic Survey, " Reflections on Artist Residencies from the Pandemic"

We conducted a questionnaire survey of the activities of the AIR operator and the artists who are the residence users under the corona during the end of last year 2020. After that, individual additional interviews were conducted in the beginning of 2021. The survey results are summarized and published as a report. See "2-5. Research".

<https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/03/air2020.html>

3. Y-AIR International Network Forum in London 2021, Canceled

In February 2020, the "Y-AIR International Network Forum" was held at the Joshibi University of Art and Design, where international art universities and AIR officials gathered. The forum was scheduled to continue to London, but was canceled in 2021 due to a subsequent pandemic by Corona.

- First Y-AIR International Network Forum held in February 2020 at JOSHIBI University of Art and Design, Tokyo

Y-AIR Concept - "AIR × Art University" International career development for young artists

<https://microresidence.net/y-air-network/>

http://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/Y-AIR_Forum_2020_Tokyo.pdf

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.

1. Troll in the Park 2021

The open air art exhibition "Trolls in the Park" at the nearby Zempukuji Park celebrated its 20th anniversary in 2021.

It started in 2002 with only three young artists from Japan and Finland.

It is completely rooted in the area now, with open air art installations, performances, and various art events in a wide area connecting the park to Nishi-Ogikubo, the nearest JR station. "Breathe deeply-" as unified theme in 2021 while there are restrictions on corona, was successfully completed. Youkobo Art Space also participated as a satellite venue.

The original plan was to have Finnish artist, Antti Ylonen, one of the first participating artists in this event, to participate under the 20th anniversary event, but not possible to visit Japan due to Corona.

During the period we arranged the replacement plan, as "Souvenirs from Residency Artist in Youkobo", more than 30 years have passed since the start of Youkobo Residence, and the works of artists during that period were exhibited, setting up a place to think about what "AIR" is. Based on what we can see from the reunion (including online) with domestic and foreign artists related to Youkobo, dialogue with visitors, and this archive activities from the summer of 2021 under the corona appeared a document, "Youkobo Mandala" as 30 years history of Youkobo with the artists and the network as well.

• 20th Anniversary Symposium, Trolls in the Park 2021:



Trolls in the Park 20th Anniversary Online Symposium

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 19: 00-21: 00

Youkobo Art Space, Gallery Space and Lounge

Panelists Panelist: online: Antti Ylönen, Sumi Kanazawa and more, at Youkobo: Ryozo Takashima, Yuichiro Kurono, Tatsuhiko & Hiroko Murata, Machiko Muramatsu, Akio Momi and more

Moderator: Sachiko Takashiro

Outline Flow: Part 1: Locking back on the 20 years of Trolls in the Park

Part 2: The role that the Trolls in the Park has played

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k_IHE0QJzIM

• Troll in the Park 2021 Spring Exhibition, "Children Playing in the Park"

April 29 - May 9, 2021 at Momoshi no mori in the Zempukuji Park

As the 17th anniversary of the Trolls in the Park Children's Spring Exhibition, an open air exhibition of works by 95 fourth graders of Momoshi Elementary School was held.

The open air art exhibition "Troll in the Park" was held for one month from April to May, when the fresh green weather was initially held for 3 years, 2002-2004. In the spring of 2005, a contemporary artist from NYC, Gyu-chan as Ushio Shinohara, and 102 fourth graders of Momoshi Elementary School, used cardboard to create their own "Spring Bird". The fresh green Zenpukuji Park is powerfully and colorfully colored by them! Since that time, the Golden Week in every year has been held as a children's spring exhibition at Zempukuji Park "Moshi no Mori". It has become a part of the official lessons for 4th graders, and has become established as a children's exhibition in the spring and an appreciation class in the fall.

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.

1. "AIR and Pandemic Study Group" research report published, March 2021

We started hoping that we could provide useful hints for future activities related to AIR (Artist in Residence) under the reality of the influence of the pandemic on the area of art activity, extracting the issues that we as users and operators, have regarding AIR.

It was a chance to talk with a fellow friend of Microresidence, "What are our friends doing? The members of the Microresidence Network in local and overseas who gathered in Kyoto in February 2019".

At the same time, we also received breaking news by Res Artis, the world membership network of AIR activity groups, an urgent investigation, "Half of the artists' AIR activity plans were canceled, shortened, or postponed, and 10% of the AIR programs were closed indefinitely".

In November 2020, we arranged a questionnaire survey request by ONLINE, focusing on the network data of Microresidence, Y-AIR and Youkobo. And the beginning of 2021, additional interview survey, etc., and summarized it as a survey report March 2021 Published the report.

<https://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2021/03/air2020.html>

2. "Souvenirs from Residency Artist in Youkobo" exhibition and open talk

It has been more than 30 years since we started artist residence program at Youkobo Art Space.

