

The 1st Press Conference

Announcing Yokohama Triennale 2014 and the Appointment of Artistic Director

Date/Time: Tuesday, December 18, 2012 14:00-15:00 Venue: Circular Forum, Yokohama Museum of Art

For inquiries, please contact the following:

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Announcing Yokohama Triennale 2014 and the Appointment of Artistic Director

On the occasion of the fifth edition of the Yokohama Triennale, set to be held from August to November 2014, we are pleased to announce the appointment of the artist Morimura Yasumasa as artistic director.

The Yokohama Triennale, launched in 2001 to foster new ways of creating culture, has been held four times in the past. Based on a theme that embodies the specific issues and topics of the era, the triennale presents a wide range of works by artists who are internationally prominent as well as up-and-coming.

Since 2011, a year which marks the beginning of a great change in the Japanese consciousness due to the experience of the Great East Japan Earthquake together with the tsunami and nuclear power plant disasters, an effort has been made to access the flexible concepts and views of artists, whose attitudes and ideas have the potential to help us reexamine our way of living and thinking. Thus, we have asked Morimura to serve as artistic director of the Yokohama Triennale 2014.

Since opening its port in the late 19th century, Yokohama has actively incorporated a variety of different cultures, and since implementing the Creative City Yokohama policy in 2004, the city has also strived to better utilize the potential of art and culture. The Yokohama Triennale is the core project in this undertaking. And while building on past achievements, the Yokohama Triennale 2014 will pursue new values that are essential to the current era through the medium of art and work to expand the channels that enable us to connect with the world.

We hope to receive the support and cooperation of many people in organizing the event, and we kindly ask that you consider covering the Yokohama Triennale 2014 in your publication.

Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale

Outline of Yokohama Triennale 2014

Program name: Yokohama Triennale 2014

Period: Early August to early November 2014 *Specific dates will be released as soon as they are finalized.

Venues: Yokohama Museum of Art and Shinko Pier Exhibition Hall

Organizers: City of Yokohama, Yokohama Arts Foundation, Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK),

The Asahi Shimbun, and Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale

Artistic Director: MORIMURA Yasumasa

Statement by MORIMURA Yasumasa **Artistic Director of Yokohama Triennale 2014**



The Conscience of Art / Art of the Unknown

The future is unknown. But a ship has set sail from Yokohama Port, and to be completely honest, the journey is likely to be risky with me as the captain.

Being an artist, I've never had the chance to serve as the artistic director of any international exhibitions. I am taking the wheel for the first time and the ship has already left port without my having had a chance to learn how to steer.

But it seems to me that this kind of slightly reckless launch is exactly what's needed for an international exhibition today.

Since 2000, international exhibitions have sprung up everywhere, both in Japan and abroad, and there is no longer anything special or different about them. The scale is merely large. And the festive air is merely an amusement. Many are reduced to a symbol of populism, globalism, and localism. Market principles have exerted a consciously strong influence on the art world, prompting questions not only from those concerned but also from viewers. And though these people may still be in the minority, they are bound to increase as time goes by.

I'm not a fundamentalist, so I have no desire to unilaterally decide that art should be one way or another. And I would never opt for try to limit art by applying rigid constraints and eliminating all of the works that did not conform to them. But at the same time a total absence of rules would only lead to difficulties. Though I want to maintain a forum for free expression, I want to get rid of the idea that freedom should be the sole conviction.

So, what exactly are my convictions? I believe in the "conscience of art." If there is a god of art, I would ask that the works that we present to him or her be offerings that can be presented without shame.

Thus, a professional curator, who knows that the key to success lies in one's ability to deal with that head wind called "reality," might see my views as little more than the dreams of an idealist and admonish me for being so naive in light of the fact that I have never assumed the weighty mantle of artistic director. And it's true - having a childish artist whose only standards of value are dreams and ideals at the helm is extremely perilous. Yet with the outlook of an insecure novice trying to recapture the fading spirit of adventure, I am setting out on this voyage with a fresh preparedness as I head into the unknown of the art world. And this in itself is sure to lead to some worthwhile proposals.

Though the nearly two-year journey will be a long one, I hope you can keep a close eye on the ship's progress with a sense of curiosity and affection. I look forward to working with you all.

About MORIMURA Yasumasa

Born 1951 in Osaka, where he continues to live and work.

Completed undergraduate and graduate degrees at Kyoto City University of Arts.

