

遠距離現在 Universal / Remote

March 6 Wed, 2024 – June 3 Mon, 2024

Mini-Guide for Age

Age

2019

Age

2020

Age

2021

Age

2022

Age

2023

Age

2024

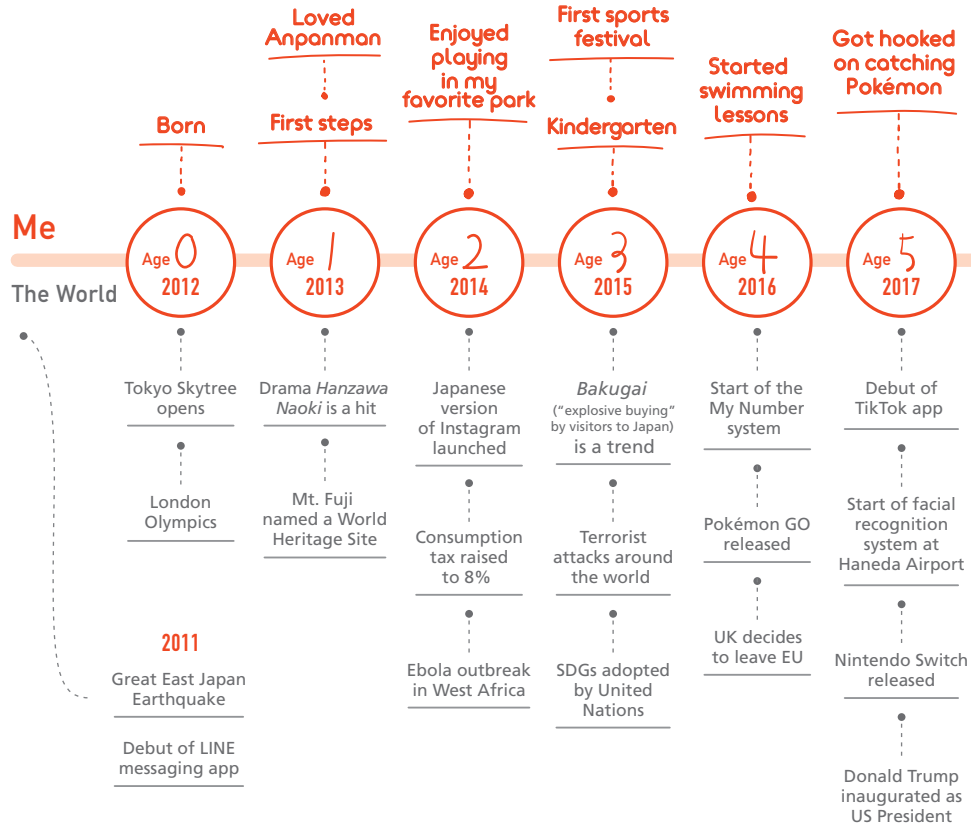
Universal / Remote

12

Years of Me and the World, 2012-23

Universal / Remote is an exhibition that explores distances between people and society in today's world, through the artworks of contemporary artists. This Mini-Guide contains hints for thinking, while you look at the art, about what "distances" mean to each of us.

