

Satoru AOYAMA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://satoru-aoyama.com/>

Instagram: [@satoru_aoyama](https://www.instagram.com/satoru_aoyama)

Satoru Aoyama was born in Tokyo in 1973. After completing his BA in textiles at Goldsmiths College, University of London, he received an MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Working with an industrial sewing machine, he questions the value of human nature and labor, which has been continuously changing since modernization, and presents works that expand the boundaries of embroidery as an artistic medium. In 2020, under the declaration of a state of emergency in response to the spread of COVID-19, he launched an online store, "Everyday Art Market." With the motto of continuing daily art production even in extraordinary circumstances, he has gained attention by creating and presenting new improvisational works. His work is housed in major public collections such as the National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto; the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo; and the Takamatsu Art Museum in Kagawa.

Koji ENOKURA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.tokyo-gallery.com/artists/koji-enokura.html>

Koji Enokura was born in Tokyo in 1942. In 1970, he participated alongside artists such as Richard Serra, Christo, Carl Andre, and Jiro Takamatsu in the exhibition 10th Tokyo Biennale: “Between Man and Matter” commissioned by Yusuke Nakahara. The following year, he participated in the 7th Biennale de Paris, in which he received the highest scholarship award. After a year in Paris, Enokura held a solo exhibition at Stadt Aachen Neue Galerie in West Germany. His international reputation rose among avant-garde art movements in the late 1960s and early 1970s, such as Arte Povera in Italy, Support/Surface in France, and Mono-ha in Japan. He passed away suddenly in 1995 at the age of 52. In 2005, a major memorial exhibition was held at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo. His work is housed in public collections such as the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo; the National Museum of Art, Osaka; and M+ in Hong Kong.

Masaya HASHIMOTO

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://masayahashimoto.com/>

Masaya Hashimoto was born in 1978 in Gifu Prefecture. Hashimoto's career as a sculptor originated from his experience traveling deep in the mountains of India in the year 2000. There he picked up and polished a piece of driftwood found along a river and was fascinated by how the inherent qualities of a natural object could be brought out by the hand of man. His well-known flower-themed works using deer antlers and bones are drawing international attention. In recent years, he has actively created works that approach different aspects of life using various materials such as clay and wood.

Koji HATAKEYAMA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://scottish-gallery.co.uk/artists/koji-hatakeyama/>
<https://ehc.art/artists/koji-hatakeyama/>

Koji Hatakeyama was born in Toyama Prefecture in 1956. In 1985, he set up a studio in Takaoka, Toyama, a city renowned for metal casting with over 400 years of history. The restrained forms and dynamic expressions of Hatakeyama's cast bronze works embody his philosophy of "casting the very existence of bronze," for which he has gained attention both in Japan and internationally. His work is housed in many museum collections internationally, including the Victoria and Albert Museum of Art in London; the Philadelphia Museum of Art; the Museum of Decorative Arts in Paris; and the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo. Going beyond the category of crafts, he has also worked on numerous commissions in the fields of architecture and monuments, such as hotels, restaurants, and building interiors.

Yu-ichi INOUE

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.whitestone-gallery.com/ja/blogs/artist/yuichi-inoue>

Yu-ichi Inoue was born in Tokyo in 1916. After graduating from Tokyo Prefectural Aoyama Normal School, he began working as a teacher at Yokogawa National School in 1935. Alongside his profession as a teacher, he studied calligraphy under Sokyū Ueda. In 1952, Inoue founded the Bokujinkai calligraphy group to break away from traditional calligraphy. He gained international reputation early on, and in 1957, Herbert Read greatly admired Inoue's works at the São Paulo Biennial. He was among the first to bring calligraphy to life in the context of contemporary art. In recent years, museums in China—the birthplace of calligraphy—have held retrospective exhibitions of his work, as public interest is more than ever rising. He refused a career as a professional artist and spent all his days as a teacher. Inoue's work can be found in major public collections including the National Museum of Art, Osaka; the National Museum of Modern Art in Kyoto; and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Takahiro IWASAKI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://anomalytokyo.com/artist/takahiro-iwasaki>

