

内藤礼

Rei Naito: come and live - go and live

生まれておいで
生きておいで



東京国立博物館
TOKYO NATIONAL MUSEUM

上野公園
Ueno Park

2024.6.25 | 火 | — 9.23 | 月・休 |

But who could they be

Lives, once of this earth,
and the mother in between

And here was something spreading
across the inside and outside of life

Filled with all the voices
that they let out

So I believed, life that I was.

Rei Naito

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Dates : June 25–September 23, 2024

Venue : Tokyo National Museum (Ueno Park)

Organized by : Tokyo National Museum

Special Support from : Fondation d'entreprise Hermès

Cooperation from : Taka Ishii Gallery

Hours : 9:30 AM–5:00 PM (Last admission 30 minutes before closing)

Closed : Mondays (Except July 15, August 12, September 16 and 23), July 16, August 13, September 17

Admission : Adults: ¥1,500 (¥1,400); university students: ¥1,000 (¥800)

- Parentheses indicate discount prices for advance tickets.
- Visitors with disabilities and up to one accompanying person each are admitted free of charge (please present an ID at the ticket booth).
- A ticket to this exhibition includes free same-day admission to the regular exhibitions.
- Advance tickets are available for purchase online from April 11 to June 24, 2024.
- More information will become available on this site once details regarding ticket sales have been finalized.

General Inquiries : 050-5541-8600(Hello Dial)

- You may be asked to wait for admission if the venue is crowded. - Some venues may be closed due to the weather.
- There are no rotations during this exhibition. - Please visit the Museum website for the latest information.

Linked exhibition : *Rei Naito: come and live - go and live* is organized in collaboration with the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès. A solo exhibition with the same title will be held at GINZA MAISON HERMÈS Le Forum. The two exhibitions are planned to form one continuous story which flows from the Museum to the Forum, and then back to the Museum.

Rei Naito: come and live – go and live

September 7, 2024–January 13, 2025 at GINZA MAISON HERMÈS Le Forum

Website : https://www.tnm.jp/modules/r_free_page/index.php?id=2637

SNS : X @TNM_PR | Facebook TokyoNationalMuseum | Instagram tnm_pr

Media Inquiries :

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Access

By Public Transportation

JR Line: 10 minutes' walk from Ueno or Uguisudani Station

Ginza or Hibiya Tokyo Metro Line: 15 minutes' walk from Ueno Station

Chiyoda Tokyo Metro Line: 15 minutes' walk from Nezu Station

Keisei Line: 15 minutes' walk from Keisei Ueno Station

About the Exhibition

Light and shadows created by the sun; water and stones from the earth; wind and rain from the atmosphere. By embracing the elements of nature and the small things of everyday life, artist Rei Naito has gazed at the scenery existing in the overlooked corners of the world and at subtle, minute phenomena. She has created "primordial scenes of life" through this process. Her meticulously conceived works invite visitors to delve into their own states of contemplation.

This exhibition was conceived through Naito's encounter with the Tokyo National Museum, founded some 150 years ago, and its collection and architectural spaces. Transcending 10,000 years of history, Naito found a human spirit that resonates with her own work in the clay objects of the Jomon period. These objects were born out of awe and prayer directed at nature and human existence, in which Naito found "compassion permeating inside and outside of life." Each clay object, its creation prompted by the necessities of life, seems to convey the true nature of human beings. The exhibition spaces illuminated by natural light will evoke the realms of life and death that once existed together with the sun and the intimate harmony that endured between humans and nature as well as humans and other living beings.

Naito's work, which finds life in color, stories in landscapes, and prayer in light, reminds us of the creative endeavors that have filled our world since ancient times. In her work, one can see the pursuit of creation, a process repeatedly undertaken by humanity, and the desire for life, which has formed a connection with the present. The exhibition spaces, where interactions transcend space and time, are wider than space and deeper than time, providing an opportunity to feel the certainty of invisible existence and inaudible voices. Through this exhibition, we invite you to experience the spirituality and creative power that connects us with the people of ancient times.

About the Artist

Rei Naito

Naito was born in Hiroshima in 1961 and currently works in Tokyo. She has been creating works based on the question of, "Is our existence on the Earth a blessing in itself?" In her work, life and death are explored as something inseparable. She has been creating installations that find "scenes of our Earth-bound existence" through natural phenomena such as light, air, water, and gravity.

Her notable solo exhibitions include: *One Place on the Earth* (Sagacho Exhibit Space, Tokyo, 1991); *One Place on the Earth* (The Japan Pavilion, 47th Venice Biennale, 1997), *Being Called* (Karmeliterkloster, Frankfurt am Main, 1997); *Tout animal est dans le monde comme de l'eau à l'intérieur de l'eau* (The Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura, 2009), *the emotion of belief* (Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum, Tokyo, 2014); *the emotion of belief* (The Japan Cultural Institute in Paris, 2017); *Two Lives* (Tel Aviv Museum of Art, Tel Aviv, 2017); *on the bright Earth I see you* (Contemporary Art Center, Art Tower Mito, Ibaraki, 2018); *Mirror Creation* (21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (2020); and *breath* (Staatliche Graphische Sammlung München, Munich, 2023). Naito's permanent installations include: *Being given* (Kinza, Art House Project, Naoshima, Kagawa, 2001) and *Matrix* (Teshima Art Museum, Teshima, Kagawa, 2010).

