

# Youkobo Art Space Annual Report 2017



youkoboART SPACE



The Artist in Residence Program of Youkobo Art Space was supported by  
the Agency of Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2017

# Contents

- Introduction - Overview of 2017 and Future Prospects
- Introduction to Youkobo Art Space
- Contribution — Report on Art Residency in Tokyo – Youkobo Art Space by Sarah Maria Scicluna

Youkobo Art Space Research Residency by Marta Gracia

## 1. Overview of Activities

- 1-1 AIR Program
- 1-2 Gallery Program
- 1-3 Events - Artist Talks & Critique Sessions

## 2. Related Activities

- 2-1 AIR Exchange Programs
- 2-2 Y-AIR
- 2-3 Networking
- 2-4 Community Art
- 2-5 Research
- 2-6 Archives

- Publications, Articles
- Overview of 2017

Index \*Indication of the marks

**C** The Agency of Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, in Fiscal Year 2014

**M** Research Programs relating to Microresidence

**Y** Research Programs relating to Y-AIR (AIR for Young)

**E** Exchange Programs between Youkobo and European Capital of Culture

**R** YRRP, Youkobo Returnee Residency Program



# Overview of 2017 and Future Prospects

A new president taking office in the U.S., Brexit, disconcerting movements in neighboring countries, and Japan—the Far East. Nationalistic conservatism distorts society into a cut-throat world and mass consumption and the pursuit of efficiency advances climate change more than ever. Amidst the waves of such currents in our world, the United Nation's vote to establish the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons provided the world with a sliver of hope, and eventually led to a Nobel Peace Prize. It was a year to contemplate the origins of the relationship between art and society.

The hosting of a wonderful group of artists on our residence program this year was, again, a great joy and honor for us. We treasure the continuous operations of Youkobo, with its new encounters and reunions, and strive to keep it going, constantly fresh and vivid. Maintaining an open and honest stance that doesn't try to defy the changing times, Youkobo Art Space continues to be a place for diverse artistic practices, supporting artists, and presenting the importance of the social role of art.

Studio Youkobo, the precursor to Youkobo Art Space, began in 1989. As we anticipate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2019, starting this year we will incorporate an opportunity for one past resident artist or group to come back each year through a program called the Youkobo Returnee Residency Program.

In 2018, we welcome back Irish artist David Franklin, and an art curator/researcher from Barcelona, Marta Gracia, an artist and curator couple who participated in the residency program between 2008 and 2010. This upcoming residency, which follows up on the trajectory of their activities since their previous Youkobo residency, brings us great excitement in the new year.



Almut Rink related the good news that Orientation as Gardening, her ongoing art project, had travelled to London and Vienna after Tokyo and received positive reviews.

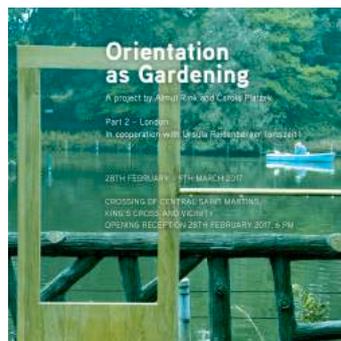
The project was initiated at Youkobo and at Zempukuji Park as part of Trolls in the Park, a local art event held every autumn since 2002.

- February 28 to March 9, 2017 in London

Orientation as Gardening Part 2, in cooperation with Ursula Reisenberger  
In the Kings Cross vicinity at the crossing before Central St. Martins, University of the Arts London

- September 7 to 21, 2017 in Vienna

Beyond Orientation, a project by Almut Rink co-curated by Anne Eggerbert  
At Korea Kulturhaus, Donaupark and Irissee, Vienna



# 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.

Youkobo Art Space is run by the following people:  
Directors: Hiroko Murata, Tatsuhiko Murata  
Staff members: Mika Harigai, Jaime Humphreys, Makiko Tsuji

## Report on Art Residency in Tokyo – Youkobo Art Space

**Sarah Maria Scicluna**  
(Youkobo Residency Artist 2017)

My art residency at Youkobo Art Space in Tokyo was a very fruitful one. The fact that I got to visit an amazing city gave me so much new material for my work, while I also got to develop my art in manners that wouldn't have been possible without such new influences.

Personally, I believe that art residencies are very healthy for artists as they get to experience different cultures and thus allow themselves to grow further, both as artists and as individuals.

Youkobo Art Space was the ideal place to do this. The facilities offered both a living space with all the necessary amenities, as well a connected studio space. This made it very easy for living and experience the daily life in Tokyo, while also be able to make artwork. The studio was very large, and could easily be transformed into an exhibition space. This space contained all the necessary furniture and equipment, with ample amount of light which proved to be a very pleasurable place to work.

The project undertook was one directly tied with my stay in Tokyo. I was mapping my journeys through the different city wards of Tokyo, which were later translated into drawings. These drawings were divided into two separate series. The first series were composed of mapping directly following the roads, which were composed of my recorded journeys which were on foot. These were my initial visits to the stations before I learned how to use the bus systems, as I found them more difficult to get used to than the trains. The second series was composed of recordings made through an app on my mobile phone. This allowed me to record the specific point were I was at, every twenty minutes. Through this I mapped the complete distances travelled, while the different points depending on how close they are together, provide an idea of time spent in specific places. To further allow me to map my place on the map, I was also taking photographs. This served two main purposes; one to allow me to place a marker on the map, and another also to have the pictorial information.

This work eventually culminated in an exhibition in the studio, which showed all the drawings along with a selection of photographs. This exhibition was well attended, amongst which were Mr Rei Shiratori, the Honorary Consulate General of Malta for Japan, and Mr Katsumi Yamamoto, the President of the Japan-Malta Friendly Association.

Besides the art work, I also went around to further experience Tokyo. Amongst the places visited were Shinjuku, Akihabara, Shibuya and Harajuku. I also visited Kamakura, Hamaya and Yokohama. I was shown around various places, as well taken to some local festivals and also experienced some local traditions and also museums, as well as the Yokohama Triennale.



Sarah Maria Scicluna was the first artist to join Youkobo's residence program from the Republic of Malta, an island country located in the Mediterranean Sea. This was made possible through an introduction by Prf. Raphael Vella, the EU Japan Fest Committee to a visiting professor of a Maltese university in connection with the European Cultural Valletta 2018.

Sarah was the fifth artist to win the *Divergent Thinkers* competition, Empowerment Programmes, a program by Aġenzija Żgħażaġh that supports the dispatch of young Maltese artists overseas. She undertook a one-month residency at Youkobo, during which she created new work presented in a final exhibition. A continuing program of exchange is currently being explored by both organizers.

## Youkobo Art Space Research Residency

**Marta Gracia (Barcelona, Spain)**

(A short-term research residency at Youkobo Art Space, 2017)

I first came to Youkobo in 2009 as an intern. At that time, Youkobo had been running the Global Internship Programme for a year, and were hosting international art managers for a period of up to six months. My internship initially lasted from January to July 2009, and I subsequently extended it for two extra months.

I remember my original reasoning for applying to the programme was based on the image of Youkobo that I understood from the information that I had found online - it seemed to me a small, flexible, and human-sized organisation located in the enormous city of Tokyo. It was this aspect of Youkobo that interested me the most and what in the end made my experience there as an intern most rewarding from a professional and personal level. Once I was back home, I started to work in the AIR field in Spain, leading me to set up Art Motile, the first information platform on Spanish AIR programmes. This developed out of a research project that I carried out during my internship at Youkobo.

The main focus of this research residency was micro residencies. The staff of Youkobo and I conducted a work session on the Microresidence Network and collaborations between universities and micro residencies (which is a field that I'm currently researching). We also met with the Culture Dutch Delegate at the Dutch Embassy to introduce Youkobo Art Space and the Microresidence Network. I was also able to visit the rural area of Fujino in Kanagawa prefecture to survey developments relating to art and community in a rural area that has a history of artistic activity. (For more details about the contents and conclusions of these activities please see each activity report.)