Takahiro Iwasaki was born in 1975 in Hiroshima Prefecture, where he currently lives and works. He transforms everyday objects and materials, such as toothbrushes, towels, bookmarks, and duct tape, into intricate and fragile landscapes to visualize overlooked everyday sceneries and invite viewers to adopt a new perspective by changing the scale of and distance to the subject. The towers built out of towels and blanket fibers on randomly stacked cloths are reminiscent of transmission towers in the mountains, while cranes made from bookmarks standing among books give the illusion of a building site.

Another series, “Reflection Model,” also known as one of Iwasaki’s representative works, consists of detailed cypress wood models of historical buildings merged with their reflections in the water. The influence in creating these works derives from the devastation wreaked upon Hiroshima by the atomic bomb, a city where he still lives and works. His art alludes to the 180 degrees turn that the city made from a city at the center of a military operation into the City of Peace after its reconstruction—as such his work reflects his perception of time.

In 2015, Iwasaki held solo exhibitions at Oyama City Kurumaya Museum of Art, Kurobe City Art Museum, and Asia Society in New York. In 2017, he represented Japan at the 57th Venice Biennale. In recent years, the artist has participated in many exhibitions in Japan and abroad, including “Aichi Triennale 2019: Taming Y/Our Passion” (Ito Residence, Aichi, 2019); “Japan-Cuba Contemporary Art Exhibition: Going Away Closer” (Wifredo Lam Center of Contemporary Art, Havana, Cuba, 2018); “Water and Land Niigata Art Festival 2018” (Bandaijima Multipurpose Plaza, Niigata, 2018); “MAM Collection 005: Recycle and Build” (Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, 2017); SUZU 2017: Oku-Noto Triennale (old Japanese House in Misaki Machi Morikoshi, Ishikawa, 2017); “Paradoxa: Arte Giapponese Oggi” (Casa Cavazzini, Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art, Udine, Italy, 2016); “Nissan Art Award 2015” (BankART Studio NYK, Kanagawa, 2015), “INVENTO: The Revolutions That Invented Us” (OCA Museum, Sao Paulo, Brazil, 2015), and “We can make another future: Japanese art after 1989” (Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane, Australia, 2015). In 2018, he won the arts category in the Geijutsu Sensho Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Newcomers Award.

Tomiyuki KANEKO

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.kanekotomiyuki.com/>

Instagram: [@kanekotomiyuki](https://www.instagram.com/kanekotomiyuki)

Tomiyuki Kaneko was born in Saitama Prefecture in 1978. Interested in the earthly spiritual world since childhood, his fascination for *Tono Monogatari* (The Legends of Tono) drove him to study at the Tohoku University of Art & Design. He is still based in Yamagata and continues to materialize invisible spiritual existences such as *yokai* folk monsters, spirits, and deities. In 2015, he stayed in Siem Reap, Cambodia, home of the famous Angkor Wat, under the Agency for Cultural Affairs' Japanese Government Overseas Study Programme for Artists. There he encountered sculptural art from the Theravada Buddhism, Hindu, and animist traditions, inspiring him to amass a number of sketches. In his solo exhibition, "Apotropaic Tiger," in 2021, he attracted attention with a large work measuring over four meters in length and width as a *Hekija-e* depicting the gods banishing plague demons.

