



September 11th, 2026 PRESS RELEASE

Park Hotel Tokyo Launches "J-ART Project," a Monthly Exhibition of Japanese Contemporary Art

~Curated by Mitsuru Kuramoto, introducing new Japanese talent~

Park Hotel Tokyo (Operated by Shiba Park Hotel Co., Ltd. / Minato-ku, Tokyo / President: Noriyoshi Tanaka) will launch "J-ART Project" on Thursday, October 1, 2026, a new initiative to introduce Japanese contemporary art to audiences in Japan and abroad. With broadcast writer Mitsuru Kuramoto as curator, the Gallery Room on the hotel's 31st floor will host a year-long series of monthly exhibitions, each spotlighting one Japanese "push artist."

倉本 美津留

×

パークホテル東京



Mitsuru Kuramoto × Park Hotel Tokyo: "J-ART Project" Connects Japanese Contemporary Art
with Travelers from Around the World

Why a Hotel? Making Park Hotel Tokyo a Hub for Japanese Art and the World

Japan is home to a great many contemporary artists with a distinctive sensibility and real skill, who nonetheless remain little known to the world. Even when a work is created, there are few opportunities to convey it abroad together with the story and the artist's own perspective behind it. It was this thought that led us to believe a hotel has something it can offer here.

Park Hotel Tokyo welcomes travelers from around the world, centered on Europe, North America and Australia. A hotel that gathers people walking the city, encountering its culture, and seeking new values can be more than a mere exhibition venue — it can become a hub connecting Japanese art with the world. Over the course of a stay, from check-in to check-out, a guest might pause before a work, come to know the artist, and carry that memory home. We believe that the accumulation of such small encounters has the power to open Japanese contemporary art to the world.



“cool it” series — a representative body of work using the casting



“Dogu Kaijin Diorama (Andojin)” — a fired clay sculpture in which a Jomon-period earthenware figure becomes a monster, paired with a scene painted in the Japanese-painting style on the box that holds it



“Household Item Hero” — his signature work expressing a distinctive world of heroes

The name “J-ART” carries the wish to convey Japanese contemporary art forcefully as a culture in its own right, bringing light not only to talent that has already blossomed but also to the seeds of talent yet to take flight into the world. Rather than ending with a work hung on a wall, the project seeks to convey the artist's presence and the background of their creation, connecting the viewer's interest to further support and exchange. As its gateway, Park Hotel Tokyo will nurture points of contact among artists, travelers, galleries and other diverse people, carrying Japan's contemporary art — “J-ART” — out into the world.

A New Talent, Introduced in Depth Each Month

Each month, J-ART Project selects one Japanese artist as its “push artist.” Each exhibition is planned to feature roughly 5 to 10 works. Unbound by genre — painting, three-dimensional work, and beyond — the series introduces expression and talent worth encountering now, through the singular perspective of Mitsuru Kuramoto. As the exhibition changes each month, every visit offers an encounter with a different artist and a different world view.

The venue is the Gallery Room on the 31st floor of Park Hotel Tokyo. The works may be viewed free of charge by anyone, not only staying guests, and are available for purchase. Travelers who happen upon a work mid-journey, visitors who come with art in mind, and media and art professionals from Japan and abroad — by gathering diverse people around the same works in the same place, the project hopes to spark new dialogue and connection.

Curator: Mitsuru Kuramoto (Broadcast Writer)

A broadcast writer behind numerous popular programs, including “Downtown no Gottsu Ee Kanji,” “M-1 Grand Prix,” “Takeshi no Banbutsu Souseiki,” and “Jonetsu Tairiku”. Alongside this work, he has long engaged in reading contemporary art through the lens of “humor” via television programs and exhibitions, discovering numerous talents with his own distinctive eye. Through Kuramoto’s curation — which brings early recognition to artists not yet widely known — the series introduces Japanese contemporary art from a fresh perspective that transcends the boundaries of genre.

Exhibition Overview

Project	J-ART Project
Curator	Mitsuru Kuramoto (Broadcast Writer)
Period	Starts Thursday, October 1, 2026 — monthly exhibitions continuing for one year thereafter
Venue	Gallery Room, 31F, Park Hotel Tokyo (Shiodome Media Tower, 1-7-1 Higashi-Shimbashi, Minato-ku, Tokyo)
Content	A series introducing one Japanese artist each month. Roughly 5 to 10 works are displayed per exhibition, offering an ongoing showcase of Japan’s diverse contemporary art.
Admission	Open to anyone, not only staying guests (free admission).
Sales	Exhibited works are available for purchase.



"Moon Hatch" — one of his representative oil paintings, shown repeatedly



"Used as Stock for Noodles" — a painting, distinctly Sakamoto's own, that slips a surreal sense of unease into an everyday scene



"A" — a work exploring, through figures and lucky charm motifs, a gaze toward happiness



a representative three-dimensional work built around the theme of a soul dwelling within an object

A Foundation Built as an Art Hotel

Guided by the concept “an infinite time and space amid cognizant Japanese beauty,” Park Hotel Tokyo has pursued art-centered branding since 2012. More than 400 works of art are displayed and sold throughout the hotel at any given time, and the corridors of the guest room floors from the 26th to the 34th floor form the Corridor Gallery, creating an environment in which guests naturally encounter works as they move through the building. More than 95 percent of staying guests are visitors from overseas, centered on Europe, North America and Australia. A space where the Tokyo skyline seen from the upper floors resonates with art conveying Japanese sensibility — cultivating the stay itself into a cultural experience — forms the foundation on which J-ART Project is built.