As accepting residency artists from overseas stopped due to the corona, the vacant studio space was used as a work space for the archiving. And the archiving work started in the summer of 2021 with the target of open to the public in conjunction with the local art event "Trolls in the Park" from November.

The work has been divided into two parts: work of exhibition planning centered on works and work of organizing as an activity chronology. Start recognizing the actual situation of activities based on the time axis of each artists at Youkobo with creative activities during their residency, and it was decided to sort out the events that can be read from various exchange activities during the same period as well. Many nostalgic memories of the past came out.

"The essence of AIR" that can be read from various activities, etc. The story from the work and the work to read from the documents eventually led to the emergence of "Youkobo Mandala".

http://www.youkobo.co.jp/exhibition_events/2021/10/1112.html

http://www.youkobo.co.jp/exhibition_events/2021/11/-vol2.html

Video Recording: <https://vimeo.com/696402705>

3. Related Activities

① Lecture

- 2021.02.22 「Artist-in Residence (AIR) in Japan」 online lecture by Tatsuhiko Murata
AIR Manager Internship in Residence, Koganecho Area Management Center, Yokohama

② Survey visit and exchange

- 2021.01.22 ~ 02.15

Interview survey by Online,” AIR and Pandemic Study Group” Tatsuhiko Murata, Hiroko Murata, Kasumi Iwama
Guests: Yoshiki Takakura, Shintaro Tokaibayashi, HAYATO Matsuyama, Manabu Kanai, Teiko Hinuma, Utako Shindo,
Kenta Kawagoe, Gaku Tsutaya, Katsumasa Iitaka, Hirofumi Matsuzawa, Izumi Sakamoto, Andrew Tetzlaff,
Steven Allbutt & Yuka Namekawa, Kaisa Keratar, Tessy Fritz, Mkrnich Tonoyan, Ferit Ozsen, Anat Litwin

• 2021.08.22

“Inside-Out Needles”, Izumi Sakamoto solo show at Galerie Igreg Yatsugatake, Tomoka Sato, Izumi Sakamoto

• 2012.08.23

“Art Village in Hokuto” Takami Hosokawa, Chemin du Bonheur, Izumi Skamoto, AIRY

• 2021.09.23

“Let’s protect! Japanese Wild Bees in the city”, interview at the Youkobo Garden by the Tokyo Shimbun

③Forum, Symposium

• 2021.09.16, 6th day of ‘Res Artis Conference 2021 Bangkok’

“Importance of Network” session & workshop

• 2021.11.03

20th Anniversary Symposium, Trolls in the Park 2021 at Youkobo

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.

The COVID-19 Corona pandemic poses many challenges to people’s lives to date.

It is required to act with a non-inertial consciousness, such as contradictions in familiar society and global issues.

I think that it has become more demanding than ever to deal with things with the consciousness of public assistance.

We organize what we can do with art, what we can do with artists, and what we can think of through our art residence.

Hoping that dialogue will proceed through “Youkobo Mandala”, we would like to open a public archive center in Youkobo after the pandemic and tell the true story of art residencies.

Video recording: <https://vimeo.com/696402705>

• Publications, Articles

1. Publications

- 2021.02.20 “Meeting and Greeting Like Shadows” , Utako Shindo
- 2021.03.31 “Y-AIR Concept - ‘AIR x Art University’ , International career development for young artists”
- 2021.03.31 “Reflections on Artist Residencies from the Pandemic”
- Artist Residencies and the Pandemic Survey: Report 2020
- 2021.03.31 Ai mi Tagai
-The 6 year Journey of the London and Tokyo Exchange Program: The Infinite possibilities of Y-AIR
- 2021.05.27 “Youkobo Art Space *Overlapping Tendencies* “ Open housemagazine 2020
Essay by Forde Visser, photo by Utako Shindo
- 2021.09.30 Ai mi Tagai 2021 Document Book, (1) Lottery Exhibition and (2) Group Show in June
- 2021.12.31 Youkobo Art Space Annual Report 2021
- 2021.12.31 “Souvenirs from Residency Artist in Youkobo”, Video Recording

2. Exhibition Catalogs, Invitation Cards

Date	Title, Artist	Media
2021.02.17 - 2021.02.27	Meeting and Greeting Like Shadows Utako Shindo	Invitation Card, Catalog
2021.03.25 - 2021.03.29	House Of My Emotion Rin Takahashi, Mariana Kameta, Xiaotai Cao	Invitation Card, Catalog

3. Articles

- ①Exhibition Information to monthly web magazine, BITECHO, Monthly Gallery, ART NAVI, Tokyo Art Beat, ETC.
- ②Residency and exhibition information posted to embassies, cultural centers, and exchange organization in Tokyo
- ③News Paper in Tokyo
- 2021.10.13 “Let’ s protect! Japanese Wild Bees in the city” , Tokyo Shimbun
 - 2021. 11.06 “Youkobo Now” Suginami Art site

