

Tokyo Contemporary Art Award 2022-2024 winners have been announced!

The Tokyo Contemporary Art Award (TCAA) has been presented to mid-career artists since 2018 to encourage new breakthroughs in their work, both in Japan and overseas.

This year, the six-member selection committee is joined by Nomura Shino and has announced two winners for TCAA 2022–2024, the fourth edition of this contemporary art award.

The TCAA 2022–2024 award ceremony and symposium are scheduled on 3/20 (Sun).

■ Winners

TSUDA Michiko



Photo: IIKAWA Takehiro

Saeborg



Photo: ZIGEN

■ Award Ceremony and Symposium

■Award Ceremony

Date: 2022/3/20(Sun), 14:00-14:30

Venue: Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, B2 Auditorium (4-1-1 Miyoshi, Koto-ku, Tokyo)

■Award Symposium

Date: 2022/3/20(Sun), 14:40-16:10

Venue: Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, B2 Auditorium

*Admission Free / Reservations required / First-come-first-served basis / Conducted online streaming (Reservations not required).

*With Japanese-English interpretation.

*Application process and other symposium details will be available on the TCAA website at a later date.

*Subject to alteration according to the state of the COVID-19 infection.

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Tokyo
Contemporary
Art Award
2022-2024

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I Winners' Profiles and Reasons for the Award

TSUDA Michiko

Born in Kanagawa in 1980. Based in Ishikawa.

Earned her PhD in Film and New Media Studies from Tokyo University of the Arts in 2013.

Recent exhibitions: "The 10th Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art," Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art, Brisbane, Australia, 2021, Solo Exhibition "Trilogue," TARO NASU, Tokyo, 2020, "Inter+Play Season 1," Towada Art Center, Aomori, 2020, "TOKAS Project Vol. 2 'FALSE SPACES,'" TOKAS Hongo, Tokyo, 2019, "Aichi Triennale 2019: Taming Y/Our Passion," Ito Residence, "Roppongi Crossing 2019: Connexions," Mori Art Museum, Tokyo and more.

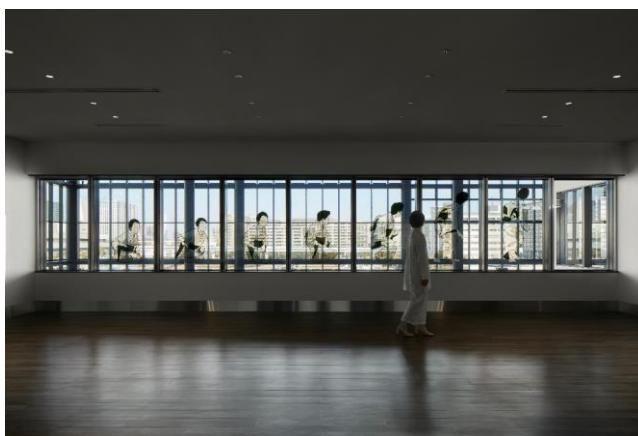
Awards: "The 20th Japan Media Arts Festival," New Face Award, Art Division, 2017.

Reasons for the Award

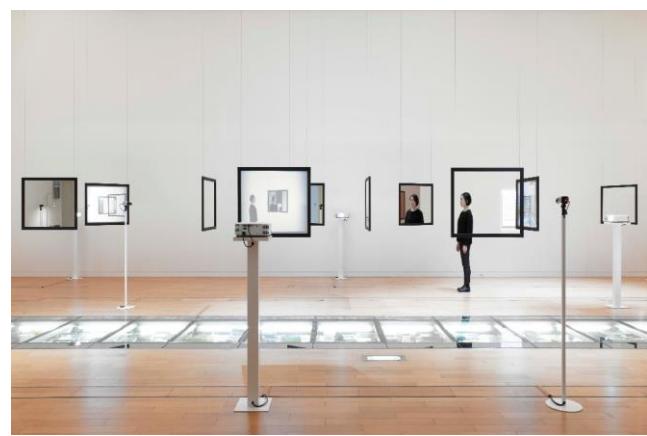
Through her installations and performances, Tsuda Michiko explores the effect that cameras and screens have on those who view their subjects and images. Recently, she has embarked on a lecture performance to highlight hidden gender roles in the films of director Ozu Yasujirō by reenacting and analyzing the body movements of his characters. This project closely examines nonverbal communication and prompts reflection on how individuals internalize social conventions, including images and gestures.

Tsuda is also active in gender studies and social practice education and has an insatiable urge to experiment with new forms of expression to expand her artistic horizons. As a result, she has built up an impressive portfolio of works on various topics that interest her.

Both her artistic practice and art are exemplary in how artists invite the public to become self-reflective and critically aware of the need to participate in systemic change—not just personal transformation—to create a mutual understanding in society. In particular, the selection committee recognized the consistently motivated and inquisitive approach that permeates her work.



1. *Tokyo Behavior*, 2021, Installation view at "Back TOKYO Forth," Tokyo International Cruise Terminal, 2021
Photo: Akira Arai (Nacása & Partners Inc.)



2. *You would come back there to see me again the following day.*, 2016-2020, Installation view at "Open Space 2016: Media Conscious," NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC], Tokyo
Photo: Tadasu Yamamoto

Saeborg

Born in Toyama in 1981. Based in Tokyo.

Graduated with a BA in Fine Arts from Joshibi University of the Arts and Design in 2006.

Recent exhibitions: Solo Exhibition “Cycle of L,” The Museum of Art, Kochi, 2020, Solo Exhibition “SAEBORG: SLAUGHTERHOUSE 17,” Match Gallery, Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2019, “Aichi Triennale 2019: Taming Y/Our Passion,” Aichi Prefectural Art Theatre, “Twenty Year’s of the TARO Award/Twenty Enfants Terrible,” Taro Okamoto Memorial Museum, Tokyo, 2017, “Roppongi Art Night 2016,” Roppongi Hills A/D gallery, Tokyo and more.