In conclusion, having the opportunity to come back to Youkobo Art Space for a short-term research residency has allowed me to gain new first-hand insights into AIR programmes and the current situation in Japan. Currently I am processing the information, ideas, and inspiration I received and which I hope to crystallise into new research projects and exchange activities between residencies in Spain and Japan.

### Summary of Activities:

#### 1. Report of the survey visit to Fujino, Kanagawa prefecture

I visited Fujino after learning that local people there had initiated various art activities. Fujino is known as a place where many artists evacuated during the Second World War, developing since then as a creative village partly through public funding. Possessing a long history of welcoming artists and craftsmen, since the 1980s art activities have been developed through the voluntary leadership of local residents. From the start of 1990, Youkobo also possessed an annex studio of an international AIR program run in Fujino. Currently, there is not just one managing organization or person behind the art activities and AIR program in Fujino but different people and initiatives who are involved in making the residency experience suitable to the profile and needs of the hosted artist. Something that I liked about Fujino is the importance of the natural surroundings and resources and the awareness of locals regarding sustainability. Moreover the fact that Fujino is just one hour away from Tokyo makes collaborations with art initiatives in the big city an interesting possibility for both the Fujino AIR program and the artists invited to the residency.

#### 2. Research into worldwide AIR networks and a Microresidence Meeting

With an awareness of the differences between existing AIR networks, I clarified the characteristics of the Microresidence Network. With flexibility and transparency as the defining features of the network, I researched the common issues shared among members, sensing the importance of the network's emphasis on sharing and face-to-face communication. With this in mind, I discussed important points of consideration in the cultivation of new members, as well as possible forms of participation for future members.

#### 3. Meeting with the Culture Dutch Delegate at the Dutch Embassy

AIR programs are included as one of the fields to work on/with in the current plan for culture of the Dutch Embassy in Japan, and we paid a visit to learn about an AIR-related program the Dutch Embassy is currently developing, in addition to introducing the activities of Youkobo and the Microresidence Network. We also explored possibilities for exchange between microresidencies in Holland and Japan.



Marta Gracia is a researcher and art manager based in Barcelona who undertook an internship at Youkobo for a period of almost one year between 2009 and 2010 as a participant in the Global Internship Programme. Research into AIR that Marta and Youkobo Art Space have mutually undertaken since then led both to the establishment of the Microresidence Network by Youkobo and Art Motile, an online AIR platform launched by Marta Gracia in Barcelona. Marta was invited to Youkobo in 2017 as part of a new research program aiming to evaluate AIR (\*) by exploring how the activities of artists and researchers who previously joined the Youkobo AIR program have developed since their residency.

(\*) The program was initiated as part of activities to mark 30 years since Youkobo first started hosting artists.

<http://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2018/03/report-by-marta-2018.html>

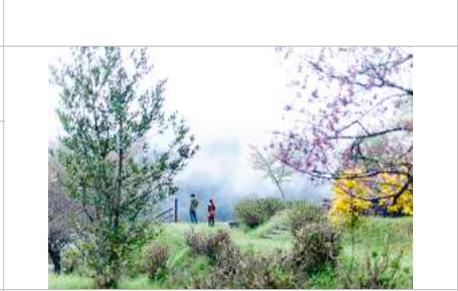
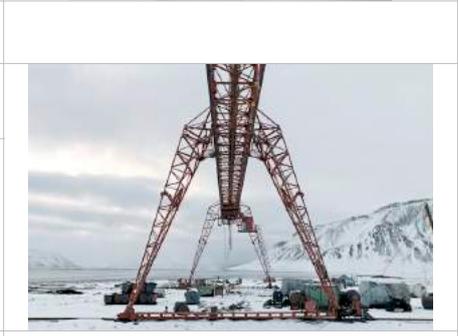
# 1 Overview of Activities

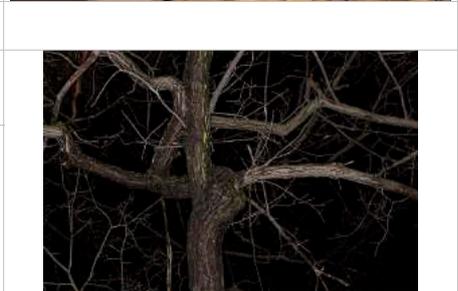
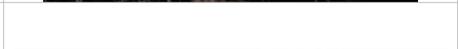
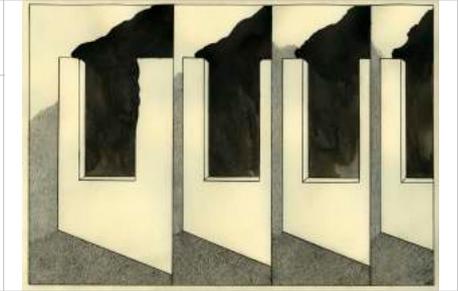
## 1-1 AIR Program

2016.12.01 - 2017.01.31	<b>Franck Lesbros</b>	<b>C</b>
2016.12.01 - 2017.01.31	<b>Naomi Reis</b>	<b>C</b>
2017.03.01 - 2017.03.31	<b>Nicola Moss</b>	
2017.03.01 - 2017.03.31	<b>Loh Xiang Yun</b>	
2017.03.01 - 2017.03.31	<b>Saku Heinänen</b>	
2017.04.01 - 2017.04.30	<b>Espen Iden</b>	
2017.04.01 - 2017.04.29	<b>Maria Matinmikko</b>	
2017.05.01 - 2017.06.14	<b>Jean-Baptiste Lagadec</b>	<b>C M Y</b>
2017.05.01 - 2017.07.15	<b>Richard Maloy</b>	<b>C</b>
2017.05.02 - 2017.05.31	<b>Catharina Gripenberg</b>	
2017.06.01 - 2017.07.31	<b>Madelaine Dickie</b>	
2017.06.15 - 2017.07.31	<b>Abbi Jones</b>	<b>C M Y</b>
2017.08.01 - 2017.08.31	<b>Sarah Maria Scicluna</b>	<b>C M E</b>
2017.08.01 - 2017.09.30	<b>Julie-Marie Duro</b>	<b>C</b>
2017.08.16 - 2017.08.23	<b>Tuija Teiska</b>	<b>C M Y</b>
2017.09.01 - 2017.09.30	<b>André Dubois</b>	
2017.10.01 - 2017.11.29	<b>Maija Luutonen</b>	<b>C</b>
2017.10.01 - 2017.11.30	<b>Vojtěch Domlátil</b>	<b>C M Y E</b>
2017.10.01 - 2017.11.30	<b>Mika Nakamura-Mather</b>	<b>C</b>
2017.12.01 - 2018.01.31	<b>Ari Saarto</b>	<b>C R</b>
2017.12.01 - 2018.01.31	<b>Anna Samsøe &amp; Andreas Stoubye Johansen</b>	<b>C</b>
2017.12.01 - 2018.01.31	<b>David Franklin</b>	<b>C R</b>
2017.12.15 - 2018.01.03	<b>Marta Gracia</b>	<b>C M Y R</b>

