

## Naho KAWABE & Hanae UTAMURA "STRATA"

Exhibiting Artists : Naho Kawabe & Hanae Utamura

Duration : 10/15 (Sat.) - 11/13 (Sun.), 2022

Opening Reception : 10/15 (Sat.) 6:00 - 8:00pm

\*We are open on Wed to Sat. 12-7pm and Sun. 12-5pm

\*Closed on Mon., Tue. and National Holidays

\*Naho KAWABE will be present at the opening reception on 10/15, Saturday, 6-8pm. The exhibition opens at noon before the reception.

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



Naho KAWABE "Züchtung (Breeding)", 2020,  
glass, plastic, charcoal, acrylic, light bulb, dimensions variable



Hanae UTAMURA "Ancient Air - Seafloor Core Glass Volcanic Moment", 2022,  
grass, sediment cores from the Deep Sea, Breath Photo by Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsym!)

WAITINGROOM (Tokyo) is pleased to present "STRATA," a two-person exhibition by Naho Kawabe and Hanae Utamura from October 15 (Sat) to November 13 (Sun), 2022. Based on her research into the social contexts of materials, Kawabe creates works that traverse media including video and installation, exploring how these materials undergo various transformations. Utamura, who actually travels to places where civilization and the natural world collide, creates works based on her physical experiences in order to pose fundamental questions about the origins of the world through the energy of nature and the history of the land. Both artists are based not only in Japan but also abroad: Kawabe in Germany, and Utamura in New York. This two-person exhibition is the first time that both artists are meeting each other: they have created their works in real time online, as well as in the places where their physical bodies are located.

At this exhibition, Kawabe will exhibit charcoal installations based on her research into coal mines, as well as objects, small installations, and new drawings. Utamura will show new sculptures composed specifically for this exhibition from her Ancient Air: Deep Sea Strata Glass series, as well as new two-dimensional works and three-dimensional works and video pieces from past series.

## Individuals, humanity, matter, the Earth, multiple accumulations of time

There is a time difference of 6 hours and a physical distance of 6,230 km between Naho Kawabe, who lives in Germany, and Hanae Utamura, who lives in the United States. Up until this exhibition in Tokyo, the two artists had a series of online conversations, without ever meeting each other in real space.

Since the early 2000s, Kawabe has been focusing on the social context surrounding the material of charcoal, and creating works based on painstaking research. Kawabe's works in this exhibition, including installations of various sizes using charcoal and light bulbs based on the law of conservation of energy, which states that the total amount of energy does not change even if its location or form shifts; Coral Beds, a new drawing depicting plants growing out of a coal layer in a geological formation; and on the social contract and boot, objects consisting of books and fruits painted over with charcoal, were conceived based on her research on 436 Japanese miners who came to work in the Ruhr coalfield in Germany to learn technical skills immediately after World War II. Telecommunications and energy, which make online conversations possible, are only recognized in the context of our daily lives in terms of numbers and units like gigabytes. The existence of this prodigious material and human infrastructure that facilitates the unobstructed supply of these resources struck me with a much greater impact through this survey of coal mining," says Kawabe. "These traces of geological and climatic shifts, products, and human movements, brought about by the coal formed by the carbonization of plants 350 million years ago, will one day become part of these strata, too."

The works by Utamura on display at this exhibition represent a rethinking of the notion of "evolution" that has propelled modernity, as well as the energy resources that have supported this process, addressing our entangled relationship with natural energy that far surpasses the scale of the human. They include Traces: Skin, in which the artist spray painted posters that had fallen due to their own weight after having been pasted all over the streets of Berlin; Ancient Air: Deep Sea Strata Glass, in which the air released by the strata of the ocean floor is trapped in hot glass; Uncanny Valley, in which images of these strata and the sky are overlaid onto each other and the viewer's own reflection is projected onto them; and Spring Water, Faults, and the Body, which represents a kind of memoir for the artist's father, who was once involved in the field of nuclear energy engineering. "I feel that life can never be reduced to information alone, that it can never be conceptualized," says Utamura, whose works are created by confronting the energy of nature and the history of the land with the artist's own body, which has accumulated memories of the land and experiences of pregnancy and childbirth.