Award: “The 17th Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art,” Toshiko Award, 2014.

Reasons for the Award

Exploring the possibilities for healthy coexistence between humans and other living organisms is one of the urgencies that artists in the wake of COVID-19 and ongoing global warming. Since the start of her career, Saeborg has pursued the politics of life and emotion that surround the treatment, reproduction, slaughter, and consumption of animals through performances that caricature the relationship between humans and livestock. Representing ontological questions through brightly colored toy-like latex costumes and stage, her works leave her audiences feeling disorientated due to the serious subject matter and bright, casual visuals. At the same time, she reminds her audiences of the innocent cruelty of those who treat the lives of animals as a commodity. Her works, including public performances in which she views the physical body as sculpture, are infectiously dynamic and filled with symbolism, provocation, and poignant criticism.

Saeborg also sees the “care” that her performers inevitably require from wearing highly restrictive bodysuits as a positive thing, questioning our perception of social relationships and challenging stereotypes of strength and weakness as well as benefactor and beneficiary. Moreover, the selection committee recognizes Saeborg's longstanding commitment to social inclusion, which is inseparable from her attitude of respecting all life equally in her artistic practice, as something we can all relate to as we strive to become a society that truly accepts diversity.



3. “Cycle of L” performance at The Museum of Art, Kochi, 2020

Photo: Taisuke Tsurui



4. “Pigpen” performance at DARK MOFO 2019, Avalon Theatre, Hobart, Australia

Photo: DARK MOFO 2019

| Chair of the Selection Committee Comment

As a jury, all of us have taken the process of artist studio visits very seriously. Thanks to the superb organization of TCAA team, both on-site and on-line jury members have a very comprehensive view and understanding of each artist's practice. We listened to the artists with great patience and asked specific questions in relation to their works and thoughts. These exchanges and deep engagements make this award much more than a final outcome of who wins but a meaningful learning experience for the jury members and hopefully the artists as well.

As usual, the deliberation process is one with careful reflections and reviews of the studio visits. Both Japanese and overseas jury members exchanged candid views about the works of Japanese artists as well as helped each other understand these works from a different perspective. The discussion was also much more than determining a result, but an in-depth contemplation of the relevance of artistic practices in a changing global context today.

Carol Yinghua LU (Director, Beijing Inside-Out Art Museum)

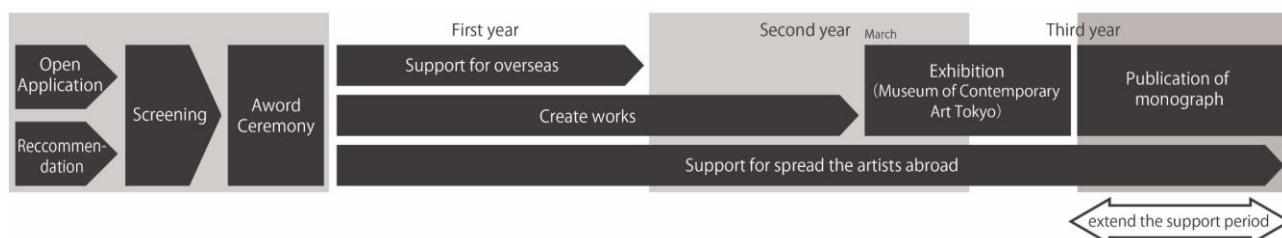
| About TCAA

TCAA was established by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Tokyo Arts and Space (Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) in 2018 as a contemporary art award for mid-career artists active in Japan whose work, including work developed overseas, inspires expectations of potential for even greater achievements. Particular importance is given to the need to provide the best possible support at the optimal time in the artists' career. The selection process includes research on the artists and visits to their studios by members of the international selection committee, to deepen their understanding of the artist's thinking, style, and career stage. The winners will receive several years of continuous support, including, in addition to funding for overseas activities, the opportunity to show their work at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo and the publication of a monograph. To enrich the support for artists, from this year we have upgraded the support for overseas activities and extended the supporting periods.

Award Details

- 1) Monetary prize: ¥3,000,000
- 2) Support for overseas activities: Up to ¥2,000,000 (travel, accommodation, research and production expenses)
- 3) An award exhibition to be held at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (scheduled for March 2024)
- 4) Publication of a monograph (After holding the Exhibition), support for spread the artists abroad

Schedule



| About TCAA 2022-2024

International Selection Committee

Sofía Hernández Chong CUY (Director, Kunstinstituut Melly)

TAKAHASHI Mizuki (Executive Director and Chief Curator, CHAT (Centre for Heritage, Arts and Textile))

Carol Yinghua LU (Director, Beijing Inside-Out Art Museum)

NOMURA Shino (Senior Curator, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery)

WASHIDA Meruro (Director, Towada Art Center)

KONDO Yuki (Program Director, Tokyo Arts and Space)

How the artists were selected

After an open call for applications in June 2021, nominees were selected upon recommendation and much deliberation among the selection committee members. The two winners were chosen after a series of preliminary screenings and virtual and in-person studio visits and interviews with the artists.

| Previous TCAA winners

1st TCAA 2019–2021 KAZAMA Sachiko / SHITAMICHI Motoyuki

2nd TCAA 2020–2022 FUJII Hikaru / YAMASHIRO Chikako

3rd TCAA 2021–2023 SHIGA Lieko / TAKEUCHI Kota

The exhibition of Fujii Hikaru and Yamashiro Chikako, the winners of the 2nd TCAA 2020–2022 will be held at the Tokyo Museum of Contemporary Art starting 3/19 (Sat).

Please see the TCAA website for more information.