Kasetsu

Related URL and SNS information

Instagram: [@kasetsu_sho](https://www.instagram.com/kasetsu_sho)

Kasetsu is a calligrapher born in Kyoto Prefecture in 1975. She graduated in Psychology from Ritsumeikan University. She has mainly presented her works at solo exhibitions since 1992. Her childhood discovery of *kanji* dictionaries compiled by Shizuka Shirakawa, a scholar of classical Chinese literature, sparked her interest in the origins and definitions of *kanji* characters. She carries out diligent research into the roots of *kanji* and works to express their intersection with contemporary events by combining texts and single-character calligraphy. She also conducts workshops themed around exploring the possibilities of artistic expression with characters in Japan and abroad. She has held open seminars in museums and universities and recently held workshops at Kamagasaki University of the Arts, Minoh City Kayano Human Rights Culture Center, and Tochigi City Children Support Center. Through these workshops, she strives to discover possibilities of single-character calligraphy for people with various disabilities, such as dyslexia and autism.

Since 2022, Kasetsu has been creating artwork for stages, including “*Shikkoku No Aka* (Pitch-Black Red),” a solo performance by Manri Kim, Artistic Director of TAIHEN; and “*Fukyo* (Wind Rage),” a solo recital by shakuhachi player Akihito Obama.

Tomoko KONOIKE

Tomoko Konoike works across various media, from drawing to voyages, sculpture, song, fur, animation, and picture book. Her notable works include “Lodge the Art Museum” installed at a mountain hut; site-specific works such as “Escape Route,” a project restoring a hiking trail on an island, from the “Ringwanderung” series; “Dance in Writing,” a collaborative work with a deaf historian; “Birthday Party of Seeing,” a touch tour for blind and partially sighted visitors; and “Storytelling Table Runners,” a work conveying narratives through handicrafts. Through her multifaceted activities, Konoike continues to address primordial questions about art.

Mikiko KUMAZAWA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://mizuma-art.co.jp/artists/kumazawa-mikiko/>

Facebook: <https://ja-jp.facebook.com/mikiko.kumazawa/>

Mikiko Kumazawa was born in Aichi Prefecture in 1983. She studied *nihonga* (Japanese-style painting) at the Musashino Art University and produced two-dimensional works in pencil. Her work became known for meticulously depicting illusions, a mixture of falsehood and reality in contemporary society, in huge black-and-white spaces. Recently, she has presented works in color. She has received numerous awards, including the 9th Suga Tatehiko Grand Prix.

Kazumi KURIGAMI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.kurigami.net/>

Kazumi Kurigami was born in Hokkaido in 1936. After graduating from the Tokyo College of Photography in 1961, he worked for the editorial department of the magazine *Sumai to Kurashi no Gaho*. In 1962, he joined Central Studio, where he worked for and studied under photographer Naoya Sugiki. After leaving the studio in 1965, he became a freelancer. In 1969, he worked on his first commercial film. His practice has since involved not only advertising photography but also film direction. Kurigami has received numerous awards, including the Mainichi Design Awards, Tokyo ADC Member's Gold Award, Kodansha Publishing Culture Award, and the ADC Annual Awards.

Takuro KUWATA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://www.takurokuwata.com/>

Takuro Kuwata was born in Hiroshima Prefecture in 1981. After completing the associate degree at Kyoto Saga University of Arts, he studied under potter Susumu Zaima. Kuwata then graduated from Tajimi City Pottery Design and Technical Center and is currently based in Tajimi City, Gifu Prefecture. He creates colorful and pop ceramic works and objects that fuse tradition with contemporary sensibilities, employing ceramic techniques such as *kairagi*, glazing that produces a rough and granulated surface, and *ishihaze*, mixing stones and sand in clay to make them to burst and exposed on the surface during firing while engaging with Japanese aesthetics, including *wabi-sabi* and *hyougeru* (to play, to jest). He has been featured in exhibitions around the world, including New York, Brussels, and London, and collaborated with the fashion brand LOEWE in its 2020 fall/winter collection. His work is housed in major public collections, including the Rubell Collection; Palm Springs Art Museum; the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa; and the University of Michigan Museum of Art.

Kumi MACHIDA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://www.nishimura-gallery.com/kumi-machida/>

Kumi Machida was born in Gunma Prefecture in 1970. She graduated with a BFA in Japanese Painting from Tama Art University. She has attracted attention for using traditional Japanese painting materials in works with a universal resonance yet imbued with ambiguous connotations. Her work is housed in major public collections such as the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo; the National Museum of Art, Osaka; and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, USA.