He made his debut in 1985 with self-portrait works based on his personal interpretation of Vincent Van Gogh. He has since produced a number of self-portraits in diligently staged photography and video works, identifying with art-historical images, famous film actresses, and iconic figures from the 20th century.

In 1988, Morimura was invited to take part in the Aperto section of the 43rd Venice Biennale, and over the years, he has participated in countless important.

Selected solo exhibitions in Japan include, The Sickness unto Beauty: Self-portrait as Actress (Yokohama Museum of Art, 1996), Self-Portrait as Art History (Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, and two other venues, 1998), Morimura Self-Portraits: An Inner Dialogue with Frida Kahlo (Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, 2001), Bi [bi:]-Class, Be Quiet (Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto, and Yokohama Museum of Art, 2007), and A Requiem: Art on Top of the Battlefield (Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, and three other venues, 2010 and 2011).

His most recent solo exhibitions overseas is Requiem for the XX Century: Twilight of the Turbulent Gods (La Galleria di Piazza San Marco, Venice, and two other venues, 2007 and 2008), but has previously held shows in major museums in the United States, France, Spain, Australia, Thailand, and India.

His works are part of major national and public collections in Japan and also overseas, including Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid, Museum of Contemporary Art, Chicago, Museum of Fine Art, Boston, and Queensland Art Gallery, Brisbane.

He is a prolific writer, and author of many Japanese titled books. He has received a number of awards for his achievements, including Kyoto Prefecture Culture Prize, Merits Prize (2006), Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's Art Encouragement Prize of Fine Arts (2007), Photographic Society of Japan Awards, Lifetime Achievement Award (2011), and also one of the most prestigious awards in the field of art and science, Order of Purple Ribbon, Shiju Hosho (2011).

The Selection Process of the Artistic Director

The Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale has set up the "Artistic Director Selection Committee," a special body to select and decide on Morimura Yasumasa as artistic director.

Members of the Artistic Director Selection Committee (in order of names in Japanese)

Chairperson: TAKASHINA Shuji / Director, Ohara Museum of Art OSAKA Eriko / Director, Yokohama Museum of Art

OBIGANE Akio / Senior Projects Officer, Cultural Projects Department, The Asahi Shimbun

KURAMORI Kyoko / Lead Producer, NHK Educational Corporation

TATEHATA Akira / President, Kyoto City University of Arts

About the Main Venues

Yokohama Museum of Art and Shinko Pier Exhibition Hall are designated as Yokohama Triennale 2014 main venues. Since its inception, the event has been held in prime locations in the portside of Yokohama, including places such as the Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse, NYK Waterfront Warehouse, and Yamashita Pier.

Beginning with the fourth edition (2011), the Yokohama Museum of Art was designated as one of the main venues, signaling a greater focus on continuity. The museum, one of Yokohama's premier cultural facilities, boasts a collection of over 10,000 works of Japanese and foreign art dating from the late 19th century to the present.

On the other hand, the Shinko Pier Exhibition Hall served as the main venue for the third edition (2008). It is currently being used as an incubation site for artists and other creators.

Using two distinct spaces with different features - i.e., a purpose-built museum equipped with specialized facility and a warehouse-style facility that is open and versatile - will enable us to present a wide range of contemporary art works with a diversity of expressive means.

Yokohama Museum of Art

Architect: Tange Kenzo / Tange Kenzo ASSOCIATES Urbanists-Architects

Completion: 1989

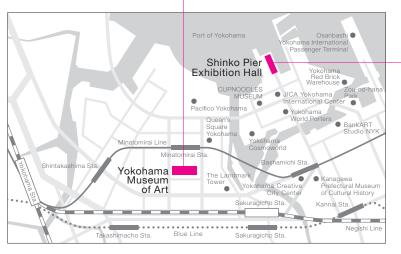
Construction: Steel girder and frame reinforced concrete

Total floor space: 26,829 m²

Address: 3-4-1 Minatomirai, Nishi-ku, Yokohama



Photo: KASAGI Yasuyuki



Shinko Pier Exhibition Hall

Architect: Yoichi Matsumoto Associates, Architects Completion: 2008

Construction: Steel girder, single-story house, 4 spaces

Total floor space: 4,400 m²

Address: 2-5 Shinko, Naka-ku, Yokohama



ACCESS

Yokohama Museum of Art

5 minutes walk from Minatomirai Station (Exit 5. The Minatomirai Line links with the Tokyu Toyoko Line). 10 minutes walk via moving sidewalk from Sakuragicho Station (JR, Yokohama Municipal subway).

