

CONTEMPORARY ART AFTER THE CORONAVIRUS AND ITS ECOLOGY

SESSION 4

Art After COVID-19: The Issues of Expression and Support
from the Perspective of Artists

コロナ以降の 現代アートと そのエコロジー

第4回

コロナ以降の美術とは？
アーティストの視点から見る表現・支援の課題

Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan Webinar Series Contemporary Art After the Coronavirus and its Ecology Session 4: Art After COVID-19 The Issues of Expression and Support from the Perspective of Artists

Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan, a project initiated by Bunka-cho, Agency for Cultural Affairs Japan, presents a series of webinars titled “Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan Webinar Series: Contemporary Art After the Coronavirus and its Ecology” that proposes to discuss the dissemination of the arts in the COVID-19 era. This series will be held in five parts.

The theme of Session 4 is “Art After ‘COVID-19’: The Issues of Expression and Support from the Perspective of Artists.” Has COVID-19 created “the new normal” for arts institutions? How will forms of artistic expression be affected by new physical restrictions on exhibition spaces such as museums and galleries, as well as by logistical restrictions on the transport of people and objects across state borders? Furthermore, the vulnerability of economic and social structures inundated by globalism and neoliberalism has rapidly brought to light existing cultural issues, notably: class disparity, racism, and xenophobia. Meanwhile, the international community has been urged to respond quickly to the geopolitical issue of climate change. How will the pandemic and the associated heightened sense of globality—something which drastically changed the world over the course of a mere few months—be reflected in future artistic expression? Moreover, what are some viable methods of support for artists and their assorted activities? The discussion will take place from the perspective of the artists themselves.

Program Overview

Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan Webinar Series: Contemporary Art After the Coronavirus and its Ecology Session 4: Art After COVID-19 The Issues of Expression and Support from the Perspective of Artists

Date & Time:	Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:30pm-8:00pm (JST)
Format:	Online live broadcast * Upon your registration, access details will be emailed you 24 hours prior to the event at the latest.
Registration fee:	Free
Capacity:	1000 *In the case of a large number of registrations, the series will be on a first-come-first-served basis.
Languages:	Japanese *The session will be provided with simultaneous Japanese-English interpretation.
Organizers:	Contemporary Art Committee Japan (CACJ), Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan

Speakers:

- Kawakubo Yoi (Artist)
- Mukaiyama Tomoko (Pianist / Artist)
- Wakabayashi Tomoko (Project coordinator / Specially Appointed Associate Professor of Rikkyo University, Graduate School of Social Design Studies)
- Moderator: Odate Natsuko (Arts Common Tokyo / Yoshiko Isshiki Office / CACJ Committee Member)

Program:

6:30pm-6:35pm	Opening remarks and introduction from the moderator
6:35pm-7:05pm	Presentations from the speakers
7:05pm-8:00pm	Discussion and Q&A

Registration: Please register for our webinar here.
<https://forms.gle/czuMbTZDRoQ997R57>



Aims

Due to the current coronavirus epidemic, immense challenges have been posed to both arts institutions and contemporary art professionals across the globe. By sharing the numerous issues being tackled by innumerable parties globally that the pandemic has raised, this program aims to discuss and exchange both concrete and speculative ideas regarding the global dissemination of the arts in the post-pandemic era. The program also aims to cover the conductive research into the most potentially suitable forms of future international exhibitions for arts institutions.

The objective of Art Platform Japan is to establish a foundation for the sustainable development of the contemporary art scene in Japan. As part of these efforts, in the 2018 and 2019 fiscal years, the bureau organized the first two installments of annual invitational workshops (with select public programming) to establish an international network of art professionals of curators, researchers, artists, and so on. The 2020 edition of the workshop, also organized by Contemporary Art Committee Japan—the steering committee of this initiative, was scheduled to take place in the fall of 2020; however, due to the global coronavirus pandemic, the committee had to forego holding an event in the intended scale and format.

On the other hand, the current state of the global pandemic brings to light the importance of an international and mutually beneficial network of arts professionals. The unsure future of practices such as cross-cultural exchange programs, global promotion, international shipping, research, and residencies have become particularly evident and all demand to reconsider such programs on a global scale.

How might we confront and deal with the current situation? By returning to the starting point of this initiative — to better the international reputation of contemporary art in Japan — we will hold a five-part webinar series that will further the discussion of the post-COVID-19 conditions of international exchange, international exhibitions, curatorial efforts, artist support and expression, and the ecology surrounding the international art scene. The webinar will be live-streamed online to a global audience. The archival footage will be uploaded on the Art Platform Japan website, due to launch in March of 2021.

About Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan

Bunka-cho Art Platform Japan, a project initiated by Bunka-cho (the Agency of Cultural Affairs) aims to maintain the sustainable development of the contemporary art scene in Japan, to gather a wide range of counsel from professionals in the field, and to promote methods to further the international reputation of Japanese artists and artists working in Japan. With Contemporary Art Committee Japan (CACJ) as the steering committee, the various working groups that comprise this project strive to establish an international network of experts to conduct research, to produce translations of important and overlooked texts on contemporary Japanese art, to facilitate the dissemination of information within and outside Japan through the use of digital media, and to build a database that collects vast information of artworks held by museums across Japan, and ultimately to provide an environment that supports art activities.

<https://www.bunka.go.jp/english/policy/artplatform/index.html>