# SENSE ISLAND/LAND 2024

Re-opening for the first time in two years, Sense Island will now also encompass areas throughout the city.









The first "Sense Island - Sarushima Dark Museum" was held in 2019 on the uninhabited island of Sarushima. This event has since been held under the cover and stillness of night with the aim of reawakening visitors' true human senses through artwork installed throughout the island. Last year we did the groundwork with our "Research Events," and now, as this year's Sense Island takes place not just on Sarushima but also throughout the city, the name has been updated to "SENSE ISLAND/LAND." With this new expansion, visitors can also enjoy art during the daytime as well as night.

Yokosuka is where Commodore Perry first arrived in Japan, it played a vital role protecting territory during WWII, and is known nowadays for its blend of American culture. "SENSE ISLAND / LAND" is an experiment that seeks to visualize and recontextualize both time and land through art, by bringing our attention to the "geological strata" of Yokosuka as an accumulation of history, culture, and industry.

Yokosuka is home to Sarushima, the largest uninhabited island in Tokyo Bay; Kannonzaki Park, known for having the first western-style lighthouse in Japan; and Mikasa Park, home to the historical battleship Mikasa, the oldest steel battleship still in existence. In addition to these important historical locations, there are also many culturally significant locations which we are considering for new venues for SENSE ISLAND / LAND, such as streets lined with nostalgic Showa-era shops, and the Yokosuka Museum of Art, designed by 2024 Pritzker Architecture Prize Laureate Riken Yamamoto.

We welcome you to SENSE ISLAND / LAND to experience and enjoy a new side of Yokosuka through

#### **Event Overview**

Title | SENSE ISLAND / LAND 2024

Exhibition period | Saturday, October 26 to Sunday, December 15

- Sarushima Island will be open after sundown every Sat-Sun and national holiday. It will also be open for events held on Fridays.
- · All locations except Sarushima Island will be open every day. (hours vary depending on the exhibition facility)

Special Preview | Friday, October 25

\*Will be cancelled in the event of severe weather, in which case a special tour will be held the following day on October 26 for everyone who was invited to the special preview.

Location | Sarushima and various locations throughout Yokosuka (Kanagawa Prefecture)

Organizers | City of Yokosuka, Sense Island Executive Committee (Yokosuka Visitor Promotion and Attraction Committee, Abstract Engine Co., Ltd., TRYANGLE Inc.)

Producer | Seiichi Saito, Panoramatiks Principal

Curator | Akira Aoki, Independent Curator

Artists | ARu (Kosuke Matsushima / Ryoji Yukino / Masashi Fujimoto), Yui Usui, Hiroko Kikuchi, KYUN-CHOME, Seiichi Saito, SIDE CORE, Takuro Tamayama, Choi Jeong Hwa, TOKYO
PHOTOGRAPHIC RESEARCH (Kanade Hamamoto / Rina Maeda / Mari Matsubara / Hana Yamamoto), Haruna Mitobe, Soichiro Mihara, Taichi Yakuoji, Aiko Yamamoto, and others

Performing artists | <u>asamicro</u>, <u>Ichinosuke Umekawa</u>, <u>OLTA</u>, <u>Saho Terao</u>,

Keiji Haino&Shuta Hasunuma

Related events | TBA

Tickets | On sale in mid to late September

Fees | TBA in September

Artworks on display on all locations except Sarushima are free to the public, no tickets necessary.

Website | https://senseisland.com/



Past Sense Island Exhibitions

General Inquiries | Sense Island Executive Committee Office
Yokosuka City Culture, Sports, and Tourism Planning Division
046-822-8427 [Weekdays 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM] senseisland@gmail.com

Press Inquiries | iroiro Inc. press@iroiroiro.jp

PR images available here https://x.gd/UouqR

# **Producer Message**

How did Yokosuka come to be the way it is? Why did Commodore Matthew Calbraith Perry arrive in Yokosuka in 1853? Why are there so many tunnels? Why did Yokosuka become a port city with military bases? The answers can be found by unearthing the city's layers and confronting its topography anew.

On the other hand, what power does art created in the region have? Artists have the power to create works that give new meaning to landscapes that are taken for granted.

