

Nobuaki ITOH Solo Exhibition, *Fiction / The most beautiful moment in my life*

Duration : 9/15 (Sat.) - 10/14 (Sun.), 2018

Opening Reception : 9/15 (Sat.) 6:00pm-8:00pm

- We are open on Wed to Sat. 12-7pm and Sun. 12-5pm
- Closed on Mon., Tue. and National Holidays
- Opening Reception : 9/15, Saturday, 6-8pm with artist present

Venue : WAITINGROOM (1F-2-14-2 Suido, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0005, JAPAN)

Tokyo, Japan - WAITINGROOM is pleased to announce Nobuaki ITOH Solo Exhibition, *Fiction / The most beautiful moment in my life*, which is the artist's second solo exhibition in two years at our gallery. ITOH has been exploring the issue of body, life / death, and spirit, which are not avoidable for human being, and creating video and installation works in this theme. He also develops his own theory about "Fiction" and often mixes up the techniques of fiction, non fiction and meta fiction in his work. In this exhibition, he will present his latest video work, *Fiction*, which is a road movie based on his own production theory of "Melting of Fiction" and "Cracking by Fiction" that was declared in his doctoral dissertation in 2016. In addition to that, he will also present his other latest work, *The most beautiful moment in my life*, as a video installation format using multiple monitors and tablet devices. It is a video work showing about 20 men and women in the early 20s, posing like a Mona Lisa, a painting by Leonardo da Vinci, in front of camera, declaring that "It is the most beautiful moment in my life" to the audiences after thousand years.



"The most beautiful moment in my life" 2018, single channel video with sound

About the artist, Nobuaki ITOH

Born in 1981 in Nara, currently lives and works in Nara and Kyoto. He graduated from Kyoto University of Arts and Design in the major of Fine Art in 2006 and obtained a Ph.D. in Art at Kyoto City University of Arts in 2016. His recent exhibitions include a solo exhibition "The most beautiful moment in my life" (Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts Gallery, Kyoto, 2018), group exhibition "CANCER - THE MECHANISM OF RESEMBLING" (EUKARYOTE, Tokyo, 2018), solo exhibition "Ato and Artist" (WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, 2016), group exhibition "S-HOUSE Museum Memorial Exhibitions" (S-HOUSE Museum, Okayama, 2016-2026), a solo exhibition "Ato" (APMoA Project, ARCH vol.13: Nobuaki ITOH, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya, 2015), group exhibition "GRAVEDAD CERO" (Matadero Madrid, Madrid, Spain, 2015), solo exhibition "Artist and Prophet" (HAGISO, Tokyo, 2014), "Ushimado Asia Triennale" (Setouchi City Museum of Art, Okayama, 2014), group exhibition "Me'tis - fighting art -" (Gallery @KCUA, Kyoto, 2012), group exhibition "RESONANSE" (Suntory Museum, Osaka, 2010) and many others.

Artist Statement

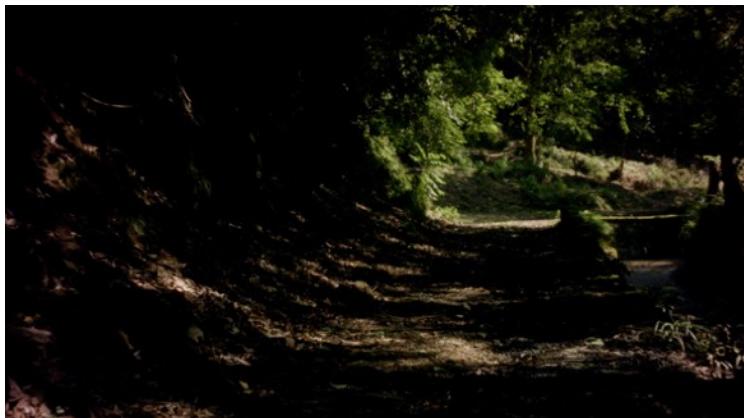
“Reality” and “Fiction” are not the opposite concepts. Fiction has always been made based on the reality as its materials. When the fiction and fiction in other forms are mixed together, audience have difficulties in discerning the “fictions in other forms” from the “fiction” itself and this is called “Melting of Fiction”. “Melting of Fiction” causes “Cracking by Fiction”: the fictions leak into a real world, transgressing the media, and eventually the audience begins to confuse fictions with realities. In case “Cracking by Fiction” occurs, audience have strong emotional reactions, such as surprise, laugh, anger, fear, trembling, unpleasant, irritation etc., toward the artworks, the same reactions as we touch the leaking water. Some of these reactions are similar to the ones that existed before “Cracking by Fiction”, others are different from previous ones. However, the common feature they could share is their “strength”. The “Fiction” after the “Cracking by Fiction” occurred has become different phenomenon. The phenomenon that is used to be the “Fiction” has changed to something variant that is hard to look straight and hard to live with and be thrown into the world.

Nobuaki ITOH

Making it to “Fiction” and destroy it.

