

PRESS RELEASE

NHK international, inc.

Japan Media Arts Festival**Special Exhibition: *tenacious, gracious***

The Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan organizes participation in various overseas media arts festivals and other events through projects planned and managed by NHK international, Inc. The aim is to introduce outstanding works in such fields as media art, videos, the websites, videogames, animations and comics. Exhibitions, screenings, presentations and other activities are arranged at foreign festivals and other venues with their focus on award-winning works from the Japan Media Arts Festival.

The *tenacious, gracious* exhibition will be held at the tricky women 2017 international animation festival, which opens in Vienna, Austria on Wednesday, March 15th.

Project for Participation in Overseas Media Arts Festival***tenacious, gracious***

Venue: Bildraum 07 (Burggasse 7-9, 1070 Wien, Austria)

Period: Thursday, 16th to Thursday 23th March, 2017 Tue-Sat (13:00 – 18:00)
Sat. 18th March (11:00 – 16:00)
Opening at 18:30 on 16th March

Admission: Free

<http://jmaf-promote.jp/global/en/><https://www.facebook.com/JMAF.WIEN.trickywomen2017/>

Organizer: Japan Media Arts Festival / Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan

Co-organizer: tricky women 2017

Cooperation: Gallery Bildraum 07

Planning Director: OKAMOTO Mitsuko

Project Advisor: FURUKAWA Taku (Animation artist)

MOURI Yoshitaka (Professor, Graduate School of Global Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts)

Administration: NHK International, Inc.

tricky women 2017

Venue: Metro Kinokulturhaus (Johannessgasse 4, 1010 Wien, Austria)

Period: Wednesday, 15th to Sunday 19th March, 2017

Admission: 8euro~

[Inquiries]

Office of Project for Participation in Overseas Media Arts Festivals (c/o NHK international, Inc.)

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Japan Media Arts Festival Special Exhibition

tenacious, gracious

The *tenacious, gracious* exhibition will be held at the tricky women 2017 international animation festival, which opens in Vienna, Austria on Wednesday, March 15th.

This year's tricky women is the fourteenth in the series which began in 2001 and screens only animated films made by female artists. The annual festival always takes place in Vienna around International Women's Day on March 8th. All participants are female and all of the works are made by women. In addition to the competition, the various events include exhibitions, international forums, and talks by animation producers.

A special *Focus in Japan* feature has been arranged this time with screenings of many invited works by female Japanese artists. The four international competition programs will be screened. The special exhibition is located at a city-center gallery "Bildraum 07" as part of the Agency for Cultural Affairs' program for Japan Media Arts Festival participation in overseas media arts festivals. Its curator is Mitsuko Okamoto, Professor of department of animation, Graduate School of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts, who is also a member of the film festival's international jury. Taking the tenacity and graciousness of women for its themes, the exhibition has been compiled to disseminate the attractions of works made by Japanese women.

Theme

Planning director: OKAMOTO Mitsuko

However much they may feel oppressed by a social ideology or historical system, or their lives may be devastated by war or natural disaster, women do choose to live tenaciously and manage to discover joy and entertainment within their difficult situations. Women are as gracious as the bamboo, bending but never breaking, and in this we discover the affirmation and glory of femininity. Their forms are strong and beautiful.

This exhibition features women artists in the world of Japanese media arts who tackle the questions of what it is to be female.

Women possess a consistent sense of self and affirm this in their way of life, aesthetic sense and even destiny. I hope that this exhibition will impart that *tenacious, gracious* sensibility.

OKAMOTO Mitsuko

Professor of Department of Animation, Graduate School of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts.

Okamoto entered NHK in 1987 after graduated from Kyoto University. She produced and planned programs, data broadcasting, and contents for NHK's internet and mobile site. In 2008, she moved to Department of Animation, Graduate School of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts as a professor. She also launched the NHK educational programs, *2355*, *0655*, *TECHNE*, as a chief producer.

Artists

Exhibition BildRaum 07

KONDOH Akino [Japan]

Visual artist and a Manga writer. Born in 1980 Chiba Prefecture. Lives and works in New York since 2008. <http://akinokondoh.com>

KOUNO Fumiyo [Japan]

Manga artist. Born in 1968 Hiroshima Prefecture.

