

PRESS RELEASE

Aug. 27, 2019

NMAO collection with Alberto Giacometti II

August 27–December 8, 2019

The National Museum of Art, Osaka



Alberto Giacometti, *Yanaihana I*, 1960-61
The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Photo: Kazuo Fukunaga

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"NMAO Collection with Alberto Giacometti II" is designed to commemorate the museum's acquisition of Alberto Giacometti's (1901-1966) sculpture *Yanaihara I* (1960-1961). The philosopher Isaku Yanaihara (1918-1989) looms large in the literature on Alberto Giacometti. During his sojourns in France between 1956 and 1961, Yanaihara sat repeatedly for this sculptor, one of the greatest in the twentieth century. Of the artist's numerous portraits of his Japanese philosopher, however, only two bronzes were finished, of which only seven casts in total are currently known. It is one of these rarities that came to the National Museum of Art, Osaka (NMAO) in 2018, the first to enter a Japanese collection. Having acquired the oil *Man [Homme]* (1956) in 2013, NMAO offers an opportunity to view both Giacometti's painting and sculpture, on which he staked his entire life in a struggle to render "what one sees as one sees it."

The previous exhibition "NMAO Collection with Alberto Giacometti I," held from May 25 to Aug. 4, 2019, focused on the friendship between Giacometti and Yanaihara. Centered around Giacometti's work and its time, the show presented a selection from the Museum's collection, primarily Japanese and French modern art.

The current exhibition once again starts with *Yanaihara I* and widens the scope to include a diverse range of newer artistic expressions. For example, Teresa Hubbard/Alexander Birchler's video installation, *Flora* offers a different perspective on history by telling the unknown story of Flora Mayo, a once-time lover of Giacometti.

One of the pleasures of collection shows like this one consists in the chance they offer to encounter the same works over and over. An object once seen can look different in the company of others, or its impression can change after a time. Repeated viewing thus enriches the way you savor art. We hope that *Yanaihara I* will be blessed with the same enduring popularity other works in our collection.

Artists

Alberto Giacometti, Hajime Imamura, Tony Cragg, Luc Tuymans,
Stephan Balkenhol, Georg Baselitz, Marlene Dumas, Izumi Kato, Julian Opie,
Shimon Minamikawa, Junichi Mori, Tomoaki Suzuki, Yasuyuki Nishio, Koji Tanada,
Thomas Ruff, Loretta Lux, Boris Mikhailov, Miyako Ishiuchi, Ken Kitano,
Michelangelo Pistoletto, Rei Naito, Jiro Takamatsu, Yuki Onodera, Tetsumi Kudo,
Shusaku Arakawa, Yayoi Kusama, Tomoko Yoneda, Araya Rasdjarmrearnsook,
Sherrie Levine, Teresa Hubbard / Alexander Birchler, Chia-En Jao, Tsubasa Kato,
Mieko(Chieko) Shiomi, Keiichi Ikemizu, Tsuyoshi Ozawa, Heman Chong

Performance

A Short, Performing, Story (2018) by Heman Chong



Photo: Kazuo Fukunaga

The artist and writer Heman Chong (b. 1977, lives and works in Singapore) invites you to *A Short, Performing, Story*, a performative and participatory transaction consisting of a short story. The text contains 500 words and has never been read or published before. The instructor holds a copy of the text, while the participant has to learn the story verbatim, before he or she is allowed to leave the room.

LOCATION: B2F Exhibition room

HOW TO BOOK: For English speaking participant, please contact via email (hashimoto@nmao.go.jp) and mention subject "story" and the day and time you'd like, at least two weeks before the desired day and time.

DURATION: Approx. 3 hours (depending on your memory)

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Events

Artist Talk

Lecturer: Ms. Teresa Hubbard (Exhibiting Artist)

Oct. 26 (Sat.) / starts at 2 : 00 p.m. / B2F Exhibition room

Seat cap. 130 (first-come-first-served basis)

*Admission is free but a ticket for this exhibition is required.

Supported by the Swiss Arts Council Pro Helvetia

Gallery Talk ※In Japanese only

Lecturer: Ms. Azusa Hashimoto (Curator of The National Museum of Art, Osaka)

• Sept. 7 (Sat.) / starts at 2 : 00 p.m.

