

Information concerning the Fall/Winter 2018 Exhibition at Towada Art Center

**Yuko Mohri:**  
***Assume That There Is Friction and Resistance***

Saturday October 27, 2018 – Sunday March 24, 2019



Scenes from 2018 exhibition *Childhood*, Palais de Tokyo (Paris)  
Photo courtesy Palais de Tokyo

*Internationally Renowned Emerging Artist Yuko Mohri's  
First Solo Museum Exhibition To Be Held at the Towada Art Center*

Yuko Mohri, born 1980 in Kanagawa, Japan, is an installation artist whose creative process transforms entire spaces into artwork. She recasts reconfigured everyday items like dusters, spoons, and empty cans and reveals intangible forms of energy such as electricity, magnetism, and wind. Mohri's works exhibit strange movement, almost as if the objects themselves are living, breathing beings. Other times, her objects seem possessed by a larger force beyond human control.

At the Towada Art Center, she exhibits a new large-scale, sound-based assemblage inspired by movements such as spirals, spins, and swirls as seen on different scales, such as in ammonites and multi-stranded wires and cables. Her works can be symbolic of the orbit of celestial bodies, and, at the same time, reveal aspects of large social movements.

In addition to video and prints, Mohri also brings contingency and improvisation into her installations to form ecosystems that are entirely her own, captivating museum-going audiences both at home and abroad.

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**Contact Us**

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## Exhibition Highlights

### 1. Brand New Installation

The artist will implement an unprecedented methodology to the exhibition space to form a new installation in pursuit of her image of what she calls an “eternal movement.”

### 2. Mohri’s Debut of a Large-Scale Sculpture in Japan

Her large-scale, sound-based assemblage will be shown in Japan for the first time.

### 3. Witness Mohri’s Art in Practice

In addition to her improvised installation, video, and print works, she will go beyond the museum to exhibit in downtown Towada. Viewers can experience the artist’s thought process as they navigate not only the exhibition spaces but also the city streets.

## Message from the Artist

The other day I strolled from Lake Towada through Oirase Gorge. Massive boulders littered the valley floor, blocking the river and splitting waterfalls, torn from cliffs formed in an eruption over 200,000 years ago.

Trees and mushrooms grow among dense, bright green moss that covers the rocks. The rocks appear to stand still, but according to my guide, they have been in a constant state of motion, slowly rolling through the valley for hundreds of years. *Like a Rolling Stone* played in super slow motion! Delicate bubbles form at places where enormous rocks resist the force of 5.2 tons of water rushing past every second.

*Assume That There Is Friction and Resistance*, held at the Towada Art Center, is my first solo exhibition at a museum. In past works, I have channeled fluid states to produce artworks on movement and energy. Here I plan to make an all-new work with a particular focus on spirals and rotations, which, if we trace the history of modern art, have been the subjects of any number of artworks that include Marcel Duchamp’s *Nude Descending a Staircase*, Vladimir Tatlin’s *Monument to the Third International*, Robert Smithson’s *Spiral Jetty*, and the sculptures of Tony Cragg.

I believe that creators must have thought about energy and movement in their modes of expression, many of which continue to roll on in the present day. I hope that this exhibition will be an exploration that contributes to this enduring discussion of energy and movement.

## Yuko Mohri

Born in 1980 in Kanagawa, Japan, artist Yuko Mohri creates installations that let us sense natural forces like gravity, magnetism, and light. In 2015, she received a grant from the Asian Cultural Council for a 6-month residency in New York. She has participated in numerous group shows that include the Biennale de Lyon 2017 (France), Kochi-Muziris Biennale 2016 (India), and the Yokohama Triennale 2014 (Kanagawa). Her awards include Nissan Art Award’s Grand Prix (2015), the Kanagawa Culture Award’s Culture and Future Prize (2016), and the 67th Minister of Education Award for Fine Arts (2017).



Photo by Naoko Maeda

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## About the Exhibition

<b>Title</b>	<i>Yuko Mohri: Assume That There Is Friction and Resistance</i>
<b>Date</b>	Saturday, October 27, 2018 – Sunday, March 24, 2019
<b>Reception</b>	Saturday, November 3, 2018 18:00–19:30
<b>Hours</b>	9:00-17:00 (Last admission 30 minutes before closing)
<b>Closed</b>	Mondays except for National Holidays, in which case the museum is open on the holiday and closed the following Tuesday *Closed December 25, 2018 through January 1, 2019 for year-end holidays
<b>Location</b>	Towada Art Center *Exhibits also to be held in downtown Towada.
<b>Admission</b>	Exhibition + Permanent Collection: 1,200 yen Exhibition only: 800 yen 100 yen/ticket discount for groups of 20 or more High school students and younger: Free
<b>Organized by</b>	Towada Art Center
<b>Financial Support by</b>	Asahi Group Arts Foundation
<b>Endorsed by</b>	To-o Nippo Press, The Daily-Tohoku Shimbun Inc., Aomori Broadcasting Cooperation, Aomori Television Broadcasting Co., Ltd., Asahi Broadcasting Aomori Co., Ltd., & Towada City Board of Education
<b>Curated by</b>	Kodama Kanazawa