KWGT [Japan]

Born in 1992 Yamanashi Prefecture. Video grapher, animation artist. <http://kwgtms.tumblr.com/>

MIZUSHIRI Yoriko [Japan]

Born in Aomori, Japan in 1984. Based in Tokyo. Filmmaker. <http://www.shiripro.com>

Shinjuko [Japan]

Born in 1976 Amakusa, Kumamoto Prefecture. Artist, Illustrator, Filmmaker, Installation artist, Performer. She handled the illustrations for the works of Gwen Stefani, the founder of Harajuku Girls. <http://www.yan-oki.com/>

Shishi YAMAZAKI [Japan]

Born in 1989 in Kanagawa Prefecture. Animation artist. <http://www.shishiyamazaki.com>

Screening Metro Kinokulturhaus

ARAI Chie [Japan]

Born in 1971. Associate professor, Bunka Gakuen University

Hu Yuanyuan [China]

Born in 1986 in Nanjing, China. She completed a master's degree in animation at the School of Film and New Media at Tokyo University of the Arts in 2012.

KABUKI Sawako [Japan]

Born in 1990 in Tokyo. Illustrator and animation artist. Graduated from Tama Art University. <http://sawakokabuki.wixsite.com/xxxx>

KOGUMA ATSUKO [Japan]

Born in Tokushima Prefecture. Animation artist. <http://koguma.tv/profile/index.html>

KUGENUMA Ayasa [Japan]

Born in Tokyo. Illustrator. She completed a master's degree in animation at the School of Film and New Media at Tokyo University of the Arts. <http://avasacream.blogspot.jp/>

KUNO Yoko [Japan]

Born in 1990. Animation artist and manga artist. Graduating from the Department of Graphic Design at Tama Art University. <http://kunoyoko.tumblr.com/>

MATSUMOTO Saki [Japan]

Animator, animation director. Graduated Tokyo University of the Art, Graduate School of Film and New Media, Department of Animation. <http://37do.main.jp>

SHIRAISHI Keiko [Japan]

Born in Tokyo, 1985. Working as freelance animation artist and manga artist. <http://keikoshiraishi.com/>

WAKAMI Arisa [Japan]

Animation director. She made documentary animation on and directed various animated films. <http://www.arisawakami.com/>

YAMADA Naoko [Japan]

Born in Kyoto. She joined Kyoto Animation in 2004. She directed *K-ON!*, *K-ON!!*, *K-ON! Movie*, *Tamako Market*, *The shape of voice*.

EXHIBITION

Venue: Bildraum 07

KONDOH Akino

■ ***KiyaKiya***, [2012 / Animated short film / 16th Animation Division Jury Selection]

Installation



©Akino Kondoh/ Courtesy of the artist and Mizuma Art gallery
©KONDOH Akino

The title of this work, *KiyaKiya*, derives from an old Japanese expression that the artist discovered in an essay, “On Childhood Experiences,” in SHIBUSAWA Tatsuhiko’s book *Introduction to a Collection of Girls*. The expression describes a sense of “inexplicably nostalgic anxiety” or a kind of dejavu. The film sets out to examine this feeling. (6 min. 39 sec.)

『*KiyaKiya_painting11*』 [2013 / Oil]

Oil painting on canvas

KOUNO Fumiyo

■ ***In This Corner of the World (konosekai no katasumi ni)***

[2007-2009 / Manga / 13th Manga Division Excellence Award]

Original drawing, Replication drawing, Related materials



© Fumiyo Kouno / Futabasha

This work is something like a sequel to her outstanding work, *Town of Evening Calm, Country of Cherry Blossoms*. This is the story of a family set during the Second World War in the city of Kure, Hiroshima. The heroine is URANO Suzu, who was born in the fishing town in Hiroshima. She marries HOJO Shusaku, a naval officer living in the uptown area of Kure city. Though confused by her new family, new town and new world, she lives with a sense of certainty and intense effort.