Erina MATSUI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://erinamatsui.com/>

Instagram: [@erina_matsui](https://www.instagram.com/erina_matsui)

Twitter: [@upaerina](https://twitter.com/upaerina)

Erina Matsui was born in Okayama Prefecture in 1984 and currently lives in Tokyo. She is known for her unique self-portraits imbued with intense energy, whose theme extends far beyond the self to include the universe. For MATSUI, her self-portrait is a communication tool that allows her to share certain sensations with the viewer.

In 2004, the artist won the Gold Prize at “GEISAI#6,” and her prize-winning work “I Love Ebi-Chili!” (I love chili shrimps!) was acquired by the Fondation Cartier pour l’art contemporain, and she made her international debut in a group exhibition at the same foundation. After studying in Finland in 2006, she graduated from Tama Art University in 2008 and completed her M.A. at the Tokyo University of the Arts in 2010. In 2012, she moved to Berlin to work for a year at the internationally renowned artist residency Künstlerhaus Bethanien. Her recent major exhibitions include “Collection Exhibition 4th term 2022: Using Materials in Various Ways to Create Artworks” (Takamatsu Art Museum, 2023); “Artist Otaku” (Kumagai Morikazu Museum of Art, 2022); “Reiwa Otogi zo-shi Momotaro KAMISHI by Erina Matsui” (Okayama Prefectural Museum of Art, 2020); “Planet of the Faces” (Kagoshima Kirishima Open-Air Museum, 2016); and “TAKAHASHI COLLECTION: Mindfulness!” (The Museum of Art, Kochi, 2016).

Masayasu MITSUKE

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.otafinearts.com/ja/artists/32-masayasu-mitsuke/>

Masayasu Mitsuke was born in Ishikawa Prefecture in 1975. After graduating from Ishikawa Prefectural Kutani Ware Technical Research Institute, he studied under Buzan Fukushima and obtained Kutani's traditional techniques of red painting on ceramics. In 2006, he was certified as a METI-designated traditional craftsman of Japan and founded his workshop the following year. Mitsuke has been acknowledged and awarded numerous times for works with modern patterns skillfully painted with traditional detailed red painting techniques. His works have been acquired by the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa; the Museum of Ceramic Art, Hyogo; and the National Crafts Museum. He is considered the leading figure in taking traditional Kutani red painting to the next level.

Yasumasa MORIMURA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://www.morimura-ya.com/>

<https://www.morimura-at-museum.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/morimura.yasumasa>

Instagram: [@yasumasamorimura](https://www.instagram.com/yasumasamorimura)

Twitter: [@ymorimura](https://twitter.com/ymorimura)

Born in Osaka in 1951. When Morimura was a student, he became familiar with Yukio Mishima and Freud's "Dream Judgment". When he was a university student, he was influenced by an independent exhibition called "Sukkari dame na Bokutachi ten". In 1985, he presented his first self-portrait work using a large-scale camera in the "Smile with Radical Will" exhibition. Since then, Morimura has created photographs where he inserts himself, the artist, into famous paintings and photographs from art history, making it a trademark of his creations. One of Morimura's characteristics is that he mimics the characters in his paintings/ photographs by overexposing himself as the subject, but at the same time, the Morimura in each work is not identical. This is an act of paradoxically deconstructing his identity while placing himself in the works' history to interpret its meaning.

