

Basic information

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Linktree: <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

Artistic practice and interests

Dan Isomura creates artworks in various media, including two-dimensional work, three-dimensional work, video work, sound installation, and project-based work. The themes of his works are diverse, often infused with a science fictional imagination, humor, and seriousness. If the themes of his previous works were to be summarized in short sentences, they would include: 'Creating a new language using the nose instead of the mouth,' 'Imagining the human skeletal system and cuisine post-human settlement on Mars,' 'Exploring forms of Buddhist art lost with the westernization of Japan,' 'Dancing to one beat per a million year,' 'Analyzing contemporary human society through comparison to prehistoric creatures such as archaeopteryx and trilobite,' 'Visually expressing how Nature transforms and influences each other by juxtaposing changing light and changing plastic,' etc. Some readers might have negative impressions by seeing his inconsistent interests, but he himself loves his art practice being inconsistent and believes beauty would emerge by protecting his wild 'time' and 'body' from the social order defined by the majority. He also believes that rediscovering the neurodivergent aspects of past artists and artists who may have lived in queer time, which have not been widely visible until now, will enhance the sustainability of the activities of artists such as himself and protect the diversity of artistic expression in contemporary society.

List of works



Title: Today

Year: 2024

Material: Polishing machine, dinosaur's gastroliths, seeds, leaves, artificial gastric juice, audio system

Size: Dimensions variable

(For video, please check my linktree.) <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

The work is an installation consisting of a polishing machine and sound equipments. The polishing machine contains artificial gastric juice, actual dinosaur's gastroliths, seeds and leaves to recreate the digestive activity in a dinosaur's stomach. The sound system plays my composition 'Musique d'ameublement pour les dinosaures' (Furniture Music for Dinosaurs) inspired by French composer Erik Satie's Musique d'ameublement (Furniture Music).



Title: Gastrolith

Year: 2024

Material: Video

Size: 1min59sec

(For video, please check my linktree.) <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

This video work is a kind of music video for the song 'Gastrolith' which I wrote and composed. The content of the video is that the first werearchaeopteryx goes to a wererats' house with dinosaur's gastroliths and they make a gastrolith cake and have a party together. The wererats who could not swallow the gastroliths properly and vomited out the various things they swallowed before, and they seem to be enjoying playing with the vomit. The film ends with a scene of human infants playing with fruits.

(Important facts: Some kind of dinosaurs had gastroliths to digest foods and there are theories which say those dinosaurs with gastroliths could survive from the comet attack because the gastroliths helped them to digest leftovers from the comet attack. And they evolved into birds.)



Title: Agitators' Dreams or Floating Signages

Year: 2021

Material: iron, wood, jesmonite, polystyrene resin, clothes, holographic LED fan display

Size: Dimensions variable

(For video, please check my linktree) <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

“Agitators' Dreams or Floating Signages” is a collaborative installation work by Dan Isomura and Rintaro Unno.

The installation is configured by human-shaped sculptures with holographic displays on their bodies. The sculptures themselves look like a crowd of people standing, sitting, or relaxing, and their imageries get weirdly transformed by the hologram displays. On the head part, for example, the display shows an urvogel's head eating nuts, which suddenly switches to crying human's face. On the hand part, it shows a price tag, which switches to old human's hands with wrinkles, then to weapons, a wriggling planarian, blinking morse codes, etc...

The hologram displays show after-image with particles of light. Because they are basically semitransparent and only the images emerge while they are spinning, the viewers can slightly see the shape of human bodies behind the displays.



Title: Nose above Mouth

Year: 2023

Material: video, iron, wood, jesmonite, polystyrene resin, spice, herb, mushroom, seaweed, fabric, IH heater, salt

Size: Dimensions variable

(For video, please check my linktree) <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

This is an installation work composed of spices, original kitchen equipments and a video. When you enter the exhibition space, you smell a strong aroma. The smell may remind the each visitors of different memories. This is because the smell emanates from a broth made of spices, herbs, mushrooms and seaweed, which are used to flavour dishes from different cultures, such as Japanese, Thai, Chinese and Indian cuisine. The soup is simmering in a pentagonal radial symmetrical organic textured three-dimensional object, which could be the pot in the kitchen and also be the form of life on Mars. The content of the video on the wall includes improvised scenes of everyday life and fragments of nasal language communication between the artist himself and his friends.