Shinko Pier Exhibition Hall

13 minutes walk from Bashamichi Station (Minatomirai Line)



Yokohama Triennale 1st-4th Editions

	2001	2005	2008	2011
Theme	MEGA WAVE -Towards a New Synthesis	Art Circus [Jumping from the Ordinary]	TIME CREVASSE	OUR MAGIC HOUR - How Much of the World Can We Know?
	NIANTIO E	Artistic Director: KAWAMATA Tadashi	Artistic Director: MIZUSAWA Tsutomu	Director General: OSAKA Eriko
Directors / Curators		Curators: AMANO Taro SERIZAWA Takashi YAMANO Shingo	Curators: Daniel BIRNBAUM HU Fang MIYAKE Akiko Hans-Ulrich OBRIST Beatrix RUF	Artistic Director: MIKI Akiko
Period (Number of open days)	September 2-November 11 (67 days)	September 28-December 18 (82 days)	September 13-November 30 (79 days)	August 6-November 6 (83 days)
Main venues	Pacifico Yokohama Exhibition Hall (C, D) Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse No. 1	Yamashita Pier No. 3 and No. 4 Warehouses	Shinko Pier Exhibiton Hall NYK Waterfront Warehouse (BankART Studio NYK) Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse No. 1 Sankeien Garden	Yokohama Museum of Art NYK Waterfront Warehouse (BankART Studio NYK)
Number of participated artists	109 artists	86 artists	72 artists	77 group / 79 artists / 1 collection
Total project cost	Approx. 7 billion yen	Approx. 9 billion yen	Approx. 9 billion yen	Approx. 9 billion yen
Total number of visitors (to paid venues)	Approx. 350,000 (Approx. 350,000)	Approx. 190,000 (Approx. 160,000)	Approx. 550,000 (Approx. 310,000)	Approx. 330,000 (Approx. 300,000)
Number of tickets sold	Approx. 170,000	Approx. 120,000	Approx. 90,000	Approx. 170,000
Volunteer registration	719	1,222	1,510	940
Organizer	The Japan Foundation City of Yokohama Japan Broadcasting Corporation [NHK] The Asahi Shimbun Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale	The Japan Foundation City of Yokohama Japan Broadcasting Corporation [NHK] The Asahi Shimbun Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale	The Japan Foundation City of Yokohama Japan Broadcasting Corporation [NHK] The Asahi Shimbun Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale	City of Yokohama Japan Broadcasting Corporation [NHK] The Asahi Shimbun Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale Co-organizer: Yokohama Arts Foundation

Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale (2012.12.18)

Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale

Honorary Presidents: Representative HAYASHI Fumiko (Mayor, City of Yokohama)

SUMIKAWA Kiichi (Chairperson, Yokohama Arts Foundation) MATSUMOTO Masayuki (President, Japan Broadcasting Corporation [NHK]) KIMURA Tadakazu (President and CEO, The Asahi Shimbun)

Committee Members: Chairperson OSAKA Eriko (Director, Yokohama Museum of Art)

NAKAYAMA Kozue (Director General of Culture and Tourism Bureau, City of Yokohama) KAZETANI Hidetaka (Head of Cultural Promotions Division, Japan Broadcasting Corporation [NHK]) MACHIDA Tomoko (General Director, Cultural Projects and Business Development Division,

SAKURAI Tomoyuki (Executive Vice President, The Japan Foundation)

[External Advisory] TAKASHINA Shuji (Director, Ohara Museum of Art) TATEHATA Akira (President, Kyoto City University of Arts) MIYATA Ryohei (President, Tokyo University of the Arts)

Artistic Director: MORIMURA Yasumasa

Observer: SATO Toru (Director, International Affairs Division, Agency for Cultural Affairs)

Auditor: WATANABE Yoshifumi

Organizing Committee for Yokohama Triennale Office

Senior Managing Director: YANO Shuji (City of Yokohama)

Managing Director: HOASHI Aki (Yokohama Arts Foundation)

Managers: TAKAHASHI Mitsuo (City of Yokohama) AMANO Taro (Yokohama Arts Foundation)
FUKUYAMA Koichiro (Japan Broadcasting Corporation[NHK]) OBIGANE Akio (The Asahi Shimbun)

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