■ Participating Artists

Through the curation of Mitsuru Kuramoto, one Japanese artist is spotlighted each month. Below are the artists confirmed from the first exhibition through April 2027.



October 2026 — Push Artist: Yu Shichinohe

Born February 1959. After working in the design department of a general contractor, he began his career as an illustrator before gradually moving toward fine art. Following exhibitions at Aoki Gallery in Ginza, he built a body of exhibitions centered on the East Asian market. In recent years he has shifted his focus back to showing his work in Japan, and continues to work today.



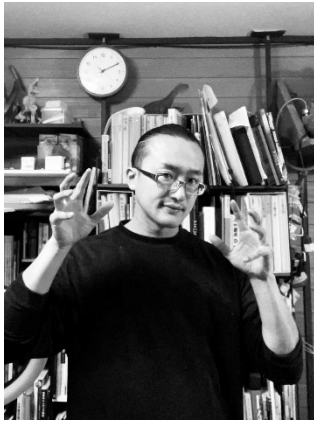
November 2026 — Push Artist: Ken Matsuyama

Raised near the Yubunezawa Stone Circle in Iwate Prefecture; now based near the Santonodai Site in Yokohama. He began by painting in the Japanese-painting tradition in Kyoto, then took up earthenware, dolls and sculpture in Osaka. In recent years he has painted oil paintings in which Jomon-period (c. 14,000–300 BCE) dogu figurines become monstrous beings, then sculpted what he saw in clay and fired it in the open, Jomon-style. He also produces reconstructed copies of the dogu that inspired the works, lacquered earthenware, and reconstruction drawings of Jomon-period settlements.



December 2026 — Push Artist: Tomoyoshi Sakamoto

Born in Tochigi Prefecture in 1985. Graduated from the Department of Design, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts in 2008. Working chiefly with the motif of endearing young girls, he paints the real psychological landscape of people living in the present day through expression laced with irony and black humor, using the figure of the girl as a conceptual vehicle for the contradictions, cruelty and tragicomedy carried by contemporary society.



January 2027 — Push Artist: Isana Yamada

Born in Saitama Prefecture in 1988. Completed the design program in the Graduate School of Fine Arts at Tokyo University of the Arts. A visual artist working on the theme of the soul that dwells within an object, creating three-dimensional works that treat man-made things as living beings. His approaches include the “Tsukumogami” series, in which old tools become yokai; the “Return to Port” series, in which sunken ships return to their home port in the form of whales; the “Drift” series, which likens washed-up debris to migratory birds; and the “Dig” series, in which fossilized man-made objects are likened to ancient creatures — each expressing the soul that dwells within an object through a different approach.



February 2027 — Push Artist: Yu Uchida

Born in Tokyo in 1979. Studied metal casting and glass art at Tokyo University of the Arts, and trained further at the University for the Creative Arts in the United Kingdom. Working chiefly in glass, she creates ice-pop-shaped forms made using casting techniques. In the “cool it” series, which turns polar bears into characters, the melting forms overlay an eye toward environmental issues with the “cuteness” of pop culture. She has taken part in numerous collaborations with companies and brands, as well as exhibitions in Japan and abroad.



March 2027 — Push Artist: Tomohiro Yasui

Artist and creator. Creator of “Kami-Robo”. Working since childhood in a wide range of forms of expression — the paper-craft “Kami-Robo” he has continued making since he was a boy, household-item heroes, oil painting, CG production and costume-making among them. Selected for Newsweek magazine’s “100 Japanese People the World Respects” feature. His work has appeared in a high school art textbook. He is the author of “A Gathering of 100-Yen Shop Goods Turned Into Heroes” (Publisher: HEIBONSHA) and “Kami-Robo You Can Move and Play With” (Publisher: Socym).



April 2027 — Push Artist: Rika Oshima

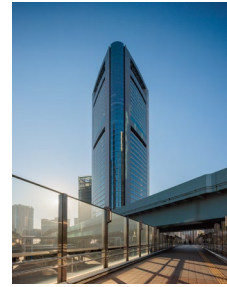
Born in Saitama Prefecture in 1995. Began painting portraits in 2016. Drawn to the richness, humor and softness of human expression, she takes happiness as the theme of her practice, researching lucky charms and motifs and incorporating them into her work.

* * *

About Park Hotel Tokyo

Park Hotel Tokyo is a sister hotel of Shiba Park Hotel, founded in 1948. Located on floors 25–34 of Shiodome Media Tower, it offers panoramic views of Tokyo Tower and Mt. Fuji. The hotel has 268 guestrooms, including 51 Artist Rooms where artists paint directly on the walls. These Artist Rooms, designed as spaces to experience Japanese aesthetics, have received the Excellence Award in the Japan Tourism Awards.

<https://parkhoteltokyo.com>



Park Hotel Tokyo Exterior

Media inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to:

Shiba Park Hotel / Park Hotel Tokyo Brand Promotion Strategy

Division Contact: Kitao, Tsunoda

pr@shibaparkhotel.com

TEL: +81 (0)3 3433 4141 (main) FAX: +81 (0)3 5470 7515