"Sense Island - Sarushima Dark Museum," began on the dark and uninhabited island of Sarushima in 2019 as an attempt to recover our innate human senses through art. It will expand from Sarushima to areas throughout Yokosuka, extending across time and space, throughout day and night, starting this year, 2024.

"SENSE ISLAND / LAND 2024" aims to use art to re-examine Yokosuka's topography, which has formed over tens of thousands of years, the various industries that have continued over hundreds of years, and the environmental and regional changes that are likely to occur in the near future.

Through "Sense ISLAND / LAND," we hope to draw out the senses that every human possesses to allow you to feel the various sensations accumulated by the topography in various locations throughout Yokosuka.

Sense ISLAND / LAND Producer Seiichi Saito, Panoramatiks Principal



# **Guest Curator Message**

Just the name Yokosuka brings a variety of imagery to mind, from shipbuilding and naval ports to souvenir sukajan jackets, all of which have been naturally shaped by a complex intertwining of different events. "SENSE ISLAND/LAND" uses geological strata and topography as entry points to redirect our attention to the land on which we stand in order to reveal the area's multiple layers of connection.

This gaze not only helps us learn about the layers of history that have been built up over time, but also leads us to the question of what kind of future we are going to build on this land going forward. By overlaying their works across the landscape and history of Yokosuka, the artists will lead us towards the answers to this question, some in bold strokes, some with a gentle and subtle hand.

We hope that SENSE ISLAND / LAND will reawaken visitors' individual autonomy as well as foster a greater sense of creative collaboration within the local community.

SENSE ISLAND / LAND Curator Akira Aoki, Independent Curator



#### Profile

Director of ArtsInstituteGate. Born in Tokyo in 1989. Graduated from the Department of Industrial Art of Tokyo Metropolitan University. Sees art as a "way to live better" and plans various art projects in collaboration with other artists, companies, and local governments. Main projects to date include being director of the "Fantasia! Fantasia!: a community where lifestyles are made real" project, which envisions the local community as a place of learning (Sumida ward, 2018-present).

### **Design Concept**

I employed Morse code as a motif under the theme of reawakening one's senses through art and the land of Yokosuka, as Morse code is both sensory and strongly associated with the ocean. The balance between the abstract forms and text changes depending on the distance of the receiver from the information, creating a design system in which the rate of information transmission transforms.

Hiroyasu Kimura, Rhizomatiks / Flowplateaux, Art Director / Web Designer

# **Participating Artists**

### **Artists**

ARu (Kosuke Matsushima / Ryoji Yukino / Masashi Fujimoto)

# ARu

The name "ARu (Art Reality Unveiled)" embodies the philosophy that art unveils realities that are normally unseen, unheard, and unrecognized. ARu is a creative team that delivers artistic experiences to transform people's perceptions by "turning the unseen into the seen," rooted in the intersections of science, art, and spirituality.

https://studio-aru.co.jp

https://www.instagram.com/aru.inc.official/

#### Yui Usui



Born in Tokyo in 1980, currently resides in Saitama. Uses craft techniques such as embroidery and patchwork quilts, as well as three-dimensional works and installations created from household items and found objects to critique social systems such as gender and labor, as well as modern and contemporary Japanese history. https://yuiusui.com/

Photo: Azusa Nakao

# Hiroko Kikuchi



Photo: Shinya Kigure

Artist. Born in Tokyo. Influenced by 1960s American avant-garde art movement and performance art. Focuses on contextualizing environments and situations in contemporary society, conducting numerous projects both domestically and internationally that center on community engagement. https://www.kikuchihiroko.com/

# **KYUN-CHOME**



An art unit consisting of Eri Honma and Nabuchi. Formed in response to the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, they view art as a "new form of prayer" and create poetic and humorous works around the world. Recent major exhibitions include "Roppongi Crossing 2022: Coming & Going" (Mori Art Museum, Tokyo), "Current Location: To Draw a Map of the Future [1]" (21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, 2019), and "Aichi Triennale 2019" (Aichi).

https://www.kyunchome.com/

https://x.com/kyun\_chome

https://www.instagram.com/kyunchome/

#### Seiichi Saito



Photo: Muryo Honma (Rhizomatiks)