The works of both of these artists are based on their own experiences of visiting places far from where they live. Their works, created while looking at things that exist on an immeasurable scale and temporal axis that transcend the human scale of time zones, national borders, and physical distances between two points, prompt viewers to imagine human existence as a type of life on Earth, as well as a temporal axis that almost defies logic and comprehension. We invite you to visit the actual venue to see this exhibition, the result of a dialogue that has accumulated in each of the two artists' respective locations.



Naho KAWABE "coal beds", 2022, Sumi ink, acrylic spray, watercolor on paper, 496 x 694 mm  
Photo by Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsym!)



Hanae UTAMURA "Residue: Skin", 2015  
Graffiti Spray on fallen poster, 745 x 1170 x 100 mm



### ART WEEK TOKYO

We will be participating in a four-day art event that will take us on a bus tour of galleries and museums in Tokyo.

**Date: 11/3 Thu. - 6 Sun. 2022**

**Detail: <https://www.artweektoko.com>**

## Naho KAWABE

1976 Born in Fukuoka, Japan  
 1999 Musashino Art University, Tokyo, Bachelor  
 2006 University of Fine Arts of Hamburg, Diploma  
 Currently lives and works both in Germany and Japan.

### SOLO EXHIBITION

2022 *Black and Green*, TOM REICHSTEIN CONTEMPORARY, Hamburg, Germany  
 2021 1/3 2/3 3/3, Paper Gallery, Kosovo  
*Artist in Quarantin*, nachtspeicher23 e.V., Hamburg, Germany  
 2019 *Blooming Black*, Boxes Art Museum, Guangzhou, China  
 2018 *Save for the Noon*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan  
*In Other Words*, konya-gallery, Fukuoka, Japan  
 2017 *The Children of Icarus*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan  
 2016 *delikatelinien*, Ermekeilkaserne, Bonn, Germany  
 2014 *piece, piece* (with Jane Brucker), Port Gallery T, Osaka, Japan  
 2013 *Observer Effect*, Wassermühle Trittau, Germany  
*Observer Effect*, Galerie du Tableau, Marseille, France  
*relation, unscharf*, STORE contemporary, Dresden, Germany  
 2012 *Blüthenstaub*, Port Gallery T, Osaka, Japan  
 2011 *Open Secret: 5th shiseido art egg Award Exhibition*, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
 2010 *Most things happen in the interval*, Port Gallery T, Osaka, Japan  
 2009 *StipendiatenArt* (with Anne Rinn), Johann-Friedrich-Danneil-Museum, Salzwedel, Germany  
 2005 *Helgoland*, Gallery IAF SHOP\*, Fukuoka, Japan  
 2004 *dem Anschein nach*, Einstellungsraum e.V., Hamburg, Germany



"Black and Green" (detail)  
 2021, lacquered MDF, plastic, book, charcoal, acrylic, pottery, dimensions variable  
 photo by Claus Sautter

### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 *New Collection Exhibition*, Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan  
 2021 *Kleine Gesellschaft für Weg und Umweg*, Hinterconti, Hamburg, Germany  
*OUT FOR ART Jugend* kuratiert, Haerder Center, Lübeck, Germany  
*ISOLA*, Galerie Hengevoss-Dürkop, Hamburg, Germany  
 2020 *LRRH\_Contribution*, ZERO FOLD, Cologne, Germany  
*Aufenthaltswahrscheinlichkeiten*, 8. Salon e.V., Hamburg, Germany  
 2019 *Aufenthaltswahrscheinlichkeiten / Stochasic Effect*, The Blend Apartments & Artist in Residence, Osaka, Japan  
*Posture Training*, FLAG studio, Osaka, Japan  
*RADICAL TWILIGHT*, Frappant, Hamburg, Germany  
*drawings and objects*, Galerie Nanna Preußners, Hamburg, Germany  
*Fuzzy Dark Spot*, Deichtorhallen Sammlung Falckenberg, Hamburg, Germany  
 2018 *Transitons*, Frappant, Hamburg, Germany  
*Landschaft. Gebrochene Idylle*, Schloß Agathenburg, Agathenburg, Germany  
 2017 *NEWSPACE*, WAITINGROOM, Tokyo, Japan  
*wie es sich ereignet – Naho Kawabe + Hendrik Lorper*, Take Maracke & Partner, Kiel, Germany  
 2016 *LIFESTYLES – KUNST aus FUKUOKA*, JAPAN, WESTWERK, Hamburg, Germany  
*Grenzenlos - Himmlische Perspektiven*, Schlosskirche, Universität Bonn, Bonn, Germany  
*The Material of Memory*, Frise, Hamburg, Germany  
*ort-m migration memory*, Frappant, Hamburg, Germany  
 2015 *Von Wörtern und Räumen*, Galerie im Marstahl, Ahrensburg, Germany  
*Sudden Change of Idea*, Union Art Museum, Wuhan, China  
 2014 *IN SEARCH OF CRITICAL IMAGINATION*, Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, Japan  
*Notausgang am Horizont*, 8. Kunstfrühling, Bremen, Germany  
*Can I ask you personal question?*, Sichuan University Art Gallery, Chengdu, China  
*Bien Merci*, Galerie Le Couer, Cologne, Germany  
 2012 *boesner art award 2012*, Märkisches Museum, Witten, Germany  
*Moving Surface*, Künstlerforum, Bonn, Germany  
*Video Violence*, Kunsthaus, Dresden, Germany  
*Thermal noise (The Bee to Bee Net, solo)*, FRISE, Hamburg, Germany  
*Out of Space*, Gallery SUZUKI, Kyoto, Japan  
 2011 *Archive und Geschichte(n)*, Hamburger Kunsthalle/Galerie der Gegenwart, Germany  
*JCE: Jeune Créditation Européenne*, with The Bee to Bee Net, Paris and other cities in Europe  
 2010 *Versus Whiteout*, with The Bee to Bee Net, Kunsthaus, Hamburg, Germany  
 2009 *Twinism. 20 years partnercity Hamburg/Osaka*, Kunsthaus Hamburg, Germany / AD&A Gallery, Osaka, Japan  
*StipendiatenArt*, Johann-Friedrich-Danneil-Museum, Salzwedel, Germany  
 2008 *The Bee to Bee Net meets hulahoop*, Gallery hulahoop, Hong Kong  
*Wir nennen es Hamburg*, Kunstverein in Hamburg, Germany  
 2007 *Lebe wohl. Suizidalität*, Kunst und Gesellschaft, Kunsthaus, Hamburg, Germany  
 2006 *Migration Addict*, Sculpture squer, Singapore  
*Joint the dots*, Ben Kaufmann Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
*Plattform#3*, Kunstverein Hannover, Germany  
 2005 *Migration Addict*, Warehouse, Shanghai, China

## ART PROJECT

2022 Das war mal ein ganz tolle Idee, <https://www.nahokawabe.net/oase-der-kunst/>  
 2020 Camera Isolata, Online Art Projekt, <https://camera-isolata.nahokawabe.net>

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2022 Toshiaki Ogasawara Memorial Foundation  
 2021 Zukunftsstipendium, Hamburg Cultural Foundation  
 NEUSTART KULTUR, Federal Republic of Germany  
 Nordhorn Art Award Short list  
 2020 Kunst kennt keinen shutdown, Hamburg Cultural Foundation  
 2019 15th Workshop Projekt, Boxes Museum, Guangzhou, China  
 2016 Project grant, the city of Hamburg  
 2013 Nomura Foundation Fellowship  
 2012 Wassermühle Trittau, Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung Stormarn  
 boesner art award 2012, Jury's Special Award  
 2011 The 5th shiseido art egg Finalist  
 2009 Japanese Government Overseas Study Programme for Artists  
 2008 Hamburger Arbeitsstipendium für bildende Kunst  
 Artist in residency, Salzwedel, Sachsen-Anhalt  
 2006 Artist in residency, Mecklenburgisches Künstlerhaus Schloss Plüschow  
 2005 Leistungsstipendium für Ausländische Studenten, University of Fine Arts of Hamburg  
 2001 DAAD

