

Announcing *Osaka Directory* exhibitions
introducing Kansai-connected artists
organized by the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka and the Kansai Osaka 21st Century
Association

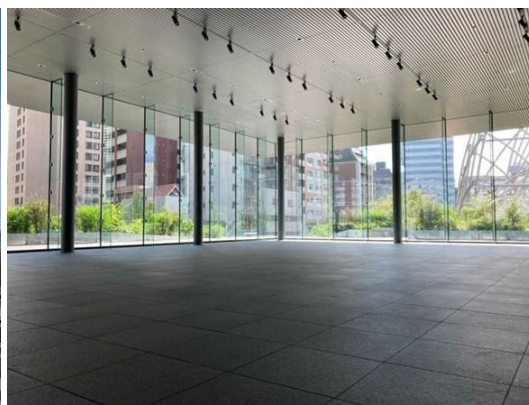
The *Osaka Directory* series of exhibitions introducing Kansai-connected artists beginning in August 2022 and jointly organized by the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka and the Kansai Osaka 21st Century Association is getting underway.

The *Osaka Directory* series of shows held in a solo exhibition format aims to discover promising young Kansai-connected artists and create a venue for presenting their work. The exhibitions will be held on a continual basis. The aim is to create a more lively Kansai art scene, and help young artists in Osaka and the Kansai area to launch their careers on the global scene. In this time of rapid change, this series presents new art by artists symbolizing the coming age.

In FY2022, the series presents three up-and-coming artists from Osaka Prefecture, Akashika Maya (b. 1985), Kishi Maoya (b. 1986), and Endo Kaori (b. 1989). The venue for each is the multipurpose space on the second floor of the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka. Further details about the shows will be announced later.



Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka



Venue: Multipurpose space on 2F

■ Information about *Osaka Directory* exhibitions

First exhibition: AKASHIKA Maya
Dates: August 6 - September 11, 2022

Second exhibition: KISHI Maoya
Dates: November 23 - December 25, 2022

Third exhibition: ENDO Kaori
Dates: January 20 - February 26, 2023

Venue: Multipurpose space on 2F of the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka

Organizers: the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka, the Kansai Osaka 21st Century Association (40th anniversary celebration project)

Sponsorship: Suntory Holdings Limited, ROHTO Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd., Daiwa Securities Co. Ltd., Nippon Telegraph and Telephone West Corporation, Daikin Industries, Ltd., Tanseisha Co., Ltd.

Admission fee: Free

Closed: Mondays (except when Monday is a holiday)

About *Osaka Directory*

Organized jointly by the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka and the Kansai Osaka 21st Century Association, the *Osaka Directory* series of exhibitions introduces up-and-coming Kansai-connected artists in a solo exhibition format. Starting from the current year, the annual series will present artists who create new art symbolizing the coming age of the future.

* The term "directory" is used in IT(Information Technology) to refer to folders and similar structures for organizing files. Through this series, the Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka stores 'files' on promising young artists in the Kansai area in a 'directory' from which it can present their work to a wide audience throughout the world, supporting the launch of their careers on the global scene.

- About the artists

AKASHIKA Maya



Born in Osaka Prefecture in 1985. Akashika graduated from Kansai University in 2008. In 2010, she completed the photography program at Visual Arts College Osaka. In 2011, her work *Eating Wind* won the 34th Canon New Cosmos of Photography Grand Prize. Based in Osaka, she shows her work internationally through solo and group exhibitions. Akashika weaves a unique narrative world in which reality and fantasy intermingle, crisscrossing in synesthetic fashion between various kinds of imagery including verbal accounts of dreams, photographs, pictures, and sounds. Her major exhibitions include the *Maya Akashika Photo Exhibition 'Dokidoki Telepathy'* (Canon Gallery, Tokyo, 2021) and *Contemporary Japanese Photography Vol.17—Twilight Daylight* (Tokyo Photographic Art Museum, Tokyo, 2020).