Studied architecture at Columbia University. In 2006, established Rhizomatiks Co., Ltd. (now Abstract Engine Co., Ltd.). Formed the design collective "Panoramatiks" in 2020, which encompasses design, tourism, digital transformation, and more. Has been serving as chairperson of the jury for the Good Design Award since 2023. https://panoramatiks.com/

https://www.instagram.com/panoramatiks/

#### SIDE CORE



Photo: Shin Hamada

Active since 2012. Members are Sakie Takasu, Toru Matsushita, and Taishi Nishihiro. Kazunori Harimoto also participates as a video director. Explores the rules which govern public spaces, both inside and outdoors, using street culture as avenue "to expand expression in urban areas," with the goal of creating shifts in thought, disrupting openings, and expanding the possibilities for action and expression. Their exhibition, "SIDECORE | Concrete Planet," is currently on display at WATARI-UM, the Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, in Gaienmae until Sunday, December 8, 2024.

https://www.instagram.com/side\_core\_tokyo/

## Takuro Tamayama



Photo courtesy: SONY

Born in Gifu, 1990. Lives and works in Tokyo. After graduating from Aichi University of the Arts, he completed the master's program at Tokyo University of the Arts in 2015. His meticulously composed spaces make reference to familiar imagery, incorporating various objects such as furniture and everyday items, color gradations expressed through video, kinetic movement, and vivid lighting and sound. Recent major exhibitions include Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art (2020), ANOMALY (2021, 2023), and Toyota Municipal Museum of Art (2020). A solo exhibition is scheduled to be held at the Toyota Municipal Museum of Art in 2025.

https://www.instagram.com/takurotamayama/

#### Choi Jeong Hwa



Choi Jeong Hwa was born in South Korea in 1961, where he still lives and works as one of Korea's major contemporary artists. Also involved in art direction and interior design, and internationally active in many fields. Was the art director for the opening and closing ceremonies of the Pyeongchang 2018 Paralympic Games. Major exhibitions in Japan include, the 2001 Yokohama Triennale, the "Choi Jeonghwa: OK!" exhibition at the Towada Art Center in 2009, and the 2013 Setouchi Triennale, as well as numerous solo and group exhibitions worldwide, such as the 2005 Venice Biennale. http://choijeonghwa.com/

https://www.instagram.com/choijeonghwa\_official/

#### TOKYO PHOTOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

(Kanade Hamamoto / Rina Maeda / Mari Matsubara / Hana Yamamoto)

# TOKYO **PHOTOGRAPHIC** RESEARCH

TOKYO PHOTOGRAPHIC RESEARCH (TPR) is an artist collective founded by artist Taisuke Koyama, consisting of artists and researchers broadly involved in photographic expression. With missions such as "multifaceted urban research," "pragmatic exploration of contemporary photography," and "developmental research on photographic culture," TPR aims to visualize the unseen aspects of the city, society, and people, and to carry forward the visions discovered into the future. This time, four artists will present their works together with Taisuke Koyama (Director), Jin Qiuyu (Curator), and Shota Tsukiyama / Takanori Kawahara (Artist Support).

https://tokyophotographicresearch.jp/

https://www.instagram.com/tokyophotographicresearch/

#### Haruna Mitobe



Born in Kanagawa in 1995. Explores notions of preservation and recording states of existence through the creation of installations and drawings which seek out latent realities in buildings and landscapes marked by human actions and society at large. Has been living in Yokosuka in recent years, collecting waste materials such as iron and copper buried in the Yato area and re-processing them into soft creations.

https://www.mitobeharuna.com/ https://x.com/mitobeharuna

https://www.instagram.com/mitobeharuna/

### Soichiro Mihara



Photo: Tadasu Yamamoto Photo courtesy: Aomori Contemporary Art Centre, Aomori Public University