## Press Tour

Artist Yuko Mohri and curator Kodama Kanazawa will hold a press tour for the media. They will talk about the new works made especially for this exhibition and talk about Mohri's ideas behind the exhibition.

<b>Date</b>	Friday, October 26, 2018 15:00–15:30 Saturday, November 3, 2018 17:00–17:30
<b>Location</b>	Towada Art Center Exhibition Space

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## Related Events

### Opening Talk

The exhibition artist Yuko Mohri will talk about her works in the exhibition space.

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**Date** Saturday, November 3, 2018 16:00–16:45

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**Location** Towada Art Center Exhibition Space

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**Admission** Free with exhibition ticket

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### Seiichi Yamamoto Concert

The Towada Art Center welcomes musician Seiichi Yamamoto for a one-night-only concert.

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**Date** Sunday, November 4, 2018 18:00–19:30

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**Location** Towada Art Center Exhibition Space

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**Admission** Paid event. Please visit our website to stay up to date with the latest information.

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### Commemorative Talk at Exhibition Catalogue Launch

A talk will be held to commemorate the launch and release of the exhibition catalogue.

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**Date** Saturday, January 26, 2019 14:00–15:00

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**Location** Towada Art Center

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**Admission** Free with exhibition ticket

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**Catalogue Details** Slated for release January 2019 from Getsuyosha Limited. Text by Emma Lavigne (Director, Centre Pompidou Metz), Minoru Hatanaka (Senior Curator, NTT intercommunication Center [ICC]) & Kodama Kanazawa (Exhibition Curator)

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\*Content and guests of the events above are subject to change. We update our website regularly, so please check there for the latest information.

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## About the Artwork



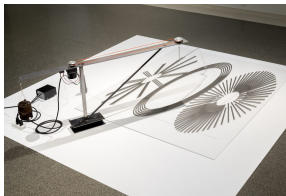
**Fig. 1** | Scenes from 2018 exhibition *Childhood*, Palais de Tokyo (Paris).  
Photo courtesy Palais de Tokyo  
(Reference image)



**Fig. 2** | Yuko Mohri Portrait  
Photo by Naoko Maeda



**Fig. 3** | *Moré Moré (Leaky) Variation #1* (2017–2018), *Sensory Agents* (2018).  
Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre  
(New Plymouth)  
Photo courtesy Govett-Brewster Art  
Gallery/Len Lye Centre  
(Reference image)



**Fig. 4** | *Turning equipment, three veils*.  
*Curatorial Studies 12: Fountain 1917 – 2017*  
*Case 5: Dissémination* (2018)  
The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto  
Photo by Yuki Moriya  
(Reference image)



**Fig. 5** | *Voluta* (2018), *Voluta* (2018).  
Camden Arts Centre (London)  
Photo by Damian Griffiths  
Photo courtesy Camden Arts Centre



**Fig. 6** | *Everything Flows: This is not Ocean*  
*(and I Did not Drink Beer)* (2017), *Grey Skies*  
(2017). Fujisawa City Art Space (Kanagawa)  
Photo by Ayumi Matsuura  
Photo courtesy Fujisawa City Art Space  
(Reference image)



**Fig. 7** | *Parade* (2011–2017), *Grey Skies* (2017).  
Fujisawa City Art Space (Kanagawa)  
Photo by Ayumi Matsuura  
Photo courtesy Fujisawa City Art Space  
(Reference image)



**Fig. 8** | *Parade* (2011–2017), *Japanorama*  
(2017).  
Centre Pompidou-Metz (Lyon)  
Photo by Jacqueline Trichard  
(Reference image)



**Fig. 9** | *polar-oid (o)*, *Going Away Closer*  
(2018). Wifredo Lam Centre of Contemporary  
Art (Havana)  
Photo by Luis Joa  
(Reference image)

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## Promotional Artwork

Please check the box for the number of the desired image and send this request form in by fax or email.

Fig. 1     Fig. 2     Fig. 3     Fig. 4     Fig. 5     Fig. 6     Fig. 7     Fig. 8     Fig. 9

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**Media Name**

Newspaper | Magazine | Museum | TV | WEB | Other (            )

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