## PUBLICATIONS

*Aufenthaltswahrscheinlichkeiten*, 2019  
*DELIKATELINIEN*, 2016  
*Observer Effect*, 2012, Revolver Publishing

## CATALOGUES AND BROCHURES

*Fuzzy Dark Spot. Videoart from Hamburg*, Deichtorhallen Sammlung Falckenberg Hamburg, 2019  
 Belinda Grace Gardner, *Transitorisch: Strategien gegen die Vergänglichkeit*, transcript Verlag, 2017  
*Lifestyles*, Lifestyles Exhibition Executive Committee, Jan. 2017  
*ort\_m (migration memory)*, Revolver Publishing, Feb. 2017  
*Von Wörtern und Räumen*, Stiftungen der Sparkasse Holstein, Oct. 4, 2015  
*Kunst Frühling 2014*, BBK Bremen e.V., May. 16, 2014  
*IN SEARCH OF CRITICAL IMAGINATION*, Fukuoka Art Museum, Feb. 10, 2014  
*BOESNER ART AWARD 2012*, boesner GmbH holdings + innovations, 2013  
*Moving Surface*, ML Moving locations e.V., 2012  
*Shiseido art egg vol.5*, SHISEIDO, May. 25, 2011  
*INDEX 11*, Index, Nov. 2, 2011  
*EXTRA 3*, Kunsthaus Hamburg, May. 11, 2010  
*The BeetoBee.Net*, The Bee to Bee Net, 2010  
*TWINISM*, Kunsthaus Hamburg, 2009  
*WIRNENNEMES Hamburg*, Kunstverein Hamburg, Oct. 11, 2008  
*28. Hamburg Arbeitsstipendium für bildende Kunst 2008*, Hamburg City, 2008  
*index 2007*, Index, Nov. 6, 2007  
*EINLANDUNG*, Förderkreis Schloss Plüschow e.V., 2007  
*VierTakter + X*, EINSTELLUNGSRAUM e.V., 2005

## PUBLIC COLLECTION

Fukuoka Art Museum (Fukuoka)  
 Boxes Museum (Canton, China)  
 Hamburger Kunsthalle (Hamburg, Germany)  
 Sparkassen-Kulturstiftung Stormarn (Ahrensburg, Germany)  
 Sichuan University Art Gallery (Chengdu, China)

## ARTIST WEBSITE

<http://www.nahokawabe.net>



"Social Distances 1,5M"  
 2022, charcoal, barrier tape, motor, metal, dimensions variable



Solo Exhibition "Black and Green" (2021) installation view  
 (TOM REICHSTEIN CONTEMPORARY, Hamburg, Germany)  
 Photo by Claus Sautter

## Hanae UTAMURA

1980 Born in Ibaraki, Japan  
 2004 Graduated from BA Fine Art at Goldsmiths College, University of London  
 2010 Graduated from MA Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art and Design, University of the Arts London  
 2019 Visiting Scholar at New York University  
 2022 Doctoral Student, Department of Electronic Arts, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 Currently lives and works both in New York and Japan.

## SOLO EXHIBITION

2022 *Transmutation*, Frontispace, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York, United States  
 2018 *Weather Constellation*, Rosenberg Gallery, Hofstra University, New York, United States  
 2018 *Holiday at War: 12th shiseido art egg Award Exhibition*, Shiseido Gallery, Tokyo, Japan  
*Ontology of Performance: Falls of Niagara*, SOMA Gallery, Berlin, Germany  
 2016 *Holiday at War*, Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany  
 2015 *Holiday at War*, Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany  
 2014 *Across the Grid*, Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany  
 2012 *Construct: Fountain*, Patio Project, WW Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
 2011 *Inverted Horizons*, Schwartz Gallery, London, United Kingdom



"Fallen Meteorite", 2019,  
 glass, light emitting diode  
 Photo by Yamamoto Tadasu