Mihara presents systems that openly engage with the world and interprets them into the "art" of materials and phenomena such as acoustics, bubbles, radiation, rainbows, microbes, moss, air streams, soil and electrons. Since 2011, he has been engaged in projects in and outside Japan to examine the relationship between technology and society. Since 2022, he has co-organized "Let's Ride the Waves on 3.11" with the local surf community in Hamadori, Fukushima Prefecture. In recent years, he has been approaching his past activities as "Art of the Air," an archival experiment based on vibration, particles, and breathing, in the form of a recipe. http://mhrs.jp

https://www.facebook.com/mhrschr

https://x.com/mhrs\_chr

https://www.instagram.com/miharasoichiro/

Taichi Yakuoji



Born in Tokyo in 1975, currently resides in Yokosuka. Graduated from the College of Sociology of Kanto Gakuin University. His artistic endeavors began with a fascination with pottery created from earth, fire, water, trees, spirit, and the human hand. Has used and built kilns in Japan. Italy, and Lithuania. Pursues primitive and universal expression; has a strong affinity for the Neolithic Jomon period. Based in Art Valley Hiraku in Taura, Yokosuka, he uses local Taura clay and Miura Peninsula wood collected from the process of thinning trees to create earthenware and ceramics fired in a traditional anagama kiln.

https://taichi-yakuoji.com/

https://www.facebook.com/spazio.arterra/ https://www.instagram.com/taichi\_yakuoji/

#### Aiko Yamamoto



Born in Kanagawa in 1991. Resides in Kyoto. Completed postgraduate studies in 2017 at the Department of Intermedia Art, Tokyo University of the Arts. Studied in China as a recipient of an overseas study grant from the Pola Art Foundation. Has completed residencies and field research on natural environments and dyeing and weaving techniques, both in and outside Japan, based in Asia. Creates works based on these experiences which explore what it means to be native and the loci of memory.

https://aikoyamamoto.net/

https://www.instagram.com/aiko.yamamoto\_/

Additional artists TBA

# **Performing Artists**

### asamicro



Photo: Kai Maetani

Dancer. First started learning hip hop at the age of 10. Performances are characterized by sharp movements, rounded shoulders, and addictive choreography. Director of "egglife." Under the concept, "in order to be excited for tomorrow morning," draws on childhood memories and experiences, using humorous movements and quick progressions to convey the struggle of being alive and emotions which cannot be expressed through words. Creates dance performances which explore "the distances between family, society, and the self."

https://www.asamicrodance.com/

https://www.facebook.com/asamicro

https://www.instagram.com/egglife\_asamicro/

#### Ichinosuke Umekawa



Photo: Leslie Kee

Originally from Hita City, Oita. After working with Tokyo Ballet Company and as a kabuki actor, in 2016 became a dancer specializing in *nihon-buyo*, traditional Japanese dance. Studied under the tutelage of Tamasaburo Bando, a Living National Treasure. Currently featured in a disembarkation video on all Japan Airlines flights. In 2023, became the director of Avenir School, a performing arts school for children with disabilities. Combines various genres, opening up new possibilities through the art of *nihon-buyo*.

http://umekawaichinosuke.jp/

https://www.instagram.com/umekawaichinosuke/

### **OLTA**



Photo: Takeshi Hyakutou

Artistic collective of five members who through the accumulation of negotiations with the visual and performing arts systems, and sociological and folkloric fieldwork, develop their art through the use of various methods such as pictorial art, installations, film, performance, and dramatic theater. Members are Toru Inoue, Takafumi Saito, Yoshiro Hasegawa, Meguninja, and Jang-Chi. https://www.olta.jp

https://x.com/olta\_jp

https://www.instagram.com/olta\_play/

### Saho Terao



Photo: Hiroyuki Takenouchi

Debuted in 2007 with the album "Goshin." Her song "Mahou Mitai Ni" was chosen as the theme song for the NHK documentary Dear Japan, and also appeared in Koukousei No Ongaku I, a music textbook published by Kyoiku Geijutsusha for high school students. Her recent song "Yohaku No Merodi" was selected as one of Music Magazine's top ten songs of 2022 (rock category).

https://www.sahoterao.com

https://www.facebook.com/sahotera

https://x.com/sahotera

https://www.instagram.com/sahoterao

## Keiji Haino & Shuta Hasunuma



Photo: Riku Ikeya

Keiji Haino and Shuta Hasunuma performed together for the first time in 2017. In 2019, Haino participated in the "Music Today in Kyoto" festival, organized in part by Hasunuma. They held their first solo show "Uta" at Shibuya WWW in 2021, in the middle of the pandemic. They also held a collaboration concert at the Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art in 2023.

http://www.fushitsusha.com/

http://www.shutahasunuma.com/

https://www.instagram.com/shuta\_hasunuma