

Japanese Artist wanted for a Residency in Leicester, UK

studionAme, artist in residence program (Leicester, UK) and Youkobo Art Space (Tokyo, Japan) is announcing an open call for Japanese artists living and working in Tokyo-area.

Date of residency: September – November 2019 (3 months in total)

Number of participants: 1

Profile of the resident: Japanese artist living or working in Tokyo-area so that you can collaborate efficiently with Youkobo and the associated artists throughout this project and in the future - if required, good command of English, spoken and written. We are looking for an artist who works in one or more of the following fields - painting, sculpture, print or 4D in a Fine Art context. We are particularly interested in Japanese artists who are pushing/ exploring the boundaries between craft and fine art and are able to articulate an understanding the difference while exhibiting an understanding of certain cultural histories – but not being bound by those same histories and traditions.

Applications including CV, portfolio and cover letter commenting on artistic intention (all in English only) should be sent no later than November 20, 2018

to: Youkobo Art Space, info@youkobo.co.jp.

Residents will be chosen by a specialist jury by November 30, 2018.

Shortlisted artists will be notified by StudionAme by email by November 30, 2018 and will have Skype interview between 7pm and 12am midnight on 6th or 7th Dec.

Residents will be announced by December 9, 2018.

Application Form: Download [here](#).

Residency assignment and goal:

The Toru Namekawa International - micro residency was established to explore, how the common western approach to fine art and the Japanese approach are almost, diametrically opposite. It is in this opposition that we see an opportunity for both parties to learn and therefor improve both culturally and economically.

studionAme believes they can learn from the Japanese adherence to technique, skill and process that has elevated Japanese craft, while Japanese artists, often bound by these cultural expectations may benefit from an exposure to a more contemporary discourse and access to a western art market.

This micro-residency is a cultural and technical exchange of process and discourse. studionAme is looking for Japanese artists who understand historical techniques and processes and yet are not bound by them.

The selected artist will work from their studio at studionAme, based in the “Cultural Quarter” of the city of Leicester – where they will be provided with a studio space (18m²). The awarded applicant will be expected to carry out their successful proposal of work or research over a period of no more than 3 months, culminating in a solo show or presentation at studionAme’s project space.

The studio is located on the 1st floor (2nd floor Japan) and there is no lift, only steep stairs, therefore the studio is not suitable for heavy works.

Accommodation in a shared apartment or house will be provided by studionAme and will be located in the city center, a short walk between studionAme's building and the DMU campus.

The awarded artist will be given almost full access to the facilities and support [The Faculty of Arts, Design and Humanities at De Montfort University](#) as well as ongoing support and assistance from the team at studionAme throughout the residency.

The Faculty of Arts, Design and Humanities at De Montfort University is home to many creative disciplines and humanities subjects including architecture, design, fashion & textiles, humanities, performing arts and visual arts.

Students from any discipline are able to use any of the workshops and this will also apply to the visiting artist.

Workshop facilities at DMU include but are not limited to:

- Full textile and fashion suit, from creating everything from original dyes to digital design and traditional methods of weaving and screen printing mixed with state-of-the-art digital textile printing facilities, stretching across several floors.
- Fully equipped woodworking facilities. From traditional hand tools through to computer aided design (CAD).
- Glass foundry with 2 x glass kilns and supporting equipment.
- Plaster rooms for casting, moulding and storage.
- Fully equipped metal working rooms, casting cutting and welding of every kind.
- Computer aided design suits including 3D Printing x 3. MACs & PCs
- Full Ceramics workshops and storage including x 4 large kilns.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=40&v=fGqL6SU36no

There will also be the resources at studionAme of screen printing and glass making.

Some level of spoken English will be required for the delivery of presentations and working effectively with studionAme artists and DMU staff. The awarded artist will be required to give 3 talks in English.

- An introductory presentation to DMU students about your practice, culture and educational experiences.
- At the mid-point of your residency a 2nd talk to the general public (to be held at the Attenborough Arts center – [Leicester University](#)).
- A final talk - before or after the PV to your solo show (to be held at studionAme).

In your cover letter please indicate what work you plan to explore and develop while in Leicester, how you will realise this in time for your solo show and how this feeds into your overall practice. Please let us know what motivates you to come to, live and work in Leicester and how this experience may move your practice forward.

The organizer of the residency (studionAme) will provide:

-Transport– once the artist and studio agree to the exact dates, studionAme will buy the flight ticket and send it to the artist by email.

-Accommodation

-Stipendium (£600 gross)

StudionAme will sign an agreement to cover all these points and give the artist security.

Accommodation for resident:

The resident will be accommodated in the shared apartment that is located in the city center. There is private bedroom room, shared kitchen, bathroom, toilet and living room.

Additional Requests from Youkobo Art Space:

-Talk on Skype during the program between artist and Youkobo, Tokyo.

-The activity report of this time experience by Japanese and English within one month, and participation and report to a briefing & discussing session at Youkobo within less than six months after returning to Japan.

-The artist is expected to arrange their own travel, health and personal property insurance for the duration of the residency.

This residency could happen thanks to the kind support of Arts Council England, studionAme, The Faculty of Arts, Design and Humanities at De Montfort University and The Attenborough Arts Centre.

For more information check:

StudionAme:

<http://www.studioname.co>

Toru Namekawa International Residency :

studionAme has now expanded the local residency to link with other international organisations and offer at least one international residency exchange each year - this is the Toru Namekawa International Residency and it forms part of the Microresidencies Network.

contact: Makiko Tsuji, the AIR Coordinator of the Youkobo Art Space/ the open call,
info@youkobo.co.jp

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