Goro MURAYAMA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://goromurayama.com/>

Instagram: [@goromurayama](https://www.instagram.com/goromurayama)

Born 1983, Tokyo, Japan. Artist. PhD (Fine Arts). Self-organising processes and patterns are expressed through painting and drawing. In 2015 completed the doctoral course in oil painting (mural painting) at the Department of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts. 2015-17: Artist-in-residence in Vienna as a Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs Overseas Trainee Artist (visiting researcher at the Intercultural Philosophy Office, Department of Philosophy, University of Vienna). (Visiting researcher at the Philosophy of Intercultural Philosophy Office at the University of Vienna). Recent major exhibitions include: “Setouchi Triennale 2022,” Ogijima, Kagawa (2022); “ICC Annual 2022: Life / Likeness,” NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC], Tokyo (2022); “Painting Folding,” Takuro Someya Contemporary Art, Tokyo (2020); The 21st “Domani: The Art of Tomorrow” Exhibition, The National Art Center, Tokyo (2019); 'Setouchi International Art Festival 2019', Ogijima Hamaguchi Residence, Kagawa (2019); 'Aichi Triennale 2019 The Age of Emotion', Aichi (2019); 'The museum of plasticnation' AISHONANZUKA, Hong Kong (2018); 'Emergence of Order', Daiwa Foundation Japan House, London (2018).

Motohiko ODANI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://phantom-limb.com/>

Motohiko Odani was born in Kyoto Prefecture in 1972. Understanding lost sensations and transformation as a phantom, he explores the ambivalent, intermediate zone between the states of wakefulness and hypnosis, human and nonhuman in his work. The artist showcased his work at international exhibitions such as the Japan Pavilion of the Venice Biennale (2003), Istanbul Biennale (2001), and Lyon Biennale (2000). His meticulously composed, finely finished works with a variety of medium, including three-dimensional works, are highly acclaimed both in Japan and abroad. His solo exhibitions include “Tulpa: Here is me” (ANOMALY, 2019), “Terminal Moment: Rimpa 400th Anniversary Festival Related Events” (Kyoto Art Center, 2014), and “Phantom Limb” (Mori Art Museum and traveled to other museums, 2009-2010). In 2020, he curated a project titled “PUBLIC DEVICE: Symbolism and Permanence of Sculpture” (Chinretsukan Gallery, Tokyo University of the Arts, co-curated with Nodoka ODAWARA).

Keizaburo OKAMURA

Keizaburo Okamura was born in Tokyo in 1958. In his twenties, he won the Best Prize at the Yamatane Museum of Art Grand Prix Exhibition and made his debut as an up-and-coming nihonga artist. From 1994 to the following year, he stayed in New York as a researcher supported by the Gotoh Memorial Foundation. His portrayal of various creatures on a huge, charred cedar board using original techniques has attracted attention as a new trend in nihonga. He has participated in numerous exhibitions at museums in Japan and abroad. His work is housed in major public collections such as the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo; the Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura & Hayama; Yokohama Museum of Art; and the Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art.

Tsuyoshi OZAWA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.ozawatsuyoshi.net>

Instagram: [@tsuyoshiozawa](https://www.instagram.com/tsuyoshiozawa)

Tsuyoshi Ozawa was born in Tokyo in 1965. As a student at the Tokyo University of the Arts, Ozawa began his “Jizoing” series in which he photographs *jizo* (bodhisattva) statues made by him, situated in different environments. His other works include the “Nasubi Gallery” series that questions the Japanese domestic system of rental galleries with portable, miniature galleries made from milk boxes; “Museum of Soy Sauce Art,” which contains reproductions of masterpieces of Japanese art painted with soy sauce; and the “Vegetable Weapon” series consisting of photographic portraits of women holding weapons made of vegetables—all possessing a critical edge and a sense of humor. His recent “The Return of...” series features stories of well-known historical figures with fact and fiction intertwined. Ozawa’s work is housed in major public collections such as the National Museum of Art, Osaka; Ohara Museum of Art in Okayama; M+ in China; and the UBS Art Collection in Switzerland. Ichitaro and Santaro Okamoto are the first and the third of Ozawa’s imaginary eight “Okamoto Brothers.” Their first exhibition, “One Man Group Show: Ichitaro Okamoto, Nitaro Okamoto, Santaro Okamoto, Tsuyoshi Ozawa,” was held in 1998, two years after the passing of artist Taro Okamoto, whom Ozawa greatly respected.