In ITOH's doctoral dissertation he wrote when he completed his Ph.D. program at Kyoto City University of Arts in 2016, he named his techniques used often from his maiden work till then as “Melting of Fiction” and “Cracking by Fiction”. He analyses both techniques through taking some cinema works for example and then demonstrates them through his own work at the end. In the last chapter, he explained his experience of working at the funeral company as a full-time worker for several years after graduating from grad school. During his experience, he felt that the funeral is the ritual to “Fictionize” the death in order for us to accept its death. Why does he stick with the “Fiction”? He says that it's because he is fascinated by the universal and fundamental questions of “where are we coming from? Who we are? Where are we going to?” as an artist and also as a human being. After we come into the world until we die, what do we feel, for what reason, and for which destination we are going while living in this world? ITOH puts all these questions into the framework of the “Fiction” once and then destroys them after so that the audiences can realize these questions strongly through his work.

It was his doctoral dissertation that he wrote about his work and thoughts as a discussion, and it is his latest video work, *Fiction*, that he visualizes his discussion and contents of the dissertation once again, and he is presenting this work as the main piece for this exhibition. Furthermore, he is also presenting other work, *The most beautiful moment in my life*, as a work that is mutually resonant each other and created by the theory used in *Fiction*.



“Fiction” 2018, single channel video with sound

Nobuaki ITOH

1981 Born in Nara, Japan

Currently lives and works in Nara and Kyoto

EDUCATION

2016 Kyoto City University of Arts, Ph.D. in Art, Kyoto, Japan

2009 Kyoto City University of Arts, M.F.A. in Concept and Media Planning, Kyoto, Japan

2006 Kyoto University of Arts and Design, B.A. in Fine Art, Kyoto, Japan

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2018 *The most beautiful moment in my life* , Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts Gallery, Kyoto

2017 *Alive / Not Alive* , Gallery 16, Kyoto

2016 *Āto and Artist*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo

2015 *Animal (STUDY)*, ART SPACE ZERO-ONE, Osaka

Āto (AM Ver.), Antenna Media, Kyoto

APMoA Project, ARCH vol. 13 : Nobuaki ITOH, Āto,

Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Nagoya

2014 *0099*, CASO, Osaka *Solo as Itoh+Bak

Artist and Prophet, HAGISO, Tokyo

2013 *Artist*, Antenna Media, Kyoto

2011 *Prophet*, Gallery @KCUA, Kyoto

2010 *Dead body of recollection*, "CUBIC" Gallery Iteza, Kyoto

2009 *1+1=1*, "CUBIC" Gallery Iteza, Kyoto

a short story, CASO, Osaka

2008 *1+1=1*, CASO, Osaka

People who is recognizing the phantom image/ Questioner and Actor, Gallery16, Kyoto

2007 *BODY SOAP*, "CUBIC" Gallery Iteza, Kyoto

2004 *delusive skin*, "CUBIC" Gallery Iteza, Kyoto



Solo Exhibition "The most beautiful moment in my life" 2018
Installation view (Doshisha Women's College of Liberal Arts Gallery, Kyoto)

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2018

Cross-border Museum, Kushino Terrace, Hiroshima,

S-HOUSE Museum, Okayama

CANCER *THE MECHANISM OF RESEMBLING*,

EUKARYOTE, Tokyo



Solo Exhibition "Art and Artist" 2016
Installation view (WAITINGROOM, Tokyo) Photo by Ujin Matsuo

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS (continued)

2017

NEWSPACE, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo

Exchange of the landscapes Project, Aichi University of the Arts, Satellite Gallery & STANDING PINE, Aichi

FUNAHASHI WATASU, Nara Prefectural University, Nara

The 3rd Ushimado Asia Triennale, Shirimi Area, Okayama

Melting Point 2, MEM, Tokyo



"Art (Spain Ver.)", 2015

Single channel video with sound, 10min.5sec.

2016

S-HOUSE Museum Opening Exhibition, S-HOUSE Museum, Okayama

2015

GRAVEDAD CERO, Matadero Madrid, Madrid, Spain

Art Week in front of school 2015, Asanuma Memorial, Nara

Still moving @KCUA, Gallery @KCUA, Kyoto

2014

Ushimado Asia Triennale, Setouchi City Museum of Art, Okayama

Hairy Soy Source, Soap and Ten Statements for an Artist, MIACA, Hong Kong

egØ - Reexamining the Self -, punto, Kyoto

2013

Cho-Kyoto 2013, Today's Machiya in Kyoto, Kyoto

Nuit Blanche Kyoto 2013, Gallery @KCUA, Kyoto

Ogaki Biennale, IAMAS, Gifu

Transfiguration of Aesthetic Sense, Osaka City Central Public Hall, Osaka

2012

Transmit Program #3 Metis –fighting art-, Gallery @KCUA, Kyoto

2011

DONATIONS!! - For the stricken area of Great East Japan Earthquake -, GURA, Kyoto

2010

WAKUWAKU Kyoto, Rissei Elementary School, Kyoto

Small Museum 2010, Gallery Yuragi, Kyoto

RESONANSE, Suntory Museum, Osaka



"Alive / Not alive (2014.8/Ushimado)", 2014

Single channel video with sound, 9min.32sec.