Examples of the artist's work



From left: *Non-Human*, 2021; *Don't touch the flowers*, 2020; *Did you think I couldn't see?*, 2021; *Comprehension Bookstore proprietor M*, 2017.

KISHI Maoya



Born in Osaka Prefecture in 1986. Kishi graduated from Kyoto City University of Arts with a degree in sculpture in 2009. He uses environments created by humans, such as signs, buildings, and society as a whole, as motifs for art that questions the reasoning behind them, using industrial materials such as polystyrene foam, pieces of lumber, and blue tarp. The materials are reduced to simple forms, eliminating unneeded meaning, left in their standard state, with care given to leave no trace of having been worked on by the artist. His major solo exhibitions include *Little Castle* (Kodama Gallery, Tokyo, 2009), *Backronym* (Kodama Gallery, Tokyo, 2010), *Hanamuke* (Farewell Gift) (Antenna Art Space, Kyoto, 2010), and *Mata Nozoki* (Kobe Art Village Center, Hyogo, 2014). He produced a window display for Maison Hermès in 2011.

Examples of the artist's work



Showcase, 2019.

Courtesy of the artist and Kodama Gallery.



Backronym, 2010.

Courtesy of the artist and Kodama Gallery.

ENDO Kaori

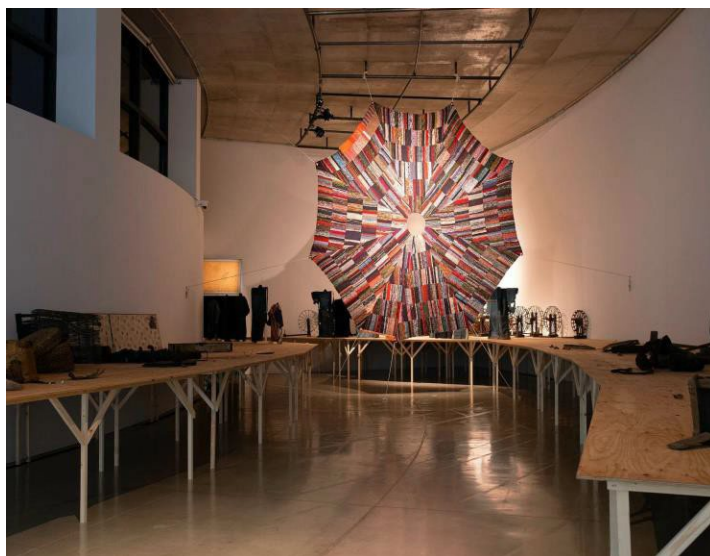


Born in Osaka Prefecture in 1989. Endo obtained a bachelor's degree in textiles from the Okinawa Prefectural University of Arts in 2013. She graduated from Ars Shimura, a school run by Shimura Fukumi, in 2016. Endo produces works using mainly weaving and dyeing techniques, and unraveling the close relationship between politics and *kogei* crafts, history, and people's lives in Okinawa, Tohoku, and other parts of the world. The core of her artistic practice is about expanding the potential of *kogei* crafts by producing materials such as rags, parachutes, and sails, and tracing the vitality of textiles and people by putting the materials to use with her own body in a performative way. Recent exhibitions include *the 13th shiseido art egg* (Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, 2019), for which she won the art egg prize, *Welcome, Stranger, to this Place* (The University Art Museum, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, 2021), and *Portraits of Ryukyu; Turnover from the models to artists* (Okinawa Prefectural Museum and Art Museum, Okinawa, 2021).

Examples of the artist's work



Kaori Endo, *Gravity and Rainbow*, 2019. Photo: Ken Kato. Courtesy of Shiseido Gallery (*The 13th shiseido art egg*).



Kaori Endo, *Flash and Parachute*, 2020. Photo: Delphine Parodi. Courtesy of Aomori Public University's Aomori Contemporary Art Centre (ACAC).



Kaori Endo, *sheep and sleep*, 2022, sheepskin, wool, and other materials.

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