<p>2016.12.01 - 2017.01.31 Franck Lesbros [France]</p> <p>Franck Lesbros is a French artist. He lives and works in New York. The work presented was essentially video, yet in some ways, it could also be seen as a hybrid between installation and sculpture. During his residency at Youkobo Art Space, he attempted to make a video evoking maritime phenomena through various artistic devices, drawing parallels with visual art and cinema. At the end of his residency, he held a solo show and collaborated with Japanese musicians Tenniscoats.</p>	
<p>2016.12.01 - 2017.01.31 Naomi Reis [Japan/USA]</p> <p>Reis lives and works in Brooklyn, NY. Her work investigates liminal spaces at the intersection of architecture and natural environments. Her recent work reconfigures photographic imagery into dimensional paintings and installations that balance between pictorial space and abstract composition. At Youkobo Art Space, she used the surrounding landscape as subject matter to make a series of mixed-media paintings and an immersive installation. She had a solo show at the end of her residency.</p>	
<p>2017.03.01 - 2017.03.31 Nicola Moss [Australia]</p> <p>Nicola Moss is an Australian visual artist whose practice investigates the value of a healthy environment for communities and individuals, by exploring how we connect with and shape green space ecology. During her residency, she brought her City and Nature project—a curated ecology, a place where town planning, heritage and personal aesthetic mixes with maintenance regimes and sense of well-being—to Youkobo Art Space to share in a discussion about local/global issues.</p>	
<p>2017.03.01 - 2017.03.31 Loh Xiang Yun [Singapore]</p> <p>Loh Xiang Yun is a visual artist based in Singapore. Her practice addresses issues related to the human-landscape relationship. Looking specifically at the history of gardening, she questions our perception of plants in different settings and our desire for control over nature. Through her research and observations in drawing, painting and photography, her work captures the often-evolving relationship between human and nature. She visited parks and green areas in Suginami city during her residency, which culminated in a presentation of photographs in an open studio.</p>	
<p>2017.03.01 - 2017.03.31 Saku Heinänen [Finland]</p> <p>Participant in a support program organized together with the Union of Finnish Writers. Saku Heinänen is an author and illustrator. He has written and illustrated two acclaimed children's novels, Zaida and the Snow Angel (Finlandia Junior nominee 2014) and Zaida and the Thunderbolts (Arvid Lydecken nominee 2015). During his residency, he gave two presentations and introduced his writing by giving a reading from his latest novel.</p>	
<p>2017.04.01 - 2017.04.30 Espen Iden [Norway]</p> <p>Espen Iden is an interdisciplinary artist from Bergen, Norway. He works with photography, painting, digital collage and book making, and explores the realm of conceptual art as a curator and art teacher. Themes important to his practice include: Occultism, individual perception of nature's workings, as well as the peripheries and intersections between painting and photography. He had two exhibitions the day after he arrived and at the end of his residency.</p>	

<p>2017.04.01 - 2017.04.29 Maria Matinmikko [Finland]</p> <p>Participant in a support program organized together with the Union of Finnish Writers. Maria Matinmikko is a Helsinki-based writer. Her genre lies between poetry and prose. She considers her work as an examination beyond the usual concepts of comparative literature in the sense of combining elements from the traditions of poetry, prose-poems, shorts stories and even novels and aphorisms forming surprising but very carefully considered aesthetics. She gave a presentation of her works at the end of the residency.</p>	
<p>2017.05.01 - 2017.06.14 Jean-Baptiste Lagadec [France/UK]</p> <p>Participant in the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2017. Jean-Baptiste Lagadec is a French painter who graduated from Central Saint Martin's School of Art in 2016. Coming from a digital practice, he playfully seeks alternatives to the screen, responding to certain codes of the digital conception of images through tangible means, in an effort to attain an empirical actualization of this new cultural heritage within the timeless history of painting. During his time at Youkobo, he experimented with visual forms of the "screen" and creates a drawing installation for his open studio to conclude his 6-week residency.</p>	
<p>2017.05.01 - 2017.07.15 Richard Maloy [New Zealand]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Asia New Zealand Foundation. Richard Maloy is an Auckland-based artist. He works in a wide range of media, including sculpture, photography, video and installation. Recently he created the large-scale installation Yellow Structure for the curated section of Encounters, Art Basel in Hong Kong. During his residency, he gave a presentation and held an open studio at the end of the residency in which he showed his ongoing video work.</p>	
<p>2017.05.02 - 2017.05.31 Catharina Gripenberg [Finland]</p> <p>Participant in a support program organized together with the Union of Finnish Writers. Catharina Gripenberg was born in Jakobstad in Finland and currently lives in Copenhagen, Denmark. She writes in Swedish and belongs to the Swedish-speaking minority of Finland. She has published four collections of poetry and written plays for the theatre. Polyphonic or multi-voiced texts and investigating norms and social codes are some of the focal points in her writing. She also works as a literary editor at Ellips, a small press specializing in poetry, essays and mixed genre writing. Catharina concluded her residency with a talk event about her work.</p>	
<p>2017.06.01 - 2017.07.31 Madelaine Dickie [Australia]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by Asialink. Madelaine Dickie lives in Wyndham. Her debut novel 'Troppo' won the City of Fremantle T.A.G Hungerford Award and was published by Fremantle Press in 2016. She is currently drafting her second novel, which has the working title 'Red Can Origami'. She gave a presentation of her past works and research in Japan at the end of her residency.</p>	
<p>2017.06.15 - 2017.07.31 Abbi Jones [UK]</p> <p>Participant of the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2017. Abbi Jones is a British artist and archaeologist based in London whose practice combines interdisciplinary methods of working and display, creating installations of various materials. Her work engages viewer's visual senses to material qualities through the assemblage of media, attempting to stimulate spontaneous narratives that can arrive between works. She had an open studio at the end of her 6-week residency.</p>	

<p>2017.08.01 - 2017.08.31 Sarah Maria Scicluna [Republic of Malta]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Agenzija Zghazagh. Sarah Maria Scicluna was born in Malta. Her work continuously explores ritual, systems and chance, placing much importance on process. Her work varies from installation to silkscreen printing and documentation, often using digital media as a starting point. She explored this further in Tokyo at Youkobo Art space, investigating how experience can be recorded and preserved visually as part of an archive. She presented her mapping drawings at the end of her residency in an open studio.</p>	
<p>2017.08.01 - 2017.09.30 Julie-Marie Duro [Luxembourg]</p> <p>Recipient of a grant awarded by the Embassy of Luxembourg. Julie-Marie Duro lives and works between Liège and Luxembourg. Her interests are mainly in subjective documentary narratives and family related stories. She is currently a PhD candidate in Arts at the University of Liège researching family memory in relation to fiction and landscape. The project "Looking for my Japanese Family" is a part of this investigation. She held an exhibition as an epilog of her project at the end of her residency.</p>	
<p>2017.08.16 - 2017.08.23 Tuija Teiska [Finland]</p> <p>Participant of the Y-AIR Finland Japan AIR Exchange Program 2017. Tuija Teiska lives and works in Espoo. She graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts, University of the Arts Helsinki in 2016 as a Master of Fine Arts. As materials for her work she uses textile, found objects, organic substances and her own body. After taking part in the Youkobo residence program, she joined "Tenku Art Festival 2017" in Tomi City, Nagano prefecture and gave a presentation about her activities at Finnish Institute Tokyo.</p>	
<p>2017.09.01 - 2017.09.30 André Dubois [Canada]</p> <p>André Dubois was born in Québec City. He uses everyday materials as ingredients that trigger his inspiration. His past career in graphic design and advertising brings a special light to his work. Questioning consumer society in a poetic and particularly playful approach, light is a recurring element on his work. The central idea for his project at Youkobo was to capture the essence of a garden. At the end of his residency, he had an open studio and showed a series of sculptural works to reveal the fundamental sensibility of making art and sharing ideas across the cultures of Japan and Canada.</p>	
<p>2017.09.01 - 2017.09.30 Kaisu Koivisto [Finland]</p> <p>Kaisu Koivisto is a Finnish visual artist whose practice encompasses installation, photography, site-specific works and drawing. Her thematic focus is on the notions of place, history, aesthetics and landscape, and in ways in which environments and animals are represented, commodified, and stereotyped. At Youkobo Art Space, she continued an exploration of the politics of environments using photography, video, small-scale sculptural interventions, drawing, collage, and writing. She gave a presentation and talked about her recent activities at the end of her residency.</p>	
<p>2017.10.01 - 2017.11.29 Maija Luutonen [Finland]</p> <p>Participant in a reciprocal exchange program between Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation and Youkobo. Maija Luutonen is a visual artist based in Helsinki, who primarily works with painting on paper. Often examining the attributes and expanding the limits of the medium, her work simultaneously deals with two-dimensionality and spatiality, as well as the very notion of representation. During her residency, she researched and made new work for her upcoming publication and exhibition in Helsinki in February 2018. She had an open studio at the end of her residency and also gave a presentation at Finnish Institute Tokyo.</p>	