Title: Ka ka ka

Year: 2023

Material: bamboo, iron, wood, jesmonite, polystyrene resin, seaweed

Size: Dimensions variable

(For video, please check my linktree) <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

This is an installation work composed of bamboos, metals, FRP and motors. The human body and parts of the human body are formed as these different materials are intertwined, and the forces of gravity, tension and elasticity are in competition with each other. Computer-controlled motors attached to various locations are occasionally activated, causing the forces to interlock and affect or not affect each other.





Title: Ghosts and dust series

Year: 2020

Material: Iron, Wood, Cement, Clothes, laser print, pigment, glitter, paper

Size: Dimensions Variable

The installation work consisted of a large number of sculptures and two-dimensional works. The large number of unfinished and broken cement sculptures and the two-dimensional works which were painted over in several layers and then scraped off, were fluidly transformed from materials, images and scraps in the process of production. The dust generated in the production process is also included in the works. The work reflects a everyday life of the artist's resonating with animistic sensibility.





Title: How to Dance Forever (Dance Lesson #1 VOGUING)

Year:2019

Material: Video

Size: 15min 54sec

(For video, please check my linktree) <<https://linktr.ee/danisomura>>

This work is a composition of video installations, sculptures, and posters set within a simulated dance studio.

Featured elements of this work are Voguing choreography; Social Sculpture; and sensibilities derived from social media.

The video work shown is edited like a collage of the various video styles we see in our daily lives. It begins in documentary style with a non-binary teenager with indigenous ancestry talking about how LGBTQ people have experienced different social status and acceptance since pre-colonial times.

The last segment is shot in a tutorial-like style featuring two dance instructors talking about how people discover Voguing and incorporate it into their own lives in modern Japan. And it is also a documentary dance class teaching choreography - One example is set to an extremely slow BPM of 1 beat equivalent to 30 years. It poses the question of how our consciousness is affected as our lives become part of the dance.

CV

Dan Isomura

Dan Isomura is an artist currently based in Tokyo.

His expression is diverse, ranging from painting, sculpture, video and installation. His current interest is to overlap the landscape of the past and the future with the present human society, and to embody this mental image in various forms.

1992 Born in Tokyo

2016 Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, BFA

2017 Genron Chaos* Lounge New Art School

Solo Exhibitions

2024 Dinosaurs Did Not Evolved into Humans / Signal Social Issue Gallery, Tokyo

2023 Ka / EUKARYOTE, Tokyo

2020 OFF THE SIDELINE / EUKARYOTE, Tokyo
NGgaNtaMpa / TSUTAYA GINZA ATRIUM, Tokyo

2019 Hell on Earth / UPLINK Kichijoji, Tokyo
Our Security Equipment / Ginza TSUTAYA wall gallery, Tokyo

2018 LOVE NOW / EUKARYOTE, Tokyo

2017 Good neighbors / ON SUNDAYS, Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo

2016 Planet of Hell / TAV GALLERY, Tokyo)

Selected Group Exhibitions

2024 The Future of Memories:Asian/Japanese Art and The Way of Life in The Post-War Era
/ Nichido Contemporary Art, Tokyo

The truth is so constituted in its essence and in its nature that it is not valuable
because it is true, but it is true because it is valuable and enlivens life.