Photo courtesy: Aomori Contemporary Art Centre, Aomori Public University

## SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2022 *The Summer Group Show*, The Parsonage Gallery, Maine, United States  
*SUMMER Nights*, Canada gallery, New York, United States  
*ANB Open Studio vol.1*, ANB Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan  
*Futures, Narratives, and Networks*, More Art, Queens Museum, New York, United States  
 2021 *Not Words, Not Image*, Krautraum, Tokyo, Japan  
*Phantasmopolis - Asian Art Biennial*, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan  
*Contretemps*, NYU Gallatin Wetlab, New York, United States  
*Faculty Exhibition*, Hartnett Gallery, University of Rochester, New York, United States  
*Living Matter*, Russian National Museum Association of the State Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow, Russia  
*Sommerfest*, Dreams of Solidarity to Fill the Vacuum, Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany  
*Pars Pro Toto*, Peer to Space, Berlin, Germany  
*Resonances of DiStances*, basedonart gallery, Düsseldorf, Germany  
 2020 *ecofeminism(s)*, Thomas Erben Gallery, New York, United States  
 2019 *Image\_between History and Human being - The Korean Society of Art and Media International Exhibition 2019*, Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea  
*From Here to Eternity-The research of temporality and eternity of contemporary art No.5*, B-galleria, Turku, Finland  
*Lively in Between*, Aomori Contemporary Art Center, Aomori, Japan  
*Modest Expressionism #1 Water, Wood, Cloth*, J & M Studios #210, New York, United States  
*Overflow*, at Gallatin Gallery, New York University, As a part of Museum of Future Fossils, New York, United States  
*Multiversant*, Chashama, New York, United States  
 2018 *Sweep~Landscape*, Kinokino, Stavanger, Norway  
 2017 *Auguries*, Seoul Art Space\_GEUMCHEON, Seoul, S. Korea  
*From Here to Eternity*, OMO artspace, Berlin, Germany  
*Whenever the Heart Skips a Beat*, Mehring Platz, Berlin, Germany  
 2016 *L'intru (Invaders)*, Lage Egal, Berlin, Germany  
 2015 *AS\_pedia Project Vol. 1*, Gallery Purple, Gyeonggi-do, South Korea  
*Kameradschaft Zollverein*, Atelier Exceptionnel, PACT Zollverein, Essen, Germany  
*Sluice Art Fair 2015*, London, United Kingdom  
*Le Lait Du Miroir*, Le 6B, Paris, France  
*Relational Geographies*, UAL Showroom, London, United Kingdom  
*Borderlands*, Month of Performance Art Berlin, MeinBlau, Berlin, Germany  
*From Here to Eternity*, Gallery Purple, Seoul, South Korea  
 2014 *Super Romantics*, Daegu Art Factory, Daegu, South Korea  
*Mapping the Space*, Project Space Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany  
*From Here to Eternity*, Gallery FACTORY, Seoul, South Korea  
 2013 *Tightrope*, Sumarria Lunn Gallery, London  
*ASYAAF*, Cultural Station 284, Seoul, South Korea  
*Pyeong Chang Biennale*, Pyeong Chang, South Korea  
*TOPFLOOR/TOPOS'*, Dordtyart, Dordrecht, The Netherlands  
*Seoul Seoul Seoul*, National Art Studio Changdong, National Museum of Modern and Contemporary Art Korea, Seoul, South Korea  
*Here I am*, Hole and Corner Media Art Gallery, Gwangju, South Korea  
 2012 *Three Gates*, Hamm Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
*Convergence/Divergence*, Los Medanos College Gallery, California, United States  
*FT Summer Exhibition 2012*, Florence Trust, London, United Kingdom  
*London Art Fair*, Business Design Centre, London, United Kingdom  
*Wish You Were Here 11*, A.I.R. Gallery, New York, United States  
*Bread & Roses - Bristol Biennial Community Arts Festival*, Motorcade/FlashParade, Bristol, United Kingdom  
*Function Room 2*, Solché, London, United Kingdom  
*Winter Open Studios*, Florence Trust, London, United Kingdom  
*ONSITE 2012*, CoExist Gallery, Southend, United Kingdom