<p>2017.10.01 - 2017.11.30 Vojtěch Domlátil [Czech Republic]</p>	
<p>Participant in a reciprocal exchange program between OPEN A.i.R. and Youkobo. Vojtěch Domlátil is a director, animator, illustrator and graphic designer living in Prague, Czech Republic. He uses stop motion animation to create films where real tools, food or other objects are brought to life. During his residency, he had a lecture and one-week workshop at Joshibi University of Art and Design. At the end of the program, he had an exhibition at Youkobo and gave a presentation of his activities at Czech Center Tokyo in which he also showed some of his video work.</p>	
<p>2017.10.01 - 2017.11.30 Mika Nakamura-Mather [Japan/Australia]</p>	
<p>Born in Japan, Mika Nakamura-Mather is a graduate of the Queensland College of Art in Brisbane, Australia. She holds a BA in Fine Art with First Class Honors and has recently completed her Doctor of Visual Arts degree. Her work explores the idea of what 'home' means to us as individuals and cultures. She is particularly interested in the process of memory and the fragmentary glimpses of our past that form the route markers of our personal history. She showed new and past works at Youkobo and also joined Trolls in the Park 2017, creating a collaborative installation work with local residents.</p>	
<p>2017.12.01 - 2018.01.31 Ari Saarto [Finland]</p>	
<p>Ari Saarto is a Helsinki-based photographer and lecturer. Since the mid 1990's, he has worked with several themes, including murder and execution sites, threat in urban space, suicides, homelessness and depression. He is interested in portraiture, memory, presence, space, time, light and movement. He examined these elements at Youkobo by building several pinhole cameras, taking portraits and also by producing pinhole and slow-motion videos.</p>	
<p>2017.12.01 - 2018.01.31 Anna Samsøe &amp; Andreas Stoubye Johansen [Denmark]</p>	
<p>Anna Samsøe is a Danish artist who works in selected media to generate and investigate acoustic phenomena. She collaborates with Andreas Stoubye Johansen. He is a Danish sound artist and musician working with modular synthesizers and home-built instruments. He works mainly with performance and sound installations, presenting magnetic self-playing instruments and sculptures. During the residency, the two artists worked on an installation that combined ceramic and electrical constructions.</p>	
<p>2017.12.01 - 2018.01.31 David Franklin [Ireland/Spain]</p>	
<p>Participant of the Youkobo Returnee Residency Program 2017. David Franklin is an Irish visual artist living in Barcelona, Spain who works primarily with painting, drawing, and video. At Youkobo, he began the first phase of a long-term project exploring various aspects of the Japanese landscape, how it is shaped by and in turn impacts human activity, particularly in relation to culture. The project will continue to develop through a body of work across a range of media, including video installation and drawing. At Youkobo, David presented earlier video works in addition to holding an artist talk and public discussion about his experiences on residency programs.</p>	<p>Participant of the Youkobo Returnee Residency Program 2017. Marta Gracia is a researcher and art manager based in Barcelona who undertook an internship at Youkobo for a period of almost one year between 2009 and 2010 as a participant in the Global Internship Programme. At the time, she carried out research into the current state of AIR in Spain and Latin America, going on to present her findings at the J-AIR Forum (domestic AIR network). Research into AIR that Marta and Youkobo Art Space have mutually undertaken since then led both to the establishment of the Microresidence Network by Youkobo and Art Motile, an online AIR platform launched by Marta Gracia in Barcelona.</p>



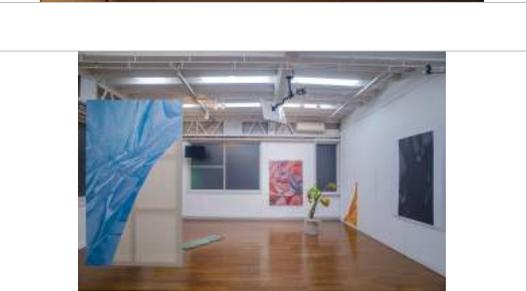
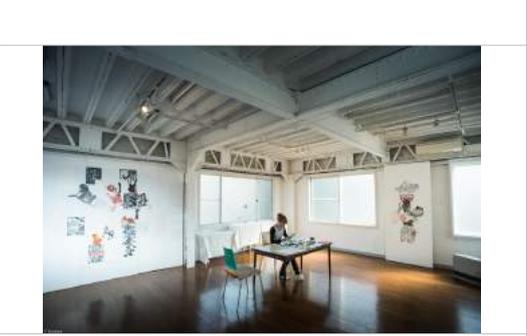
<p>2017.01.21 - 2017.01.29  Franck Lesbros  <i>Sea of Instability</i></p> <p>He produced a video work taking the sea as his subject that involved various movements and colors. The work employed darkness and light skillfully in a constructed miniature set for the action onscreen. The images, which spoke of natural disaster and its influence on humanity, generated a sense of wonder lying between reality and fiction. In addition, the soundtrack was produced with the cooperation of Tenniscoats, a Japanese band that is active globally, contributing to the creation of unique, poetic world.</p>	
<p>2017.01.21 - 2017.01.29  Nomi Reis  <i>A Walk Around the Sun</i></p> <p>The video, photography and mixed-media paintings presented in this show acted as a visual diary of views observed in daily life over a one-year period. Made in the year following the loss of a loved one, the simple act of walking, observing and recording became a means to process grief—a reminder of the strangeness of being alive while struggling to understand the absence of another. The work functioned as a personal map of the human psyche told through landscape, a genre that has captured the zeitgeist of its time throughout history on both sides of the globe.</p>	
<p>2017.01.21 - 2017.01.29  Ryunosuke Goji, Issei Yamagata  <i>optical camouflage</i></p> <p>In an age when technology is becoming increasingly integrated into the environment with seamless transparency, and when the multifarious images of people, objects and events are becoming camouflaged within systems, this exhibition treats this camouflage of in/visible images as the subject, questioning the feedback generated from a certain viewpoint.</p>	
<p>2017.03.22 - 2017.03.26  Lillian Canright, Misako Tago, Yukari Sakata   Cooperation: Yuka Minegishi  <i>Black and White and Blue</i></p> <p>A three-person exhibition organized by students who excelled in the inaugural year of the Graduate Program of Global Art Practice, Tokyo University of the Arts. Yukari Sakata is a theater director who made work about the relationships between people and words; Misako Tago questioned the interior and exterior of the image through pictures and space, and Lillian Canright worked with video from the point of view of philosophy. These three artists with origins in differing media were introduced in this exhibition. Curated by Yuka Minegishi.</p>	
<p>2017.03.22 - 2017.03.26  Nicola Moss  <i>OPEN STUDIO - City and Nature</i></p> <p>Nicola brought her City and Nature project—a curated ecology, a place where town planning, heritage and personal aesthetic, mixes with maintenance regimes and sense of well-being—to Youkobo Art Space, Tokyo to share in a discussion about local/global urban green space issues. She observed various parks, green spaces and local gardens and created paper cut works in response. During her open studio, she prepared a questionnaire that asked interviewees about their relationship with green spaces.</p>	
<p>2017.03.22 - 2017.03.26  Loh Xiang Yun  <i>OPEN STUDIO - Salad</i></p> <p>Loh Xiang's project presented a mixture of research findings, photographs and drawings. The photographs were a selection of visual textures collected from urban parks in Suginami City, while the drawings were abstract patterns inspired by these textures. Tossing up a salad bears some analogy to building an urban park. Both are artificially constructed to satisfy our desire for nature and to obtain a sense of wellbeing that is almost lost in our modern society. The presented work was part of ongoing research for a second photo book of a series of five.</p>	

