

HIROSHIMA ART PROJECT 2007



Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project

Forward: Urban Axes and the Role of Art in Hiroshima

Hiroshima Art Project 2007: Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project has the following themes: the Role and Potential of Art in Cities, Axes of Urban Culture and Urban Creativity in Hiroshima, and Breathing Life Back into Past Industrial Properties. One special characteristic of this art project was that it was site specific. The main point of the project was to make a break from the usual clinical image of museums and galleries, known as white box architecture, and artistically invigorate the daily lives of our citizens. This is a trend of modern art and modern expression.

The planning and implementation of this project was carried out by teaching staff and graduate students at the Division of Contemporary Art and Theory at the Faculty of Art at Hiroshima City University as well as persons from outside the university including our graduates. This was the second time the Division of Contemporary Art and Theory (previously Division of Formative Space Design) held an urban art project. The previous event was in April 2001 under the name *Art Crossing Hiroshima Project 2001 Spring*. Three locations, which were expected to have new urban functions within Hiroshima City, were utilized for this project. Location one was the former Hiroshima Branch of the Bank of Japan, an atomic bombed building. Location two was the Shareo underground shopping mall, which opened in April 2001. Location three was the then newly unveiled open air space, and Art Museum at Hiroshima City University. Additionally, to integrate these three locations, we utilized areas within stations and tram carriages of the then recently inaugurated Astramline, the new transit system, as spaces for displays. *Art Crossing Hiroshima Project 2001 Spring* was designed to be a highly experimental art project with the theme of “the city as a space for artistic expression,” in other words “artistic expression and the city.”

Eight years later *Hiroshima Art Project 2007* had the concept of focusing on a historical perspective of the urban spaces in Hiroshima City.

In our modern society, art culture is indispensable in enriching humankind’s spiritual activities, and is coming to be recognized as an important urban function. Therein the concept of Creative City was born. Additionally, a more global point of view is becoming necessary in our approach to the concept.

It is our desire to have the project’s actual techniques or activities kept as practical data on the Role and Potential of Art in Cities, which was one of the themes of the project. We hope the data will become a foundation and guideline for positioning art as an urban function, as well as for even greater possibilities.

The second theme of the project was the Axes of Urban Culture and Urban Creativity in Hiroshima, which reaches back over half a century. In August 1945, the world’s first atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima City. From the destruction, we have walked the path to recovery and regeneration over the past 62 years to come to where we are today. It goes without saying that it has not been an easy journey.

A driving force behind our recovery was the completion of Peace Memorial Park, Peace Memorial Museum and other such related facilities, which form axes lines in the city. They were constructed in accordance with the Hiroshima Peace Memorial City Construction Law, which was enacted in 1949, and the new Hiroshima City blueprint designed by the architect Tange Kenzo. Additionally, at that same time, with the cooperation of a great many citizens, construction of the Memorial Cathedral for World Peace, designed by the architect Murano Togo, was completed. Both the Peace Memorial Museum and Memorial Cathedral for World Peace, designed by these two men, were designated as Important Cultural Properties of Japan in 2006.

Peace Memorial Park, designed by Tange, has an axis line running north to south. The park connects onto Peace Boulevard, which runs east to west, at just about the midpoint, where Peace Bridge and West Peace Bridge, which were designed by Isamu Noguchi, are located. I think of these axes lines, drawn into Tange’s city plan, extending in the four cardinal directions, as the axes of urban culture and creativity in modern-day Hiroshima. Located along the north-south axis line is the former Naka Waste Incineration Plant, which operated up until several years ago to incinerate city garbage. This project was meant to revive the plant to function as a residential art center as well as clearly position the north-south axis line as an axis of urban creativity. Another venue for the project was the former Hiroshima Branch of the Bank of Japan, an atomic-bombed building, which is also located along one of the axis lines.

The project used the platform of the former Naka Waste Incineration Plant and the inside the former Bank of Japan Hiroshima Branch building to exhibit artwork. The idea behind it was to revive the now defunct incineration plant as an art center, and the bank as a hub for urban creative activities. This is our third theme, Breathing Life Back into Past Industrial Properties.

Hiroshima Art Project 2007 was not a temporary artistic event. Further ideas born from the impetus of this project’s implementation will spread into new arenas. Thus giving environments in the area that have been considered as negative assets, a different meaning, or perhaps reviving their original meanings.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to everyone who made *Hiroshima Art Project 2007* possible: the many artists from all over Japan who endorsed and participated in this project, the Yoshijima Community Center staff and everyone in that area, the volunteers who are active in the community, all the businesses who have given us their support and cooperation, and all the related departments within the City of Hiroshima.

Ooi Kenji

Executive Committee Chairman

Hiroshima Art Project 2007: Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project

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Period: April 1 to 22, 2007.