2008

Group Exhibition of Art Universities ~ART UNIV.2008~,

Rissei elementary school

Graduation Exhibition, Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto

2007

Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art, Taro Okamoto Museum of Art, Kanagawa

Shijo Street Gallery, Sumitomo Mitsui Trust Bank, Kyoto

2006

STAIRS, CASO, Osaka,

Graduation Exhibition, Gallery RAKU, Kyoto

2005

FRAME PLUS Hisao MATSUURA, CASO, Osaka

2004

Kyoto Art Annual, Kyoto University of Arts and Design

AWARDS

2012 The 12th Gunma Biennale for Young Artists
2009 Encouragement Prize at Graduation Exhibition, Kyoto City University of Arts
2007 Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art, Taro Okamoto Museum of Art
1999 Shortlisted for Bungakukai Shinjinsho

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

2015 El Ranchito Korea -Japan, Matadero Madrid, Madrid, Spain

CATALOGUES AND BROCHURES

APMoA Project, ARCH vol.13 Nobuaki ITOH 'Ato', Brochure, Feb. 2015, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art
Gifu Ohgaki Biennale 2013, Catalogue, Jan. 2015, Institute of Advanced Media Arts and Science [IAMAS]
document ego, April 2014, ego exhibition documentation catalogue association
Kyogei Transmit Program #3 Metis – Fighting Art -, May 15th 2012, Kyoto City University of Arts ART GALLERY @KCUA
RESONANSE, April 2010, Suntory Museum

ARTICLES

Yoko Nose, "5 Years of APMoA Project, ARCH", AAC vol.93, Sep.2017, p.5, Aichi Arts Center
Nakako Hayashi, "G's ART Nakako Hayashi's What's Art?", GINZA Issue235, Jan.2017, p.180, Magazine House
"MEETING THE ARTIST/Nobuaki ITOH", Web Bijutsu Techo, Nov.24.2016, Bijutsu Shuppan Sha
"MEETING THE ARTIST/Nobuaki ITOH", Bijutsu Techo No.1046, Dec.2016, ARTNAVI p9, Bijutsu Shuppan Sha
"TO DO LIST/Nobuaki ITOH Ato and Artist@WAITINGROOM", POPEYE Issue836, Dec.2016, p188, Magazine House
Takafumi Kobuki, "Art Week in front of School" Review, Lmaga.jp, Nov. 11th 2015,
<http://lmaga.jp/blog/news/2015/11/gakuenmaear2015.html>
Kazuo Amano, "APMoA Project, ARCH Vol.13 ?to", Review, REAR No.35, Sep. 2015
Takafumi Kobuki, "Ato" (at Antenna Media), Review, artscape, June 1st 2015,
http://artscape.jp/report/review/10111280_1735.html
Yasuyuki Nakai, "Ato" (at Aichi Prefectural Museum), Review, artscape, April 15th 2015,
http://artscape.jp/report/curator/10109252_1634.html
What's up in Japan, Seoul Art Guide vol.159, March 2015
"Best 3 of the year selected by the writers", Kyoto Newspaper, Dec. 2013
Momokofu Yoshida, "Nobuaki ITOH, Artist" (at Antenna Media), Review, HAPS Exhibition Review, Nov. 5th 2013,
http://haps-kyoto.com/haps-press/exhibition_review/review_14/
Takafumi Kobuki, "Nobuaki ITOH, Artist" (at Antenna Media), Review, artscape, July 1st 2013,
http://artscape.jp/report/review/10088825_1735.html
Yasuyuki Nakai, "Nobuaki ITOH, Artist" (at Antenna Media), Review, artscape, June 15th 2013,
http://artscape.jp/report/curator/10088446_1634.html
Takafumi Kobuki, "To ask human system and relation -Nobuaki ITOH", Review, Kyoto Newspaper, May 25th 2013
Megumi Takashima, "Metis – Fighting Art -", Review, HAPS Exhibition Review, Feb. 4th 2013,
http://haps-kyoto.com/haps-press/exhibition_review/review_003/
Takafumi Kobuki, "RESONANSE Vol.4 Nobuaki ITOH (Participating Artist) Interview", Interview, Art no Kobujime, April 24th 2010,
<http://blog.livedoor.jp/artkobujime/archives/1361419.html>
Megumi Takashima, "Another RESONANSE - When a place for dialogue and sympathy opens", Review, PEELER, April 2010,
http://www.peeler.jp/review/1006osaka_2/index.html
"To ask a sense of physical sensation by exhibit a soup made from urine- a graduate student exhibit in Chukyo", Kyoto
Newspaper, April 25th 2007

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

S-HOUSE Museum, Okayama

***Inquiry about the exhibition and artist**

WAITINGROOM (Owner & Director: Tomoko Ashikawa)

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ARTIST WEBSITE

<http://nobuakiitoh.com>