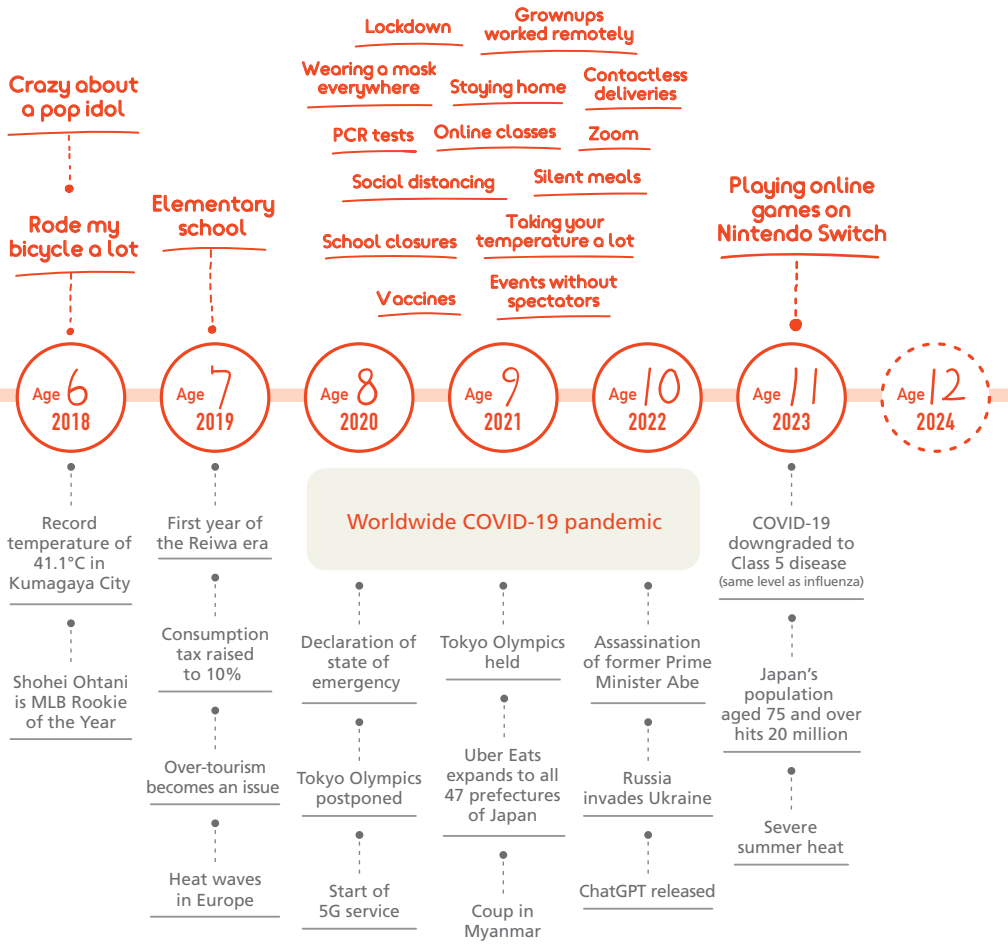
In 2020, COVID-19 drastically changed our lives. How old were you then? How is the world around you, after the COVID-19 pandemic, different from before it?



First, let's look back at the life of someone who is now 12 years old.

遠距離現在

Do you feel like the things or people below are close to you? Far away from you? Or are you not sure?



Online gaming friends

Your favorite pop idol

Other countries

Fighting on social media

Elderly people in your neighborhood

Extremely hot summers

The internet

Surveillance cameras

Contemporary art

遠距離現在 Universal / Remote

The galleries are divided into nine sections, showing works by eight individual artists and one group.



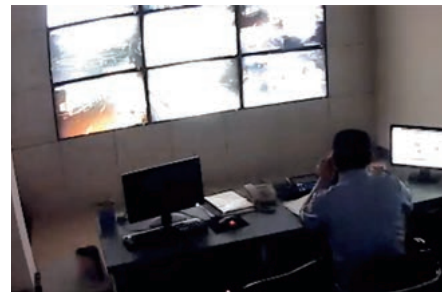
Daisuke Ida

Born in Tottori, Japan in 1987.
Lives and works in Tokyo.

—
In this video by Daisuke Ida, a paper airplane keeps hovering over a gas burner. It looks like the paper plane is kept in the air by the flames, but it stays a safe distance from them. If it got too close to the flames, or if the fire were to get stronger, **what would happen to the paper plane? Could it manage to keep flying over the flames?**

Ida's video has no words or explanations, but while you're watching it, you can't help thinking about fire and all the things it can cause to happen.

For Whom the Bell Tolls?
2021, Video (loop) , Collection of the artist
© Daisuke Ida, Courtesy of the Artist



Xu Bing

Born in Chongqing, China in 1955.
Lives and works in Beijing, China and New York, USA.

—
Have you ever counted how many times you appear on camera in a day?

Store security cameras, webcams on the streets, car dashcams... We are being filmed by cameras everywhere, without even knowing it. Xu Bing made a movie, about a young man and woman, by putting together camera footage that anyone can access on the internet. The main characters are not actors, they are just people who happened to be recorded on camera. Just like in this movie, someone far away might be watching or editing videos of you right now!

