

SEITARO YAMAZAKI

1982- / TOKYO

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Seitaro Yamazaki is a contemporary artist and designer living and working in Tokyo. Earning BA in Sociology from Rikkyo University in 2006 and a successful career as designer, he earned MFA in Architecture from Kyoto University of Arts in 2016. Since then, he has been creating contemporary art works in the fields of sculpture, installation, video, painting, and media art. His works had been exhibited in London, NY, Venice, Washington DC, Nagasaki, Tokyo, etc. He also commissioned artworks by companies such as Mitsubishi Estate.

He has been trying to find and show the beauty of ambiguity, transience, and the things that were never depicted, spoken, or formed in his works. Recently he focused on media art using sonographs.

He also studied ink wash painting under Tsuchiya Shukou, along the lines of 18th Century Japanese painter Maruyama Okyo, and Ikebana of Obara school under Toru Watarai.

EDUCATION

- 2006- BA in Sociology, Rikkyo University.
- 2016- MFA in Art, Kyoto University of the Arts.

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2024- Awai Awahii / Hosek Contemporary, Berlin (Upcoming)
Awai Awahii / VRBA, Široki Brijeg (Upcoming)
Art that crosses borders, design that traverses. / Aoyama Spiral Garden, Tokyo (Upcoming)
- 2023- Time Spilled Over / Blue Line Arts, Roseville CA.
- 2021- Music for the margin #01 STEVE REICH COUNTERPOINT/ KIWA, Tokyo
- 2019- Unit fo Y-axis / J-COLLABO, NewYork
- 2018- In Praise of Shadows / MONO JAPAN 2018, Amsterdam

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2024- FORM + SPACE / The Museum of Art DeLand, DeLand, FL (Upcoming)
Art Shodo MDP Selection Vol. 1 / MDP Gallery Nakameguro, Tokyo
- 2023- Small Works / Five Points Arts, Torrington, CT
BODYSPACES: Canvas International Aat Fair 2023 / THE LINE Contemporary Art Space, London
Secret Spaces: Borders Art Fair / Palazzo Albrizzi-Capello, Venice
28th Arts North International / Hopkins Center for the Arts, Hopkins, MN
SEQUENCE / Touchstone Gallery, Washington DC
- 2022- Memory and Identity / Cista Arts, London
At a Crossroads: All Art+ / Van Der Plas Gallery, New York
2:3 Virtual Exhibition / WetDovetail, Middlesbrough
- 2021- ARTPRIZE / Muse GR, Grand Rapids, USA
YICCA 2021 Final exhibition / Hernandez art gallery, Milan
- 2020- RESONANCE / Camden Image Gallery, London
- 2019- Nameless Portrait / Nagasaki Holland Village
- 2018- UNSAMBLE CAST / J-COLLABO, NewYork

COLLECTIONS

- 2024- Specimens of the spilled over, 8 million traces / LEAP CO., LTD.
- 2023- Fossils from the future "Nike Air Jordan" / REFRAME ,inc.
Fossils from the future "Starbuck Coffee" / Ambient Works ,inc.
- 2019- Once in the beauty / Tatcha LLC (Unilever plc)

COMMISSIONED WORKS

- 2023- Womb of the city / Mitsubishi Estate CO., LTD.
- 2019- TAYUTAI / Naha Airport Building CO.,LTD. , General Incorporated Association Ryukyu Bingata
Preservation and Expansion Consortium
Nameless Portrait / General Incorporated Association Art Culture Matrix

PUBLICATIONS

- Seitaro Yamazaki, "Yohaku Shiko (Think with marginal spaces): How I use marginanl spaces in thinking to suepass "logical" as an artist and a designer", Nikkei BP, 2024

AWARDS

- 2021- Professional / CREATE (Art) Finalist / London International Creative Competition
YICCA 2021 WINNING ARTIST (2nd place) / YICCA, Italy
YICCA SELECTED 18 ARTISTS / YICCA, Italy
PREMIO COMBAT PRIZE 2021 RECOMMENDED ARTIST
- 2020- The winner of 14th Arte Laguna Prize for an artistic residency/ Espronceda (BARCELONA, SPAIN)
- 2018- Annual Group Exhibition And Showcase 2018 Winner / J-COLLABO, NewYork

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2022- "Spotlight: Japanese Conceptual Artist Seitaro Yamazaki Transforms the Objects of Our Time Into Eerie Fossils", Artnet, August 2022
Adonay Bermúdez, "Artists to Watch '22", Artconnect, May 2022
- 2020- The Art Insider
+81 VOL.86 CREATOR WORKING STYLE ISSUE
DESIGN NOTE
- 2019- Art Business Journal
Aesthetica the art & culture magazine
billboard

ARTIST STATEMENT

I explore the beauty of ambiguity, transience, and the things that were never depicted, spoken, or formed.

Born and raised in Japan and worked as a designer and artist, I have been strongly influenced by Swiss Style typography, American minimalism, Ambient Music, and Monochrome photographs of 70s and 80s. And as a Japanese, I am also deeply interested in and affected by Japan's traditional views on nature and aesthetics, and studying ink wash painting, ikebana (Japanese traditional flower arrangement), and Kodo (Japanese incense ceremony) for years. All of them are characterized by extremely restrained, simplified and minimalistic composition that makes use of blank spaces.

I love simpleness, ambiguity, and blank spaces.

Since the Middle Ages, the sense of ambiguity, transience, and the quality of being like an illusion or uncertain has been called "幽玄: yugen" and has been highly valued as a form of beauty in Japan.

I have been incorporated this sense of Japanese aesthetics into my minimalist art. In painting, sculpture, installation, and photography, I am trying to capture the fleeting beauty that exists at the boundaries between the world that industrial civilization has torn apart, or beauty of the things that lurk and hide on the border between people's conscious and unconscious minds.