Artistic Director: YANAGI Yukinori

Exhibition 1. *High Quality Dust*

Venue: Platform at the former Naka waste incineration plant

Organizer: Executive Committee of the Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project
(now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)

Co-organizer: Division of Contemporary Art and Theory, Faculty of Art, Hiroshima City University

Support: Asahi Beer Arts Foundation

Energia Culture and Sports Foundation

In cooperation with: Art Supporters @ Hiroshima

[Artists]

TERUYA Yuken, Tom FRIEDMAN, FUJI Hiroshi, Andreas SLOMINSKI, SHIBATA Yuri, IKEDA Akiko,
KANO Tetsuro, ASAI Yusuke, HIRANO Kaoru, IWASAKI Takahiro, SATO Shizuyo, TOMOEDA Nozomi,
YADA Masaki, YUGEN Hirofumi, FURUKATA Taro, TANATSUGU Osamu, MUKAI Hanako,
YONEKURA Daigorou, FUJISHIRO Shige+Sven GIESSMANN, NOGUCHI Tetsuya, Michael OTTO,
SETO Rieko, SHIMADA Miho



Exhibition 2. Private Garden, Public Garden

Venue: Various places in Yoshijima School District and Yoshijima Higashi School District

Organizer: Executive Committee of the Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project
(now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)

Co-organizer: Division of Contemporary Art and Theory, Faculty of Art, Hiroshima City University
Yoshijima Community Center in Hiroshima City
Hiroshima City Citizen and Community Network Foundation

Sponsor: Kinari, Co., Ltd.

Support: Asahi Beer Arts Foundation
Energia Culture and Sports Foundation

In cooperation with: Art Supporters @ Hiroshima
Konan's District 4 and 5 Town Association
Yoshijima Higashi School District Senior Citizen's Club

[Artists]

YODOGAWA Technique, OKINAKA Shiho, KITAGAWA Takayoshi, ASAI Yusuke, SUIKO,
SUIKO EMAR TENGA&MOTEL, MARUHASHI Mitsuo, ITAKURA Yuko, YOSHIDA Shigeto,
OHTA Yuko, TAKAHASHI Yoshie, YADA Masaki, YAMAGUCHI Keiko, IMAI Miharu, MARUYAMA Junko,
FUKUDA Megumi, Nadegata Instant Party, FUKUNAGA Atsushi, IZUMIYAMA Road, EBISAWA Tatsuo,
KANO Tetsuro, SHIBATA Yuri, FUJIE Ryutaro, GAMBEROTONDA, TAKEDA Naoki+UEDA Hirofumi,
NISHINO Tatsu



Satellite Exhibition. Geldscheisser in the Vault

Related Project. What to Do with Hiroshima's Origami Cranes?

Venue: The former Hiroshima Branch of the Bank of Japan

Organizer: Executive Committee of the Geldscheisser in the Vault
(now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)

Sponsor: Daiwa Radiator Factory, Co., Ltd.
Yanagi Studio

Support: Asahi Beer Arts Foundation
Energia Culture and Sports Foundation
Asahi Shimbun Foundation

In cooperation with: Executive Committee of the Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project
(now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)
Fukase Memorial Visual Art Preservation Plan
Art Supporters @ Hiroshima
art space HAP

[Artists]

YANAGI Yukinori, TAKEDA Naoki+UEDA Hirofumi, TOYOSHIMA Yasuko, TERUYA Yuken, AIDA Makoto, Andreas SLOMINSKI, SHITAMICHI Motoyuki, IZUMIYAMA Road, HIRANO Kaoru, AIDA Daiya, AKASEGAWA Genpei, TAKEDA Naoki, TANO Taiga, FUTOUYU Masaharu, OHTA Saburo, KIMURA Ikuko, MAKIHARA Taisuke, FUJI Hiroshi, YODOGAWA Technique, Tom FRIEDMAN, Robert WATTS, Christian HOLSTAD, Geldscheissers, IRIE Saya, TAKAHASHI Chinami, SHIFUN SEISAKUSHO, Stephan BALLIN, Michael OTTO



Symposium. “Role of Art in Local Communities”

Time: April 1, 2007

Organizer: Executive Committee of the Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project
(now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)

Co-organizer: Division of Contemporary Art and Theory, Faculty of Art, Hiroshima City University

In cooperation with: Asahi Breweries, Ltd.



Executive Committee of the Former Naka Waste Incineration Plant Art Project (now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)

Chair: Ooi Kenji

Artistic Director: Yanagi Yukinori

Curatorial: CA+T

Curatorial Consultant: Okamoto Yoshie

Manager at Large: Ebisawa Tatsuo

Coordinator: Iwasaki Takahiro, Imai Miharuru, and Nakamura Kei

Public Relation: Iwasaki Takahiro and Miyama Daichi

Design: Iwasaki Takahiro, Tanatsugu Osamu and Mukai Hanako

Finance: Ohashi Misaki and Nakamura Kei

Executive Committee of the Geldscheisser in the Vault (now the Executive Committee of Hiroshima Art Project)

Chair and Curator: Yanagi Yukinori

Manager at Large: Ohashi Misaki

Public Relation: Iwasaki Takahiro

Design: Shikada Yoshihiko

Finance: Ohashi Misaki

Lecture & Workshop (Total: 30 Event)

December 22.2006 – April 22.2007