Nahoko SASHIDA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://www.nishimura-gallery.com/nahoko-sashida/>

Nahoko Sashida was born in Saitama Prefecture in 1983. After earning a politics degree at the School of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University, she completed a master's course at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, the University of Tokyo. While studying at Waseda University, she presented her works at "GEISAI" and other exhibitions. In 2012, she won the Encouragement Award at the 4th Koji Kinutani Prize. Based on the concept of "creating an encyclopedia with paintings," the artist skillfully assembles various events associated with a certain word into one piece of art in vivid colors, capturing a multitude of mental images that the word suggests, including those that are latent or extrinsic.

Nobuo SEKINE

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <http://www.nbuosekine.com/>

Nobuo Sekine was born in Saitama Prefecture in 1942. He studied under Yoshishige Saito at Tama Art University. He was known as one of the central figures of Mono-ha, an art movement that also involved artists Lee Ufan and Kishio Suga. Sekine's 1968 earthwork titled "Phase—Mother Earth," made for the Suma Rikyu Park Contemporary Sculpture Exhibition in Kobe, has been highly acclaimed as a pioneering and emblematic work of Mono-ha. In 1970, Sekine represented Japan at the Venice Biennale with Shusaku Arakawa and created "Phase of Nothingness." His interest later shifted to vitalizing public spaces with art, leading to the founding of Environmental Art Studios in 1973. He was active in the field of public and environmental sculpture. Major public collections include Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Denmark; Kröller-Müller Museum in Netherlands; the National Museum of Art, Osaka; and Toyota Municipal Museum of Art in Aichi.

Yoshihiro SUDA

Yoshihiro Suda was born in Yamanashi Prefecture in 1969. After graduating in Graphic Design from Tama Art University, he taught himself the art of woodcarving. He is known for his hyper-realistic sculptures of plants carved out from magnolia wood and painted in Japanese pigments, which he displays in various places to turn the whole space into an installation work. His work is housed in numerous museums in Japan and abroad, including the Centre Pompidou in France; the Lenbachhaus in Germany; Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art in South Korea; Hara Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo; the National Museum of Art, Osaka; and the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa.

Kishio SUGA

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.kishiosuga.com/>
<http://tomiokoyamagallery.com/artists/kishio-suga/>

Kishio Suga was born in 1944 in Iwate Prefecture. He studied under Yoshishige Saito at Tama Art University. He is known as one of the leading artists of Mono-ha, along with Lee Ufan and Nobuo Sekine. He has taken unprocessed natural and artificial materials like wood, stone, and metal and arranged them in a space to turn the eventual scene into his works, calling them “situations (sceneries).” Since 1973, he has developed the practice he calls “activation,” or substituting things in the space to activate it. He has participated in numerous solo and group exhibitions, including the two exhibitions in 2012 that reignited recognition of his works in the United States: “Tokyo 1955-1970: A New Avant-Garde” at the Museum of Modern Art in New York; and “Requiem for the Sun: The Art of Mono-ha” at Blum & Poe, Los Angeles. His work has been acquired by many museums inside and outside Japan, including the Centre Pompidou in France; Tate Modern in the United Kingdom; the Museum of Modern Art in the United States; M+ in Hong Kong; and the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo.

Hiroshi SUGIMOTO

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.sugimotohiroshi.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/odawaraaf> (小田原文化財団)

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/enoura_observatory/?hl=ja (小田原文化財団)

Twitter: https://twitter.com/odawara_af (小田原文化財団)

Born in 1948 in Tokyo, Japan. Sugimoto moved to the United States in 1970 and has been living in New York since 1974. From the latter half of the 70s, Sugimoto created photographic series such as "Dioramas", in which he photographed taxidermy of animals and sceneries on display at the Natural History Museums, "Theatres", which captures the entire movie from beginning to end, projected on the screen of a movie theater made in a single photo, and "Seascapes", which depicts seascapes from various locations in the world with a minimalistic composition.