2011 *Chain Letter*, Shoshana Wayne Gallery, California, United States  
*I am not a good enough feminist*, Concrete Utopia, New York, United States  
*“Divide and Rule” Film and Live Art Festival*, Firestation Centre for Arts & Culture, Windsor, United Kingdom

2010 *Showroom*, Man Cannot Live by Bread Alone, London, United Kingdom  
*Chute* (Aichi Triennale), Aichi, Japan  
*Asian Invasion*, NEST, Den Haag, The Netherlands  
*SV10: Members*, Studio Voltaire, London, United Kingdom

## AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

2022 Rensselaer Graduate Fellowship  
2021 MoreArt Engaging Artist Fellowship  
Hotpicks, Smack Mellon  
2020 i-style Art and Sports Foundation Grant  
Nomura Foundation Fellowship  
2019 Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program, New York Foundation for the Arts  
2018-2019 Japanese Government Overseas Study Programme for Artists  
2018 Japan - United States Exchange Friendship Program in the Arts  
The 12th shiseido art egg Award  
2016 The 2nd CAF Artist Award, Finalist  
2015 PACT Zollverein Stipendium  
Pola Art Foundation overseas research Grant for Berlin, Germany  
2014 Akademie Schloss Solitude Fellowship (Visual Art)  
2013 Emergency Relief Residency Bursary Award for Santa Fe Art Institute  
UNESCO Aschberg Bursaries for Artists Programme  
2011-2012 Axis/Florence Trust Award, Florence Trust  
2010 MA Stars – Selected MA graduates 2010 selected by Monika Bobinska Awarded by Axis



“Spring Water, Fault, Body”, 2021  
HD Video, 16min. 34sec.  
Photo courtesy: Hanae Utamura

## SELECTED RESIDENCIES

2021 Workspace Residency, Squeaky Wheel Film & Media Art Center, Buffalo, New York, United States  
2019 Aomori Contemporary Art Center, Aomori, Japan  
2018 Art Omi Residency, Ghent, New York, United States  
2017 Seoul Art Space\_GEUMCHEON, Seoul, South Korea  
2015-16 Künstlerhaus Bethanien, Berlin, Germany  
2015 PACT Zollverein, Essen, Germany  
2014 Akademie Schloss Solitude, Stuttgart, Germany  
2013 Santa Fe Art Institute, New Mexico, United States  
National Museum of Contemporary Art, Changdong Art Studio, Seoul, Korea  
2010 NEST, Den Haag, The Netherlands

## PUBLICATIONS

*Image Journal*, 2022, United States  
*AS\_pedia Project*, 2015, South Korea

## CATALOGUES AND BROCHURES

*Phantasmopolis – 2021 Asian Art Biennial Catalogue*, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Oct. 2021  
*Lively in Between*, Aomori Contemporary Art Center, 2020  
*FemLink-Art : les collages-vidéo du collectif International*, FemLink-Art Collective, 2015  
*Super Romantics*, Daegu Art Factory, 2014  
*Aichi Triennale 2010 Official Catalogue*, Aichi Triennale Executive Committee, Jan. 2011



Solo Exhibition “Holiday at War” 12th shiseido art egg (2018)  
installation view  
(SHISEIDO GALLERY, Tokyo)  
Photo by Ken Kato

## PUBLIC COMMISSION

2021 Palimpsest, Crystal Park, Hudson Valley, New York, commissioned by Crystal Park Foundation, New York, United States

## ARTIST WEBSITE

<https://www.hanaeutmura.com>

## \*Inquiry about the exhibition and artist

WAITINGROOM (Owner & Director: Tomoko Ashikawa)  
Address: 1F-2-14-2 Suido, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 112-0005  
Hours: Wed. to Sat. 12-7pm Sun. 12-5pm  
\*Closed on Mon. Tue. and National Holidays  
Tel : +81-3-6304-1010 email: [info@waitingroom.jp](mailto:info@waitingroom.jp)  
Website : <http://waitingroom.jp>