Photo: Issei Yamagata

Photo: bozzo



<p>2017.07.19 - 2017.07.23  Mayumi Arai  <i>Nothing happened. It's already happened.</i></p> <p>Mayumi produced a video of a film archivist whom she met in London. Through research into home movies, she explored the origins of documentary films and photos. Her specific interest is in the ways in which home movie footage can show us what she considers to be a type of 'special habitual intentionality', but also moments of a switching of positions between object and subject where the person filming is intimately related to the people being filmed. In addition, she held an 8mm film screening event through the cooperation of local residents.</p>	
	<p>Photo: Ujin</p>
<p>2017.07.19 - 2017.07.23  Ryusei Akaike  <i>KIMPOCHO</i></p> <p>An exhibition organized as part of the Youkobo Y-AIR Studio Program. Inspired by his experiences of being an intern in the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program in 2015, he has been supporting the Y-AIR program since then. For this exhibitoin, he stayed in Kinpocho, Kagoshima for six weeks in order to paint his family, familiar landscapes and memories.</p>	
	<p>Photo: Ujin</p>
<p>2017.08.23 - 2017.08.27  Sarah Maria Scicluna  <i>Follow Me All The Way</i></p> <p>Sarah is interested in the concept of the metropolis and the archive, and she experimented with various aspects of portraying this visually. She explored the city by recording it in different ways. As a record of movement, she made use of photography and video documentation, drawing and mapping. This collection of work exists as a personal archive of her experience, whereby she mapped experiences rather than simply geographical elements.</p>	
<p>2017.09.20 - 2017.09.28  Julie-Marie Duro  <i>Looking for my Japanese Family</i></p> <p>This project was a search for her uncle whom she had never met. He was born in Japan in the 1970's but she has no information about his whereabouts. She has been looking for him for approximately two years, visiting and documenting many places in Japan where her uncle may have visited. She held an exhibition as an epilogue of this project, showing various poems, pictures, videos and installations.</p>	
<p>2017.09.20 - 2017. 09. 27  Mayumi Arai, Dan Isomura  <i>Final Exhibition of London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2017</i></p> <p>Mayumi Arai and Dan Isomura held an exhibition and gave a presentation to conclude the London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program soon after their return to Tokyo. They showed work created during their stay in London, and invited Midori Matsui and Yohei Kurose as guest critics to discuss their ideas and motivations, gaining many useful comments.</p>	
<p>2017.09.23 - 2017. 09. 28  André Dubois  <i>Montkyo Gardens</i></p> <p>The work shown in this exhibition took the form of paper sculptures that took "the garden" as their theme. The merging of the cultures of Canada and Montreal that could be witnessed in these delicate works rendered in paper inspired the title of the project: Montkyo, which signifies the first letters of Montréal (Mont) combined with the ending letters of Tokyo (kyo). This project revealed the fundamental sensibility of making art and sharing ideas across cultures. This sculptural project showed the importance of taking care of nature and cultivating it wherever you are in the world.</p>	

<p>2017.11.17 - 22.26 Mika Nakamura-Mather <i>Japanory</i></p> <p>Mika is particularly interested in the process of memory and the fragmentary glimpses of our past that form the route markers of our personal history. Japanory is a continuation of the artist's investigation of memory and the notion of what 'home' means in an increasingly disconnected and dislocated world. It's a portmanteau word derived from a combination of the words Japanese and Story. The opportunity to live and work in Tokyo for an extended period of time allowed her to gain insight into the moments and minute detail of everyday life that are the fundamental building blocks of identity and belonging.</p>	
<p>2017.11.22 - 11.26 Vojtěch Domlátil <i>Fleeting Autumn</i></p> <p>During his residency, Vojtěch visited many places in Japan and took a lot of pictures of landscapes, food, life of people and so on. He attempted to transform the structure of Japanese Haiku into the audiovisual form of animated film. This involved transforming the Haiku system of 5-7-5 into three shots of 5, 7 and 5 second durations. Thanks to an introduction by Nozomi Watanabe, he had the opportunity to exchange with the Association of World Haiku.</p>	
<p>2017.11.22 - 11.26 Maija Luutonen <i>OPEN STUDIO</i></p> <p>A lot of the aspects of Maija's recent work such as the scrolls, wearable paintings, and large surfaces constructed on paper, draw from Japanese traditions as well as her own background and contemporary questions. During her stay in Tokyo, she visited museums that house important national treasures, and familiarized herself with the Japanese use of paper. She researched for her upcoming publication and also planned and made new work for her upcoming exhibition in Helsinki in February 2018.</p>	



## 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. Based principally on the provision of opportunities for artists from overseas to stay and produce work, as a program of related activities 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 (Y-AIR). In addition, Youkobo is also actively developing networks with AIR programs and organizations supporting AIR activities in Japan and overseas. 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, in addition to hosting the children's workshop Art Kids. As part of a survey into activities relating to AIR, Youkobo continues to present research into AIR through activity reports that reveal the infinite potential for the greater dissemination of microresidencies and collaboration between AIR and universities of art. Additionally, Youkobo is working to organize the information gathered through surveys of AIR together with documentation of the activities of artists in residence at Youkobo in an archive accessible to the public. 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

#### Reciprocal 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 2017, reciprocal programs were implemented with the following two organizations.

##### • OPEN A.i.R. (Pilsen City, Czech Republic)

2017 marked the third year of this reciprocal exchange with OPEN A.I.R., an AIR program established in 2015 in the same year that Pilsen City became the European Capital of Culture. This program has developed as a collaborative exchange between AIR and art universities of both countries (OPEN A.I.R. and University of West Bohemia in Czech Republic, and Youkobo Art Space and Joshibi University of Art and Design in Tokyo). Vojtěch Domlátil, a teacher from the Animation Studio of the University of West Bohemia, travelled from Czech Republic to Tokyo, and artist Nozomi Watanabe travelled from Japan to Pilsen in a reciprocal two-month residency that concluded with an exhibition. During his stay in Japan, Vojtěch gave a lecture and held a week-long workshop at Joshibi University of Art and Design.

The results of this program were presented in a public event held at the Czech Center in Tokyo: November 20, 2017, 18:00-20:00, 50 participants

2017.05.01-06.30 Nozomi Watanabe (OPEN A.i.R.)

2017.10.01-11.30 Vojtěch Domlátil (Youkobo Art Space)



##### • Tapiola Guest Studio(Espoo), Finland Artists' Studio Foundation (Helsinki, Finland)

Following the signing of a memorandum, a reciprocal program of exchange with the Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation (FASF) began in 2017. The program involves a reciprocal exchange with Tapiola Guest Studio, an artist studio in Espoo City on the outskirts of Helsinki that is a member of FASF. Visual artist Maija Luutonen travelled from Finland to Tokyo, while photographer Kazuo Yoshida travelled from Japan to Helsinki to undertake a two-month residency which culminated in an exhibition.

The results of this program were presented in a public event held at the Finnish Institute in Tokyo: October 25, 2017, 18:00-20:00, 30 participants

2017.05.01-06.30 Kazuo Yoshida (Tapiola Guest Studio)

2017.10.01-11.30 Maija Luutonen (Youkobo Art Space)



## 2-2 Y-AIR

As a trial for Y-AIR, the following programs are being implemented through planning between Youkobo and related domestic art institutions, the results of which are evaluated with a view to establishing a framework for sustainable programs of exchange.

### • London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2017

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. 2017 is the third year of this exchange. Over three months between May and July, Mayumi Arai and Dan Isomura travelled from Japan to London, and Jean-Baptiste Lagadec and Abbi Jones 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, 2017 | Jean-Baptiste Lagadec (Youkobo Art Space) ⇔ Mayumi Arai (ASP Program)

Leg 2: June 15-July 31, 2017 | Abbi Jones (Youkobo Art Space) ⇔ Dan Isomura (ASP Program)

- Jean-Baptiste Lagadec : Born in Paris in 1992. Graduated from Central Saint Martin's School of Art in 2016.
- Abbi Jones : Born in UK in 1992. Graduated from Central Saint Martin's School of Art in 2015.
- Mayumi Arai : Born in New York in 1988. Graduated from a Masters in Fine Art from Tokyo University of the Arts in 2016. (2-5, 2017 in London)
- Dan Isomura : Born in Tokyo in 1992. Graduated from the Faculty of Painting, Tokyo University of the Arts in 2016. (6-7, 2017 in London)



### • Youkobo Y-AIR Studio Program 2017

A program that utilizes the Youkobo studios with the aim of supporting young, Tokyo-based artists. In 2017, the second 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. Various events were organized, including exhibitions, critiques with invited guests, and numerous other discussions and social events involving the other international artists and researchers staying at Youkobo during the same period. In addition, an exhibition and presentation concluding the studio program was held in September.