She was recognized as one of the Promising Artists and Scholars of Contemporary Japanese Arts in the genre of installations (Japan Arts Foundation, 1994), and was awarded the First Asahi Beer Arts Award (Asahi Beer Arts Foundation, 2003), the 60th Mainichi Art Prize (2018), and the 69th Minister of Education Award for Fine Arts (2019).

Highlights of the exhibition

1. Installations conceived through the artist Rei Naito's encounter with the Tokyo National Museum

The Tokyo National Museum has over 150 years of history and houses a collection of approximately 120,000 items. For this exhibition, Rei Naito selected clay objects from the Museum's collection that were created during the prehistoric Jōmon period. These objects contrast with later artworks, which tend to reflect the wishes of those who commissioned them. Naito has created new installations by selecting several these clay objects and interpreting the Museum's architecture and history from her perspective.

2. A bare space illuminated by natural light and transformed by weather and time

In one of the exhibition spaces, Room T5 of the Honkan, shutters that have been closed for many years will be reopened. This setting resonates with the artist's pursuit of creating "scenes of our existence on the earth." The carpets and temporary walls will also be removed to reveal the original, bare appearance of the venue. Under natural light that changes from moment to moment with the weather and time of day, we invite you to experience a quiet, constant transformation that occurs between the space explored by the artist and her work, as well as the interplay between people and nature, life and death, and inside and outside of life.

3. The world of Rei Naito, transcending time and space and encompassing two venues on a grand scale

For the first time in her career Rei Naito has conceived an exhibition spanning two venues, which was organized through collaboration with the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès. The artist's creations will continue beyond the Museum to the GINZA MAISON HERMÈS Le Forum, which will open to the public two months later and prompt a re-examination of the installations at the Museum. A series of paintings and three-dimensional works will connect the two overlapping yet separate venues. These works will become each viewer's premonition and memory, reminding us of life's inability to resist the flow of time and the transience of the exhibition, which will inevitably disappear in the future. We invite you to explore an artistic realm that transcends space and time, tracing the invisible world that lies just a little further ahead and the invisible world that should have existed just a little earlier.

Images for media use



1
Rei Naito "Pillow for the Dead" 2023,
Silk organdy and thread
Photo: Kenji Takahashi



2
Rei Naito "Being given", 2001, Art House Project "Kinza"
Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama



3
"color beginning" 2023
Installation view "Rei Naito: breath"
at Staatliche Graphische Sammlung
München, Munich, Acrylic on canvas
Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama



4
"color beginning" 2023
Installation view "Rei Naito: breath" at Staatliche
Graphische Sammlung München, Munich, Acrylic on canvas
Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama



5
Rei Naito "Untitled", 2009,
installation view at The Museum of
Modern Art, Kamakura
Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama

Honkan (Japanese Gallery), Tokyo National Museum

The Honkan was completed in 1937 and opened the following year. It was constructed on the site of the original Honkan, which collapsed during the Great Kanto Earthquake. The plans, created by Jin Watanabe, were selected through an architectural design competition. Watanabe designed the building in the Imperial Crown style, which combines Western-style walls with an Asian-style tiled roof.



6
Honkan (Japanese Gallery), Tokyo National Museum



7
Lounge on the 1st floor, Honkan

Application Form
for Media Use

Please submit this form to the Exhibition PR Office if you wish to receive images for publicity purposes.

- The use of images for publicity purposes is limited to the introduction of the contents of this exhibition. Please apply again for secondary use, such as rebroadcasting or reprinting, even during the exhibition period.
- Please consult with the Exhibition PR Office in advance if you wish to edit an image in any way.
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TO: "Rei Naito: come and live - go and live" Exhibition PR Office

FAX: 03-6821-8869; E-mail: naitorei-tnm@ypcpr.com

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<input type="checkbox"/>	2	Rei Naito "Being Given" 2001, Art House Project "Kinza" , Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama
<input type="checkbox"/>	3	"color beginning" 2023, <i>Installation view Rei Naito: breath</i> at Staatliche Graphische Sammlung München, Munich, Acrylic on canvas, Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama
<input type="checkbox"/>	4	"color beginning" 2023, <i>Installation view Rei Naito: breath</i> at Staatliche Graphische Sammlung München, Munich, Acrylic on canvas, Photo: Naoya Hatakeyama
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	Rei Naito "Untitled" 2022 [2009], water and glass bin, <i>Installation view</i> at The Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura, photo: Naoya Hatakeyama
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	Honkan (Japanese Gallery), Tokyo National Museum
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Lounge on the 1st floor, Honkan (Japanese Gallery), Tokyo National Museum

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