Sugimoto's "L'HISTOIRE DE L'HISTOIRE" exhibition, the installation work which combines Sugimoto's collection of antiquities with his own photographic work, has led to the "LOST HUMAN" exhibition at the Palais de Tokyo in 2003 (later the exhibition traveled to Tokyo Photographic Museum in 2016). In 2008 Sugimoto opened an architectural firm, "SHINSOKEN", and in 2009 he founded Odawara Art Foundation, and its home facility, "Enoura Observatory" was opened to the public in October 2017.

Tabaimo

Tabaimo is known for probing social issues that lurk beneath contemporary Japan in a surrealistic and cynical manner in her animated installations made with hand-drawn illustrations characterized by coloration reminiscent of traditional Japanese woodblock prints. In 2011, Tabaimo represented Japan at the 54th Venice Biennale. She has collaborated with various stage performers, starting with the collaboration with Ohad Naharin of Batsheva Dance Company from Israel in 2006. In 2016, she directed the visual performance “Fruits borne out of rust” at the Theatre East, Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre. The performance toured four cities in the U.S. in 2020. In 2022, “Tangled Drop,” Tabaimo’s collaboration work with circus artist Jörg Müller, toured Japan as its world premiere, then toured four cities in France. Her solo exhibition is planned for April 2023 at GL Strand, Copenhagen. She is also working on another stage work to be premiered in 2024.

Hiroki TASHIRO

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://hiroki-tashiro.com/>

Instagram: [@hiroki_tashiro](https://www.instagram.com/hiroki_tashiro)

Facebook: <https://ja-jp.facebook.com/hiroki.tashiro.10/>

Hiroki Tashiro was born in 1982 in Gifu Prefecture. He graduated in Sculpture from the Department of Fine Arts, Tokyo Zokei University. He moved to Germany in 2014 with the help of the Program of Overseas Study for Upcoming Artists by the Agency for Cultural Affairs. After running his own shop, *Chisou Komono*, in Mie Prefecture, he moved to Kyoto in 2020. His varied work includes camphor-wood sculpture series titled “MUDORA” and “White Sign,” washi paper collages, and a cutlery series that fuses art and function.

Hisashi TENMYOUYA

Related URL and SNS information

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TenmyouyaHisashi>

Instagram: [@tenmyouya](https://www.instagram.com/tenmyouya)

Hisashi Tenmyouya was born in Tokyo in 1966. After serving as Art Director for a record company, he started his career as a contemporary artist. Calling his style “Neo *Nihonga*,” he pursues a unique artistic expression that revives traditional Japanese paintings in today’s context. In 2010, he curated an exhibition along with a publication, where he named the line of extravagant and extraordinary artistic style “BASARA,” which stands against the *wabi*, *sabi*, and *zen* aesthetics. In 2020, he founded an art project group/business body, “GENBIAN,” dedicated to seeking a new and unbound socio-artistic relationship.

Lee Ufan

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.studioleeufan.org>

Born 1936 in South Gyeongsang Province, South Korea. Lee Graduated from the Department of Philosophy, College of Humanities and Sciences, Nihon University. Since the late 1960s, he has played a central role in the "Mono-ha" movement. He creates works that combine and relate natural materials such as wood and stone with industrial products such as paper, steel plate and glass with minimal intervention. In addition to sculptures made from steel plates, stone and glass, he began making the "From Line" and "From Point" series in the early 1970s, which introduced the passage of time in flat works. In the 1980s, he created the series "From Winds" and "With Winds", which were more dynamic and space-conscious. From the 1990s onwards, after the "Correspondence" series, he began to make a series of "Dialogues" in which he left brushstrokes on a canvas, leaving a large portion of the white canvas blank. He has developed an oeuvre attuned to the combination of making and unmaking.