- Dan Isomura : 2017.05.01-06.14

- Mayumi Arai : 2017.06.15-07.31

2017.09 : Final exhibition and report

Critics | 6/10 Naoko Horiuchi, 7/23 & 9/23 Midori Matsui, 9/27 Yohei Kurose



• **Y-AIR International Dispatch Program – ArtCamp, University of West Bohemia (Pilsen City, Czech Republic)**

Realized through cooperation between Youkobo Art Space and domestic institutions of art, this program dispatches art students and artists to ArtCamp, an international, art and design summer school organized annually by the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, Czech Republic. The program offers opportunities for cross-cultural creative exchange through a short three-week stay overseas. In 2017, one student participated in ArtCamp, and one artist joined as an instructor. The program was initiated in 2013 through the support of the EU Japan Fest Japan Committee. To date, 21 students from eight different art institutions around the country have participated. (TUA, Joshibi University of Art and Design, Musashino Art University, Tokyo Zokei University, University of Fukui, Tohoku University of Art and Design, Saitama University, Akita University of Art)

A report about these activities were presented together with other reciprocal programs with the Czech Republic in a public event held at the Czech Center in Tokyo: November 20, 2017, 18:00-20:00, 50 participants

2017.07.10-07.14 Hiroko Matsushita : Lecture “illustration / Advanced illustration inspired by Japanese paper techniques”

She had an opportunity to hold an exhibition at a gallery run by the University.

2017.07.10-07.28 En En (Student of Joshibi University of Art and Design participated in ArtCamp)



• **Y-AIR Artist Exchange Program, Finland and Japan, 2017**

This program was planned and initiated at the request of Tōmi City and TUA to utilize the opportunity provided by the establishment of a residence program as part of *Tenku Art Festival*, an event held in Tōmi City in Nagano Prefecture since 2016. Based on cooperation between the local executive committee, the research lab of TUA and a connection with a similar environmental art festival that has been long established in Finland, this trial program was realized in cooperation with the AIR program manager of ArtBreak—a fellow AIR exchange program that Youkobo has a strong relationship with—and Lapland University (Rovaniemi City, Finland). In 2017, a Finnish artist was invited to participate in *Tenku no Mori*, while artists and staff of the *Tenku Art Festival* travelled to Finland to undertake research and creative activities.

2017.08.01-08.31 Erika Masuya: Onsite research and creative activities were realized in Finland through the cooperation of ArtBreak (Ii City) and the Faculty of Art at Lapland University (Rovaniemi City) .

2017.08.16-07.28 Tuija Teiska: In Japan, a Finnish artist joined the Youkobo AIR program and participated in *Tenku Art Festival 2018* (Tomi City, Nagano Prefecture) through the cooperation of TUA. (*Tenku Art Festival* | 2017.09.30-10.29 in Tomi City, Research in Tokyo | 08.16-08.23 at Youkobo, 10.07-10.30 at TUA)



• Lectures Relating to Y-AIR

**Artist Talk, Art & Communication class, Musashino Art University**

2017.06.01 Jean-Baptiste Lagadec

**As a special lecture at Joshibi University of Art and Design**

2017.06.27 Abbi Jones, Makiko Tsuji

**As part of Introduction to International Exchange and Culture B, a special open lecture at Joshibi University**

2017.10.13 Vojtěch Domlátil

**Collaboration project between Youkobo and Joshibi AP "Animation Workshop"**

2017.10.16 - 21 Vojtěch Domlátil

**Artist Talk, Tokyo University of the Arts:**

2017.06.29 Richard Maloy

**As part 2nd Year Oil Painting class, Tokyo University of the Arts:**

2017.11.07 Mika Nakamura-Mather



## 2-3 Network

In addition to participating in domestic and foreign AIR network organizations, Youkobo also actively develops reciprocal programs of exchange and networking activities with international AIR programs and organizations that support AIR with the aim of establishing an important role for AIR within society.

### ① AIR Programs

#### New

- Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation (Helsinki) : Reciprocal Exchange Program with Tapiola Studio

#### Ongoing

- Finnish Writers Union (Helsinki) : Hosted three writers in a year. (2016-) Hosted three recipients (2016-)
- OPEN A.i.R. (Pilsen, Czech Republic) : Reciprocal exchange program.(2014-)
- ArtCamp (Pilsen, Czech Republic) : Artists and student dispatch.(2013-)
- Acme Studios (London) : Reciprocal exchange between ASP and Central Saint Martins in London, and Geidai and Youkobo in Tokyo. (2015-)
- ArtBreak (Ii, Finland) : Reciprocal exchange program (2006-)

### ② Organizations that support AIR

#### Ongoing

- The Luxembourg Ministry of Culture and Embassy of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg : Hosted a recipient (2012-)
- Asialink (Australia) : Hosted a recipient (2006-)
- Asia New Zealand Foundation (New Zealand) : Hosted a recipient (2015-)
  
- Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan
- EU Japan Fest Japan Committee
- Japan Foundation

### ③ Art universities and other Educational and research organizations

#### New

- Lapland University

#### Ongoing

- London · CSM : Exchange Program between Youkobo and ASP(2015-)
- University of West Bohemia (Czech Republic) : ArtCamp Artists and student dispatch.(2013-)
  
- Domestic universities of art, art departments: Y-AIR research meetings (2012-)

### ④ Other organizations

#### New

- TENKU Art Festival executive committee (Tomi, Nagano) : Supporting AIR program (2016-)

#### Ongoing

- Sugunami Art Project (Suginami)
- 「3331 Art Fair-Variou Collectors Prizes」 (Arts Chiyoda)

### ⑤ AIR Network

- Res Artis (Amsterdam) : Information exchange. A full member since 2000. Board and vice-president from 2007-2014.
- Microresidence Network : Information exchange. Launched in 2012. Network data base
- Trans Artists (Amsterdam) : Information exchange.
- TransCultural Exchange (Boston) : Information exchange.
  
- AIR-J (Japan Foundation) : Information exchange.
- Move Arts Japan (Arts Chiyoda) : Information exchange.
- J-AIR (Tokyo) : Information exchange.
- AIR Network Japan (Tokyo) : Information exchange.

## 2-4 Community Art

Youkobo places great importance on the broader recognition of artists in society, and aims to achieve this through community-focused activities, while at the same time raising local awareness of its activities. 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***

The theme of this annual open-air exhibition was BORDER. Taking place in metropolitan Zempukuji Park, the Open-air x 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. 23 artists and performers energized the park grounds in a varied series of events. In the Town x Art Program, 15 artists and groups participated in a range of exhibitions and performances that link Nishiogikubo town with Zempukuji Park. From Youkobo, Mika Nakamura Mather (based in Australia) presented work in the park and studio 3 at Youkobo. In addition, Maiya Luutonen (Finland), FASF reciprocal exchange program participant, held an open studio in studio 1, while Vojtech Domlatil (Czech Republic) held an exhibition in studio 2.

### **[Art in the Park]**

#### **Mika Nakamura-Mather 2017.11.03 - 2017.11.23 *The Singing Ringing Tree***

Zempukuji Park has been a symbol of home for local people for more than half a century. The messages written on the ema suspended from The Singing Ringing Tree investigate what relevance and future the notion of 'home' has for local people in today's increasingly 'borderless' world.