/ Paichu and EUKARYOTE, Tokyo

Revealed / Yokohama Civic Art Gallery Azamino, Kanagawa

RE:FACTORY / WALL_ALTERNATIVE, Tokyo

2023 Yamanashi International Art Festival 2023 Yatsugatake Art Ecology
/Nakamura Keith Haring Collection and Kiyoharu Art Colony, Yamanashi

My Spirit Will Follow You / EUKARYOTE, Tokyo

Kanazawa Sculpture Festival 2023 / Kanazawa Art Gummi, Ishikawa

2022 Five Galleries Art Fair in Spiral / Spiral, Tokyo

A5 / Anfang Anfang Süd bis Ende Mai, Leipzig

Ai mi Tagai London/Tokyo / White Conduit Projects, London

2021 KINAN ART WEEK / Kawakyu Museum, Wakayama

Moving Images / EUKARYOTE, Tokyo)

Say Hello to Strangers / Umenoyu, Kanazawa)

Slow Culture / @KCUA, Kyoto

Where is a place for us? / Chinretsukan Gallery, The Art Museum of the Tokyo

2020 University of the Arts, Tokyo

Asian Art Biennial 2021- Phantasmapolis / National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts /
taiwan)

2019 CITY is NATURE / SEZON MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, Nagano

City Flip-Flop / Taiwan Contemporary Culture Lab, Taipei

TOKYO2021 / Toda building, Tokyo

2018 The Middleman, the Backpacker, the Alien Species, and the Time Traveler
 / TKG+, Taipei
 ceramic scramble / Genron Chaos*Lounge Gotanda Atelier, Tokyo
 London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Programme 5th Anniversary Exhibition!Ai mi Tagai
 /Denchu Hirakushi house and atelier, Tokyo
 MID CORE / Tav Gallery, Tokyo
 口嫌體正直 - 鼻句糸罔口愛 / venue, Taipei
 Diversity Via Nature:Religions,Gender,or Art? / Tentacle Art Space, Bangkok
 Diversity Via Nature:Religions,Gender,or Art? / pon ding, Taipei
 NAKAMA DE ART / Imperial Hotel Plaza, Tokyo
 Super TAMA-TAMA / KOGANEI ART SPOT Chateau 2F, Tokyo

Prize/Scholarship

2023 30 ARTISTS U35 / ART news JAPAN
 2019 Forbes 30 Under 30 Japan / Forbes Japan
 Asian Cultural Council New York Fellowship
 2017 The First Prize at Degree Show of Chaos*Lounge New Art School
 2015 Ueno-Geiyu Art Prize / Tokyo University of the Arts
 2014 Scholarship for oil painting students / Ishibashi Foundation

Residency

2019 (sep)-2020(mar)
 Asian Cultural Council New York Fellowship, NY, U.S.A.
 2017(dec)-2018(Jan)
 ARCUS Project 2017 IBARAKI Exchange Residency Program /Kuandu Museum of Fine Arts, Taipei, TAIWAN
 2017 (June-July)
 London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program, Acme Studio, London, U.K.
 2017(May- June)
 London/Tokyo Y-AIR Exchange Program, Youkobo Art Space, Tokyo, JAPAN
 2015 (September)
 Gei-Dai-Go, Ibaraki, JAPAN
 2014 (Feb-Mar and Aug-Sep)
 Silpakorn University, THAILAND

Workshops

2023 TEDxUTokyo / The University of Tokyo
 2020 Experiment for Eternal Dance / Sezon Museum of Modern Art, Nagano
 2018 Neo-Party-Kids / Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Tokyo
 TAMA- TAMA-Concrete-Sculpture / KOGANEI ART SPOT Chateau 2F, Tokyo
 2017 Break through national crisis or hell / genron,
 Be Zombie / genron, Tokyo

Relevant documentation

- Art news Japan

(<https://artnewsjapan.com/article/1565>)

- Asian Art Biennial

<https://asianartbiennial.ntmofa.gov.tw/2021/en-us/Artists/118956>

[https://event.culture.tw/mocweb/reg/NTMOFA/Detail.init.ctr?](https://event.culture.tw/mocweb/reg/NTMOFA/Detail.init.ctr?actId=10114&utm_medium=query&request_locale=en&useLanguage=en)

[actId=10114&utm_medium=query&request_locale=en&useLanguage=en](https://event.culture.tw/mocweb/reg/NTMOFA/Detail.init.ctr?actId=10114&utm_medium=query&request_locale=en&useLanguage=en)

- Meet your art

(https://meetyourart.jp/collections/dan_isomura?page=1)

-Footage of the solo show in 2023



(www.youtube.com/watch?v=qAU10sOtP8)

(more info and images are on my linktree)

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