■ ***Town of Evening Calm, Country of Cherry Blossoms***

(Yuunagi no Machi, Sakura no Kuni)

[2003-2004 / Manga / 8th Manga Division Grand Prize]

Replication drawing



© Fumiyo Kouno / Futabasha

The setting is Hiroshima in 1955. This work portrays the reality of the A-bomb and the days thereafter, through the eyes of a woman. It asks what the war and the A-bomb mean to ordinary people.

Works from KOUNO Fumiyo

Machikado Hanadayori [1995-1996]
Pippira Note [1997-2004]
Kokko-san [1999-2001]
Nagai Michi [2001-2004]

Kappa no Neneko [2001-2002]
Sansanroku [2004-2006]
Heibon Club [2009-2010]
boorupen KOJIKI [2011-2012]
Ano toki, Kono hon [2007-2013]
Hi no Tori [2012-2016]

KWGT

■ *Yukisusumisariyuki* [2014 / Animated Short film]

Animation screening



©2014 kwgt

This animation is animated by the scrolling screen. The woman walks together with the changing scene. The spaces are fuzzy, the colours faint, and little by little the scenes collapse, patchily, never completely. There is no end in sight for as long as the scroll continues but there is a sense of nostalgia and loneliness. (2 min .01 sec.)

■ *2.5D Mask*, KWGT / IWABUCHI Maki / MIYAZAKI Mari

[2014 / Website / 19th Entertainment Division Jury Selection]

Installation



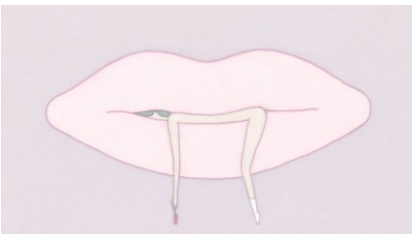
©2014 2.5D Mask Project

Paper craft masks that can be made by downloading open-source patterns from the Internet and printed on a regular A4 printer. By wearing the mask, one becomes “a nobody” or “a nobody character”, and images of people wearing these masks can be shared publicly on the Internet. These images, which capture the act of wearing masks that resemble animation characters, evoke a “2.5-dimensional” world that exists between two- and three-dimensional space.

MIZUSHIRI Yoriko

■ *Futon* [2012 / Animated short film / 16th Animation Division New Face Award]

Animation screening



© MIZUSHIRI Yoriko

You crawl inside your futon and everything — from the memories in your mind to thoughts of the future, recalled sensations, sexuality — all melt together into a single pleasant feeling. In the futon, your body wanders around in search of sensation. The soft texture of this animated work was achieved by drawing images on paper and then incorporating them into the picture frame via tracing paper. *Futon* deals with the relationship between movement and the senses. (6 min. 02 sec.)

『*Futon*』 [2012 / Acrylic]
 『*Ikura*』 [2013 / Acrylic]
 『*Toe*』 [2013 / Acrylic]
 Acrylic painting on canvas

Shinjuko

■ *Pray* [2012 / Painting on folding screen]

Installation



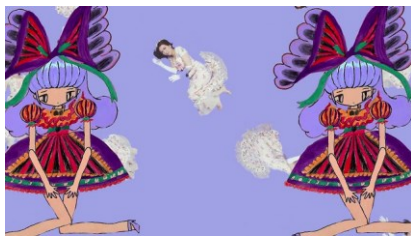
This is my home town. I found out women's history of my home town.
It is the history about trafficked woman.
Currently I am wearing my art work and play.
This is the photo which my husband took.

Live drawing will be presented from 19:00 on 16th March.

© Shinjuko
Photo: MASUDA Kenichi

■ *Shinjuko world* [2011—2016 / Video works]

Video works presentation



© Shinjuko

This is a video anthology of Shinjuko's representative works. The wide-ranging introduction to Shinjuko's world includes an animation about how women age, a pop idol music video, and a "narration performance".