### **[Art in the City]**

#### **Mika Nakamura-Mather 2017.11.17 - 2017.11.26 *Japanory***

Japanory is a continuation of the artist's investigation of memory and the notion of what 'Home' means in an increasingly disconnected and dislocated world. Japanory is a portmanteau word derived from a combination of the two words Japanese Story.

#### **Maija Luutonen 2017.11.22 - 2017.11.26 *Open Studio***

She visited museums holding some important items as well as familiarizing her self with the Japanese use of paper. She created new works for her upcoming exhibition in Helsinki in February 2018.

#### **Vojtěch Domlátil 2017.11.22 - 2017.11.26 *Fleeting Autumn***

Transformation of Haiku poetry based on 5-7-5 syllables to the form of animated film using 5-7-5 second shots structure.



#### **\*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.

## Art Kids

A children's art workshop established in 2002 with the cooperation of a local elementary school to make use of school facilities on Saturdays following the introduction of a five-day week in elementary and junior high schools. Art Kids was initiated by Youkobo in 2002 at a number of local schools in Nishiogikubo. It continues to take place in Momoshi Elementary School, located next door to Youkobo. Now reaching its 16th year of activity, it has enriched the creative expression of participating children through the guidance of numerous artists. In 2017, Youkobo staff member Jaime Humphreys (UK) continued to lead the workshops. From 2017 onwards, Keiko Hayauchi, the teacher of a local art and design classroom called Atelier Sora, has taken the reigns to lead the Art Kids workshop.

2017.02.04 "A World of lines"



\* 「Art Kids」 Activity Report

A bilingual activity report marking 15 years of Art Kids was published in 2017. Inclusive of a how-to manual for selected workshops, it can also be used as a reference for art professionals undertaking similar activities. <http://www.youkobo.co.jp/news/2017/08/art-kids-activity-report.html>

## 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.

### • NPO Art Resources Development Association (ARDA)

The exhibitions and studios at Youkobo were utilized in *Art Wakka Sugunami*, an art appreciation and communication workshop for local residents.

2017.11. 23 communication workshop for elementary school students and parents



### • T-ROOMS – Ceramics classroom in Nishiogikubo

Ceramics artist and sound artist, Anna Samsøe & Andreas Stoubye Johansen utilized a local ceramics classroom for their creative activities at Youkobo, building a deep exchange with the classroom organizers. (December 2017 to January 2018)



## 2-5 Research

Youkobo continues to carry out research through reciprocal visits to partner art spaces based on face-to-face dialogue, study meetings, and public forums and symposiums. Youkobo aims to share information through the publication of reports among other methods.

In 2017, as part of the newly established Youkobo Returnee Residence Program (YRRP), Youkobo began a survey of artists and researchers who return to the Youkobo AIR Program. While reflecting on AIR activities that first began in 1989, this survey will be conducted with the value of the Youkobo AIR Program as its central research theme.

### Survey visits

2017.2.20-3.7 London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program Follow Up Meeting  
UAL · CSM (London)Jaime Humphreys, Prof. Graham Ellard

2017.9.4-9.7 Luxembourg AIR survey, The Luxembourg Ministry of Culture, Tatsuhiko Murata, Tessy Fritz

2017.9.29-30 TENKU Art Festival 2017 · Ceremony & SKY AIR Open Event (Tomi, Nagano), Tatsuhiko Murata, Kaisa Keratar

2017.12.27 Fujino Area Management conference · AIR and Artistic community (Sagamihara, Kanagawa)Tatsuhiko Murata, Marta Grasia

### Forums and symposiums

2017.02.10-11 “Microresidence Network in Japan” @Joshibi University of Art and Design (2/10) @Youkobo (2/11)

2017.10.25 Forum “Part III of the FIN/JPN LAB series - Artist-in-Residence Programs In/between Japan and Finland” @Finnish Institute (Tokyo)

2017.11.20 Art Forum 「Uniting the World: A Japanese-Czech Artist-in-Residency Program」 @ Czech Center

2017.12.08 *AIR evaluation committee - Activity Report of Artist in Residence* @Agency for Cultural Affairs

### Open Talk about Artist in Residence

2017.04.19 *AIRs Vol.14 AIR Experiences*, Mariko Hori (skype from Serbia)

2017.04.27 *AIRs Vol.15 AIR Experiences*, Maiko Sugano, Hiroe Komai @ Youkobo

2017.06.18 *AIRs Vol.16 AIR Experiences*, Kazuo Yoshida (skype from Finland)

2017.06.20 *AIRs Vol.17 AIR Experiences*, Nozomi Watanabe (skype from Czech Republic)

2017.12.20 Art motile and future of Microresidence Network Marta Grasia @Youkobo

2017.12.22 Global AIR network and key of Microresidence Marta Grasia @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.

## • Publications, Articles

### 1. Publications

#### Catalog

-London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2017

-Art Kids Activity Report

-An exchange program between Czech Republic and Japan through AIR programs - Considering its five-year history and prospects, AIR and the internationalization of art universities

#### Booklet

-Finnish Writers in Youkobo #1 2016

-Finnish Writers in Youkobo #2 2017

-The Magnificent Seven from Luxembourg to Youkobo, Tokyo since 2011

-AIR Exchange Program 2017 - Finnish Artists' Studio Foundation

-A collaboration between an Artist-in-Residence (AIR) and an Art University - A Y-AIR trial between Finland and Japan

-Crystallizing Ideas - The Youkobo Returnee Residency Program Part 1 by David Franklin

-Report on research residency at Youkobo Art Space by Marta Gracia

### 2. AIR Exhibition Catalogs, Invitation Cards

Date	Title/Artist	Media
2017.01.21 - 2017.01.29	<i>optical camouflage</i> Ryunosuke Goji, Issei Yamagata	Invitation Card
2017.01.21 - 2017.01.29	<i>A Walk Around the Sun</i> Naomi Reis	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.01.21 - 2017.01.29	<i>Sea of Instability</i> Franck Lesbros	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.03.22 - 2017.03.26	<i>OPEN STUDIO - City and Nature</i> Nicola Moss	Invitation Card
2017.03.22 - 2017.03.26	<i>Black and White and Blue</i> Lillian Canright / Misako Tago / Yukari Sakata   Cooperation: Yuka Minegishi	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.03.22 - 2017.03.26	<i>OPEN STUDIO - Salad</i> Loh Xiang Yun	Invitation Card
2017.03.26	<i>Talk Event by Saku Heinänen</i> Saku Heinänen	Invitation Card
2017.06.07 - 2017.06.11	<i>Othello</i> Jean-Baptiste Lagadec	Invitation Card
2017.06.07 - 2017.06.11	<i>Things I Have Seen</i> Richard Maloy	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.07.19 - 2017.07.23	<i>KIMPOCHO</i> Ryusei Akaike	Invitation Card
2017.07.19 - 2017.07.23	<i>Abstract Grid</i> Abbi Jones	Invitation Card
2017.08.05, 11,12	<i>On yu tei -with Stuttgart-</i> Yoko Arai, Yasumune Morishige, Ochoko, Takashi Kazamaki	Invitation Card
2017.08.23 -2017.08.27	<i>Follow Me All The Way</i> Sarah Maria Scicluna	Invitation Card
2017.08.23 -2017.08.27	<i>Final Exhibition of London /Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program 2017</i> Dan Isomura, Mayumi Arai	Invitation Card
2017.09.20 2017.09.28	<i>Looking for my Japanese Family</i> Julie-Marie Duro	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.11.22 - 2017.11.26	<i>OPEN STUDIO</i> Maija Luutonen	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.11.22 - 2017.11.26	<i>Fleeting Autumn</i> Vojtěch Domlátil	Invitation Card Catalog
2017.11.22 - 2017.11.26	<i>Japanory</i> Mika Nakamura-Mather	Invitation Card Catalog