• Nov. 29 (Fri.) / starts at 6 : 00 p.m.

Place: B2F Exhibition Room

Seat cap. 90 (first-come-first-served basis)

*Admission is free but a ticket for this exhibition is required.

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General Information

NMAO collection with Alberto Giacometti II

Organized by The National Museum of Art, Osaka

Sponsored by Daikin Foundation for Contemporary Arts

Exhibition Period: Aug. 27 (Tue.) –Dec. 8 (Sun.), 2019

Opening hours: 10:00-17:00 (last admission 16:30), Fri. and Sat. until 21:00 (last admission 20:30); from Aug. to Sep., Fri. and Sat. until 20:00 (last admission 19:30); from Oct. to Dec.

Closed: Mondays (except Sep. 16, 23, Oct. 14, Nov. 4) and Sep.17, 24, Oct.15, Nov. 5.

Venue: The National Museum of Art, Osaka [4-2-55, Nakanoshima, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0005, Japan]

Admission

Adults: 430 (220) yen / University students: 130 (70) yen

* () admission for groups of more than 20 people.

*Admission free for visitors under 18 years old, senior citizens (65 and over), and mentally or physically disabled people with one attendant (proof required).

Night discount (applicable after 17:00 on Fri. and Sat.)

Adults: 250 yen / University students: 70 yen

Free admission days: Sep. 1, 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, 3, 16, 17, Dec. 7, 2019.

Directions

5-minute walk southwest from Watanabebashi Station (Exit 2) on the Keihan Nakanoshima Line.

10-minute walk west from Higobashi Station (Exit 3) on the Osaka Metro Yotsubashi Line.

20-minute walk southwest from JR Osaka Station or Hankyu Umeda Station.

10-minute walk south from Fukushima Station on the JR Loop Line and Shin-Fukushima Station (Exit 2) on the JR Tozai Line.

10-minute walk south from Hanshin Fukushima Station (Exit 3).

15-minute walk west from Yodoyabashi Station on the Osaka Metro Midosuji Line and Keihan Yodoyabashi Station (Exit 7).

3-minute walk southwest from Taminobashi, reached by the No. 53 and No. 75 city bus; every bus leaves from JR Osaka Station.

As there is no parking at the museum and only a limited number of parking lots in the surrounding area, we kindly ask that you make use of public transportation when visiting the museum.

Museum Official Website <http://www.nmao.go.jp/>

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Press images



Alberto Giacometti, *Yanaihara I*, 1960-61
The National Museum of Art, Osaka
Photo: Kazuo Fukunaga



Alberto Giacometti, *Homme*, 1956
The National Museum of Art, Osaka



Teresa Hubbard / Alexander Birchler, *Flora*, 2017, The National Museum of Art, Osaka
57th VENICE BIENNIAL, SWISS PAVILION 2017 Installation View
Courtesy the Artists, Tanya Bonakdar Gallery, New York / Los Angeles and Lora Reynolds Gallery, Austin
Photo Credit: Ugo Carmeni

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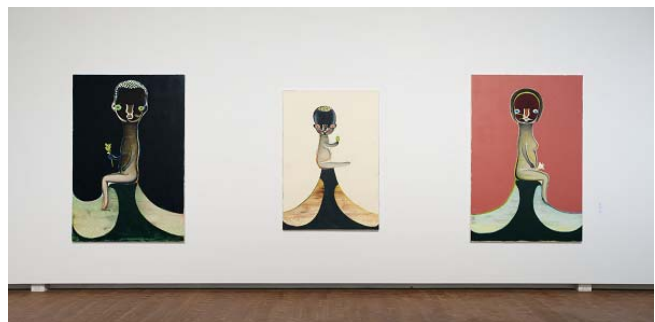
Chia-En Jao, *REM Sleep*, 2011
The National Museum of Art, Osaka © Chia-En Jao



Tsubasa Kato, *They do not understand each other*, 2014
The National Museum of Art, Osaka photographing by Keiichi Sakakura



Yuki Onodera, *Portrait of Second-hand Clothes No.45*, 1997
The National Museum of Art, Osaka © Yuki Onodera



Izumi Kato, *Untitled*, 2006 The National Museum of Art, Osaka
Photo: Kazuo Fukunaga © 2006 Izumi Kato

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