Cherry Chance! [2015 / Music video]

Rumi Shihido [at INOKASHIRA] [2015 / Music video]

Please★DNA [2016 / Music video]

Shinjuko Exercise [2016 / Music video]

The Sister is Ribbon Bow Mad [2011 / Music video]

Shinjuko Performance of narrator in Japanese silent cinema

[2011 / Documentary video]

Shishi YAMAZAKI

■ *YAMASUKI YAMAZAKI* [2013 / Animated short film / 17th Animation Division Jury Selection]

Animation screening



©2013 Shishi Yamazaki All Rights Reserved.

When you feel delight, your joy feeds into itself making you forget the reason, and as the feeling passes through your entire body it embraces even sorrow and madness, before blossoming... Created as the end of 2013 approaches, this work expresses "innocent elation" at the opening of curtains onto a new year, coupled with the "joy so great that it makes you forget its reason" felt everyday by the creator. (2 min. 22 sec.)

SCREENING

■Japan Media Arts Festival curation program under the theme of “tenacious, gracious”

Date: Friday 17th March 21:00- / Saturday 18th March 19:00- **Venue:** Metro Kinokulturhaus

By means of animation, a medium divorced from physical, temporal and spatial constraints, women are seen to prance with true freedom across the screen. Their expressions are simultaneously those of innocent girls and mischievous little devils who love to play tricks on people. These are women with the power to draw on the diversity innate to them from birth and use it to respond more flexibly to whatever external situation they encounter. In this program, I tried to compile expressions of female existence as described by female writers living in Japan. I want viewers to appreciate this intensely feminine freedom to the full.

- 1 *The Evening Traveling*, KONDOH Akino, 6th Animation Division Excellence Award (4'00")
- 2 *Papillon Yoshiko*, Shinjuko (3'25")
- 3 *YAMASUKI YAMAZAKI*, Shishi YAMAZAKI, 17th Animation Division Jury Selection (2'22")
- 4 *Summer's Puke is Winter's Delight*, KABUKI Sawako,
Artist selected at 17th Animation Division Jury Selection (2'59")
- 5 *The Blooms*, KUGENUMA Ayasa (5'40")
- 6 *Sunset Flower Blooming*, HU Yuanyuan, 16th Animation Division Jury Selection (10'19")
- 7 *Spring Sleeper*, MATSUMOTO Saki (2'04")
- 8 *Snow Hut*, MIZUSHIRI Yoriko, 17th Animation Division Jury Selection (5'22")
- 9 *Airy me*, KUNO Yoko, 17th Animation Division New Face Award (5'38")
- 10 *KiyaKiya*, KONDOH Akino, 16th Animation Division Jury Selection (6'39")
- 11 *Hide-and-peek*, SHIRAIISHI Keiko (7'52")
- 12 *Birth ~ Weaving life*, WAKAMI Arisa / ARAI Chie / KOGUMA Atsuko, Artist selected at 6th
Animation Division Jury Selection (19'04")

■Tamako love story, YAMADA Naoko

[2013 / Animated feature film / 18th Animation Division New Face Award]

Date: Saturday 18th March 16:00-

Venue: Metro Kinokulturhaus



All third-year high school student KITASHIRAKAWA Tamako ever thinks about is *mochi* rice cakes. On the way home from school one day, Tamako talks with her friends about what they will do after graduation. While her friends are uncertain about their futures, Tamako is apathetic: She will take over her family's *mochi* shop. Just as she is starting to have premonitions of change around her, Tamako is told by her childhood friend OJI Mochizo that he will go to university in Tokyo. To Tamako, who has spent all her childhood side by side with Mochizo, this is unthinkable. And then Mochizo tells her that he loves her. The young girl is suddenly thrust down the path to becoming an adult by the appearance of love in her life. This tale of youth is a sequel to the animated TV series *Tamako Market*. (83 min. 50 sec.)

©Kyoto Animation/Usagiya Shopping Street

Related Event**■ Opening Performance**

Performer: Shinjuko

Date: Thursday 16th March 19:00- Venue: Bildraum 07

Shinjuko will perform, including live drawings, at the opening event.

■ Curator's Talk "tenacious, gracious"

Guest: KOUNO Fumiyo Moderator: OKAMOTO Mitsuko, Planning director

Date: Friday 17th March 15:30- Venue: Bildraum 07

Planning director Mitsuko Okamoto will talk about the tenacity and graciousness of Japanese women in the works of Fumiyo Kouno, considering the themes of each work, the people who are featured in them, anecdotes from the production process, and her distinctive ways of seeing and thinking.