### 3. Articles

#### Newspaper

- Newspaper in Finland 06.19. (Y-AIR Program between Youkobo and Finland)
- Newspaper in Luxembourg 09.10 (Activities between Youkobo and Luxembourg Embassy)
- 「東京新聞-Tokyo Shinbun」 10.31 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 「高円寺経済新聞-Koenji Keizai Shinbun」 11.02 (Trolls in the park advertising)

#### Magazine

- 『中央線が好きだ。Chuo sen ga sukida』 vol.15 (JR East) 09.19 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 『散歩の達人 Sanpo no tatsuji』 10.21 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 『SUGINAMI ART SANPO』 (Trolls in the park advertising)

#### Website

- 「HAPPENING」 (UK) 07.31 (Interview with Jean-Baptiste Lagadec)
- 「リビングむさしのweb - Living Musashino」 11.16. (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 「ロコナビ関東版-Loconavi Kanto」 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 「ウォーカープラス-walkerplus」 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 「Goo地図-Goo map」 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 「武蔵野大学-Musashino University」 (Trolls in the park advertising)
- 「かるふあん！-cal fan!」 (Trolls in the park advertising)

#### Radio

- 「Radio88」 04.23 (Interview with Espen Iden, Maria Matinmikko)

#### TV

- NHK 「首都圏ネットワーク-Shutoken Network」 11.10 18 : 10 - 19 : 00放送 (Trolls in the park advertising)

## KULTUR 19

Freitag und Samstag, der 10. September 2021

### Flugging Molly wird im Atelier auf Händen getragen

Auch nach 20 Jahren Flugginggeschichte bleibt die durch musikalische Rückmeldung jedes Konzerts, als wäre es ihr letztes, Seite 19

### Salih Jamals selbstbewusstes Debit „Briefe an die grüne Fee“

Wie das eigene Werk mit der Qualität eines professionellen „Werther“ verglichen, muss sich natürlich festlegen können. Seite 21

## Kreativität braucht Freiraum

Der „Youkobo Art Space“ in Tokio begrüßt seit 2011 jährlich einen Luxemburger in seinem Künstlerresidenzprogramm

**VON STEFAN ANTONIETTI**

An einem Freitag im Jahr 2011, das dem 20. September 2011, wurde in Tokio ein kleines, aber sehr wichtiges Ereignis gefeiert. In diesem Moment wurde der „Youkobo Art Space“ offiziell eröffnet. Seit diesem Tag hat sich der „Youkobo Art Space“ zu einem der wichtigsten Orte für die Kunstszene in Tokio entwickelt.

„Ich habe immer geglaubt, dass Kunst ein Weg ist, um die Welt zu verändern“, sagt der Gründer des „Youkobo Art Space“, Takashi Yamashita. „Ich möchte, dass Künstler hier einen Ort finden, an dem sie ihre Kunst ausleben können.“

Der „Youkobo Art Space“ ist ein Ort, an dem Künstler aus aller Welt ihre Kunst ausleben können. Seit 2011 hat der „Youkobo Art Space“ jährlich einen Luxemburger in seinem Künstlerresidenzprogramm begrüßt. In diesem Jahr ist es an der Reihe von [Name des Künstlers].

„Ich bin sehr glücklich, dass ich hier sein darf“, sagt [Name des Künstlers]. „Ich habe viele tolle Erfahrungen gemacht und viele tolle Menschen kennengelernt.“

Der „Youkobo Art Space“ ist ein Ort, an dem Künstler ihre Kunst ausleben können. Seit 2011 hat der „Youkobo Art Space“ jährlich einen Luxemburger in seinem Künstlerresidenzprogramm begrüßt. In diesem Jahr ist es an der Reihe von [Name des Künstlers].



## Taidealan yhteistyö Pohjois-Suomen ja Japanin välillä

Kulttuurin ja taiteen yhteistyön merkitys Suomessa ja Japanissa.

Yhteistyö taiteen ja kulttuurin välillä on tärkeä osa yhteiskunnan kehitystä. Tämä yhteistyö tuo uusia ideoita ja näkökulmia taiteeseen ja kulttuuriin. Yhteistyö tuo myös uusia ihmisiä ja uusia ideoita taiteeseen ja kulttuuriin.

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# Microresidence Network 2017

Youkobo carried out a Microresidence Information Exchange Session with five Japanese Microresidence organizers to provide an insight into their respective activities. On the first day, Joshibi University of Art and Design served as the venue for presentations by respective organizers, followed by an open discussion with guest visitors. On the following day, a Terakoya Meeting was held in order to share information among participants and recognize issues faced by the Microresidence Network. We invited Mr. Wataru Iwama who runs an airbnb in Nishiogikubo in order to identify similarities and differences between microresidencies and airbnb and share ideas about how to provide space for artists and local residents.

Date : Feburuary 10(Fri) & 11 (Sat), 2017

Day1 | Talk Session @ Joshibi University of Art & Design, Tokyo

Day2 | Terakoya Meeting @ Youkobo Art Space, Tokyo

The following organizations took part in the forum.

RIKUZENTAKATA ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM (Rikuzentakata, Iwate)

Artist in Residence Yamanashi (Kofu, Yamanashi)

Youkobo Art Space (Suginami, Tokyo)

Co-ume lab. (Suginami, Tokyo)

Art Space Yosuga (Kyoto)

Studio Kura (Itoshima, Fukuoka)

## [organizer]

Joshibi University of Art and Design (Field of Art Produce and Museum Studies) , Youkobo Art Space

## [Cooperation]

AIR Network Japan

## 2/10 @Joshibi University of Art & Design, Tokyo

- Reality of Microresidence Network : Tatsuhiko Murata
- Presentation
  - Jun Matsuyama (RIKUZENTAKATA ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM)
  - Izumi Sakamoto (AIRY)
  - Makiko Tsuji (Youkobo)
  - Moe Shono, Hatsuho Endo (co-ume lab)
  - Tadayoshi Numasawa (Yosuga)
  - Hiroshi Matsuzaki (Studio Kura)
- Open discussion

## 2/11 @Youkobo Art Space

- Open Talk About Microresidence
- Micro AIR Information Exchange
- Guest Talk : Mt. Wataru Iwama (Tasutoko)
- Discussion about visibility of Microresidence Network.



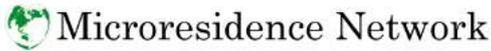
# Overview of 2017

	Space	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Youkobo	AIR1	Residence 1 Studio 1	Franck Lesbros	Loh Xiang Yun	Espen Iden	Richard Maloy *Asia Newzealand	Julie Marie *Luxembourg	Maija Luutonen *FASF	Ari Saarto -01.2018				
	AIR2	Residence 2 Studio 2	Group exhibition	Nicola Moss	Jean-Baptiste Lagadec & Abbi Jones *London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program	Sarah Maria Scicluna *Agenzija Zghazagh	André Dubois	Vojtěch Domlátil *OPEN A.I.R.	Anna Samsøe, Andreas Stoubye Johansen -01.2018				
	AIR3	Residence 3 Studio 3	Naomi Reis	Saku Heinänen *FWU	Maria Matinmikko *FWU	Catharina Gripenberg *FWU	Madeleine Dickie *Asialink	Tuija Teiska *Y-AIR, FIJIP	Kaisu Koivistu	David Franklin *YRRP -01.2018			
				Group exhibition (GAP)	Talk Events	Dan Isomura & Mayumi Arai *London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program		Piano Live					
Exchange Program	London, UK					Mayumi Arai & Dan Isomura							
	Pilsen, Czech					Nozomi Watanabe *OPEN A.I.R.	Hiroko Matsushita *AutCamp						
	Finland					Kazuo Yoshida *FASF, Espoo		Erika Masuya *Lapland					
Conference Meeting, Research	Oversea		London							Luxembourg			
	Local		Joshiibi								Finnish Institute in Japan	Czech Center Tokyo	Fujino

Self-funded
  Institutional Recommendation Program
  Y-AIR



Support by the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2017



AIR\_J



: Double agents



Youkobo Art Space Annual Report 2017

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Published in Japan January 2018