Dragonfly Eyes
2017, Video, surveillance camera footage taken from public live-streaming websites (81min), Collection of the artist, © Xu Bing Studio, Courtesy of the Artist



Trevor Paglen

Born in Maryland, USA in 1974.
Lives and works in New York, USA and Berlin, Germany.

AI (artificial intelligence) can make our lives more convenient. But what would you do if an AI you were using was malfunctioning, and making up weird lies? Trevor Paglen designed two AIs: one that continuously learns from a huge amount of images in the world, and another that tries to trick the first AI. These two AIs interact thousands of times and get better and better, but sometimes not all of the information gets in, and strange images are generated. Do you feel a connection to the images created by these two AIs? **Would you like to be friends with an AI?**

Tornado (Corpus: Spheres of Hell), Adversarially Evolved Hallucination
2017, Dye sublimation print, 152.4x121.9cm, Collection of the artist, ©Trevor Paglen
Courtesy of the artist; Altman Siegel, San Francisco, and Pace Gallery, New York



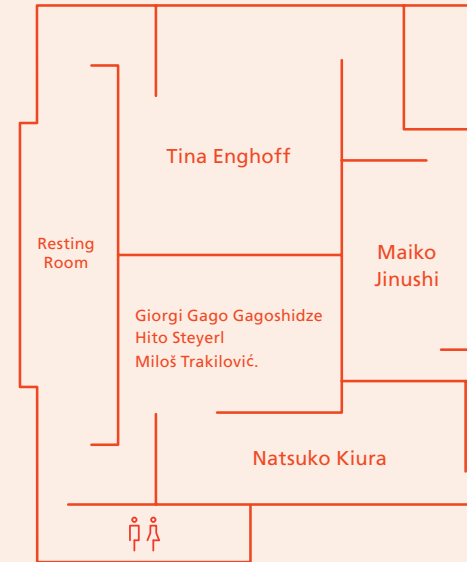
Maiko Jinushi

Born in Kanagawa, Japan in 1984.
Lives and works in Tokyo.

If you were traveling in a country where you didn't know the language or culture, what would you want to try doing? Maiko Jinushi went on a trip to a town in Spain where a poet she admired had spent the last days of his life. She was following in the poet's footsteps. During her trip she made a video, showing how differences between the local culture and Japanese culture became clearer as she talked with people she met there. The video seems as if it was made for the poet, who has already died. As you watch it, it gives you a fresh, "real" sensation that only travelers can experience, something that can't be communicated through the internet.

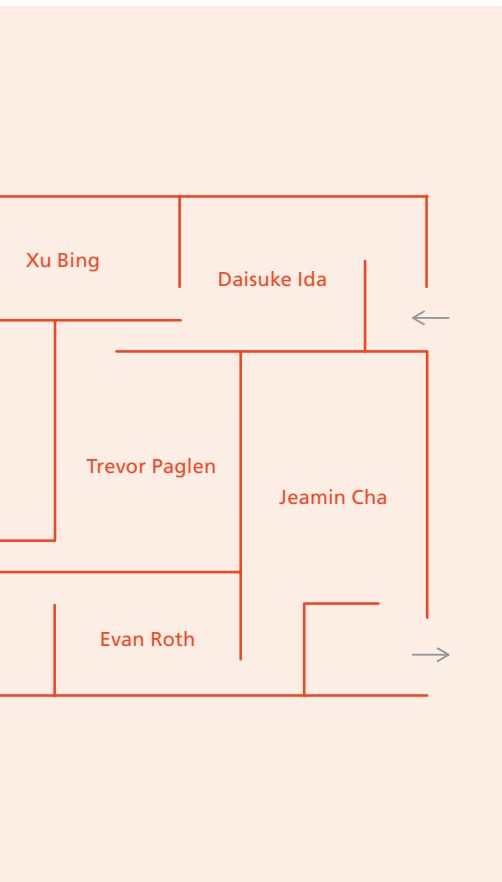
A Distant Duet
2016, HD video (40min), Collection of the artist
© Maiko Jinushi, Courtesy of HAGIWARA PROJECTS

Gallery Map



While in the galleries

- Please do not touch the artworks.
- Walk slowly.
- Speak quietly.



Tina Enghoff

Born in Denmark in 1957.
Lives and works in Copenhagen.