Ai YAMAGUCHI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://mizuma-art.co.jp/artists/yamaguchi-ai/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aininyu>

Instagram: [@aiyamaguchi_sekka](https://www.instagram.com/aiyamaguchi_sekka)

Ai Yamaguchi was born in Tokyo in 1977. During her study at the Joshibi University of Art and Design, Department of Design and Crafts, she founded a group named “ninyu works.” She portrays the lives of young female prostitutes at *Toge no Ochaya* (a teahouse at a mountain pass) with delicately drawn supple lines using unique surface materials. While inheriting the culture and customs of the Edo period and various aesthetics of Japan represented by the Rinpa School and waka poetry, she pursues her own ideal of beauty to depict a new *Bijinga* (painting of beauties) genre painting. Her recent exhibitions include “*Kamisaka Sekka*: dawn of modern Japanese design” (Art Gallery of New South Wales, Australia, 2012); “The Grand Kojiki Exhibition—Feelings and words handed down from past generations to the future” (Nara Prefectural Museum of Art, 2014); “Meiji Jingu Forest Festival of Art ‘*Shikansuiyo*—Beautiful Forest and Nature’” (Meiji Jingu Museum, Tokyo, 2020); and her solo show “*yamaai no uta*” (Mizuma Art Gallery, Tokyo, 2022).

Akira YAMAGUCHI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://mizuma-art.co.jp/artists/yamaguchi-akira/>

Akira Yamaguchi was born in Tokyo in 1969 and grew up in Kiryu City, Gunma Prefecture. Highly skilled in detailed depiction, he creates large paintings in a traditional Japanese painting style while presenting works in a variety of other styles, including three-dimensional work, *manga*, and illustration. He has also worked on a number of public artworks at Narita International Airport, Tokyo Metro Nihonbashi Station, JR Oita Station, and Fujisan National Heritage Center. Since 2018, he has serialized the *manga* "Shuto" in the monthly magazine Morning Two. His work is housed in major public collections such as the Ohara Museum of Art in Okayama; the Museum of Modern Art, Shiga, Japan; the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo; and Chester Beatty in Dublin, Ireland.

Hidenori YAMAGUCHI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://gallerykogure.com/artists/hidenori-yamaguchi/#>

Hidenori Yamaguchi was born in Chiba Prefecture in 1976. He studied calligraphy and seal carving at the University of Tsukuba. From 2002 to 2004, he studied at the China Academy of Art as a MEXT-recommended scholarship student from Japan, where he earnestly learned ink wash painting. After returning to Japan, he worked as a Japanese and calligraphy lecturer at a public high school in Tokyo while creating his work. He has attracted attention for his detailed realistic paintings using the ink wash painting techniques.

Yokoo TADANORI

Related URL and SNS information

Web: <https://www.tadanoriyokoo.com/>

Twitter: [@tadanoriyokoo](https://twitter.com/tadanoriyokoo)

Tadanori Yokoo was born in Hyogo Prefecture in 1936. He began his career as a graphic designer at *Kobe Shimbun* newspaper in 1956 and moved to Tokyo in 1960. He worked on a number of posters for performing arts by Juro KARA, Shuji TERAYAMA, and Tatsumi HIJIKATA, and won the grand prize for prints at the 6th Paris Youth Biennale. He held a solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York in 1972. After being awestruck by a Picasso retrospective in 1980 at MoMA, he declared his devotion to painting. His paintings, which use a variety of techniques and styles to depict diverse themes around the entire universe, are highly acclaimed internationally. Since the 2000s, YOKOO has had solo exhibitions at national and public museums in Japan, and a vast number of overseas exhibitions, including at the Fondation Cartier pour l'art contemporain, Paris. Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art in Hyogo Prefecture opened in 2012, followed by the Teshima Yokoo House in Kagawa Prefecture in 2013. His solo exhibition, "Tadanori Yokoo: *Kanzan Hyakutoku*," is scheduled to open at the Tokyo National Museum in September 2023.