■ Workshop

Lecturer: Shinjuko Up to 8 participants each session

Date: Friday 17th March 18:00- & 19:30- Venue: Foyer, Metro KinokulturhausAdvanced registration till March 13: office@trickywomen.at

Shinjuko's pictures have their roots in Japanese calligraphy. The workshop will introduce her novel script.

Co-organizer Event**■ Special Screening: *In This Corner of the World***Date: Thursday 16th March 21:00- / Sunday 19th March 11:30- Venue: Metro Kinokulturhaus

tricky women is a festival of works by women but there will also be a special screening of *In This Corner of the World*, an animation by the male film director, Sunao Katabuchi.

*Greeting of KOUNO Fumiyo, Original author of Manga at the screening venue.

■ Lector: *In This Corner of the World*

Guest: KOUNO Fumiyo Moderator: Jaqueline Berndt, PhD, Kyoto Seika University

Date: Friday 17th March 13:00-15:00 Venue: Metro Kinokulturhaus

Professor Jaqueline Berndt of Kyoto Seika University talks with Fumiyo Kouno, author of the original *In This Corner of the World* manga.

tricky women 2017



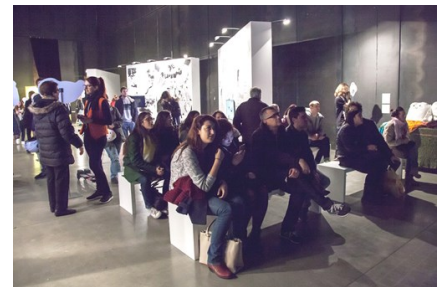
tricky women 2017, the fourteenth in the series, has a special focus on Japan. Three short animation programs by Japanese artists are featured in the festival's animation program and the diverse attractions also include a workshop, lecture and live performance. The various Japan-related exhibitions include a special exhibition at two centrally located gallery organized as part of the Agency for Cultural Affairs' program for Japan Media Arts Festival participation in overseas media arts festivals. Two Japanese artists have been nominated for the competition section. Mitsuko Okamoto, planning director at the exhibition will also serve on this year's international film festival jury. <http://www.trickywomen.at/en>

REFERENCE**JAPAN MEDIA ARTS FESTIVAL**

The Japan Media Arts Festival is a comprehensive festival of Media Arts (Japanese: *Media Geijutsu*) that honors outstanding works from a diverse range of media - from animation and comics to media art and games. The festival gives awards in each of its four divisions: Art, Entertainment, Animation, and Manga. It also provides a platform for appreciation of the Award-winning and other notable works. Since its inception in 1997, the festival has recognized significant works of high artistry and creativity and in addition to a yearly Exhibition of Award-winning Works has held other events, such as symposiums, screenings, and showcases. The 20th Festival received 4,037 entries from 87 countries and regions around the world, demonstrating its continuing evolution as an established annual international festival. Award-winning Works are exhibited both within Japan and abroad through various projects and events organized by The Agency of Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan which aims to develop and promote the creation of Media Arts by focusing primarily on the new generation of artists.

The 19th Japan Media Arts Festival, 2015**■Project for Participation in Overseas Media Arts Festivals**

The aim is to introduce outstanding works in such fields as media art, video, the websites, videogames, cartoons and comics. Exhibitions, screenings, presentations and so on are arranged at overseas media arts festivals and other facilities with their focus on award-winning works from the Japan Media Arts Festival.



Exhibition View of the Madrid, Spain, 2016

20th Japan Media Arts FestivalAnnouncement of Award-winning Works: 16th March 2017

Awards Ceremony / Exhibition of Award-winning Works: September 2017

Venues: NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC], Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery

Website: <http://festival.j-mediaarts.jp/en/>Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/JapanMediaArtsFestival>

Twitter: @JMediaArtsFes_e



NHK International, Inc. is responsible for planning and running the events for the Project for Participation in Overseas Media Art Festival.