“To Family Members Who May Know This Person”

In Denmark, when someone dies alone and their family or relatives cannot be found, newspapers run articles with headlines like the one above to search for them. Seeing such an article inspired Tina Enghoff to start taking photos of the rooms of people who had died alone. The rooms are left as they were, with the furniture and things the person used and cared about when they were alive. Looking at these photos, we wonder about the kind of person who lived there and what their daily life was like. **Do you have any relatives who live alone? Do they live far away from you?**

Possible Relatives / Man born 1923, deceased, found in home June 12, 2003
2004, Archival pigment print, 150x200x4cm, Collection of the artist
© Tina Enghoff, Courtesy of the Artist



Hito Steyerl

Born in Munich, Germany in 1966. Lives and works in Berlin.
Written and co-produced by Giorgi Gago Gagoshidze, Hito Steyerl, and Miloš Traklović.

There is a spiral-shaped blue platform, three screens, bones and wings attached to the tips of a stand, and the word BELANCIEGE written on the wall. These are not separate artworks; actually, the whole room and everything in it is a single piece of art. **What are the people on the screens talking about? Did you hear any words you know, or see anything you recognize?**

All day long, on social media and the internet, you can see people who seem to be famous, talking about their favorite brands and the latest fashions. Have you ever thought about why there are so many of these messages?

Mission Accomplished: Belanciege
2019, 3 channel HD video (color, sound), environment (47min 23s), Collection of the artist
Installation view of the exhibition “Universal / Remote” Contemporary Art Museum, Kumamoto, 2023, Photo by Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsyum!)

- Use a pencil (not a pen) to take notes.
- Photography is OK.
- But please do not record videos.



Natsuko Kiura

Born in Kagoshima, Japan in 1985.
Lives and works in Kagoshima.

Natsuko Kiura paints scenes she sees in daily life. Take a good look at the scenery in this painting. Have you seen something like this somewhere before?

The shapes and details of things in the picture aren't very clear. It looks like it could be summer or winter, and it could be morning or evening. What kind of place do you think this is?

As you look, do you find yourself comparing it with scenes stored in your memory?

In front of Kiura's paintings, time flows by as you search for scenery you have seen somewhere, sometime in the past.

Park
2021, Oil on canvas, 38x45.5cm, Collection of the artist
© Natsuko Kiura, Courtesy of the Artist



Evan Roth

Born in Michigan, USA in 1978.
Lives and works in Berlin, Germany.

Did you know that images and text you see on the internet are saved automatically?

The room is filled with images from websites Evan Roth has visited on his computer. They were saved automatically. They include photos and ads Roth doesn't remember seeing. There might also be photos he doesn't want other people to see.

How do you feel, being surrounded by a huge number of images that someone you don't know saw on their computer day after day?

Since You Were Born
2023, Custom wallpaper, dimensions variable, Collection of the artist
Installation View of the MOCA Jacksonville: Since You Were Born, 2019
© Evan Roth, Courtesy of the MOCA Jacksonville, Photo by Doug Eng



Jeamin Cha

Born in South Korea in 1986.
Lives and works in Seoul.

Do you watch TV at home every day? Do you use the internet?

The internet is necessary for life. How are we able to access it in our homes?

Jeamin Cha's video shows workers endlessly connecting or stretching out cables.

As we watch, we come to understand that there are always people at work, making sure we can use the internet at home without trouble.

Right now, as we connect to the world through the internet, someone somewhere is out there connecting cables that make this possible.

Chroma-key and Labyrinth
2013, Single channel HD video (color, sound, 15 min)
Collection of the artist, © Jeamin Cha, Courtesy of the Artist

Universal / Remote

March 6 (Wed), 2024 - June 3 (Mon), 2024

Closed on Tuesdays *Open on April 30 (Tue.)

Opening Hours: 10:00-18:00

*10:00-20:00 on Fridays and Saturdays (Last admission 30 minutes before closing)

Venue: The National Art Center, Tokyo Special Exhibition Gallery 1E

Organized by: The National Art Center, Tokyo

With the support of: Goethe-Institut Tokyo

Inquiries: (+81) 47-316-2772 (Hello Dial)

Website:

https://www.nact.jp/english/exhibition_special/2024/universalremote/index.html

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Fill in the blanks

Years of Me and the World, 2012-23

