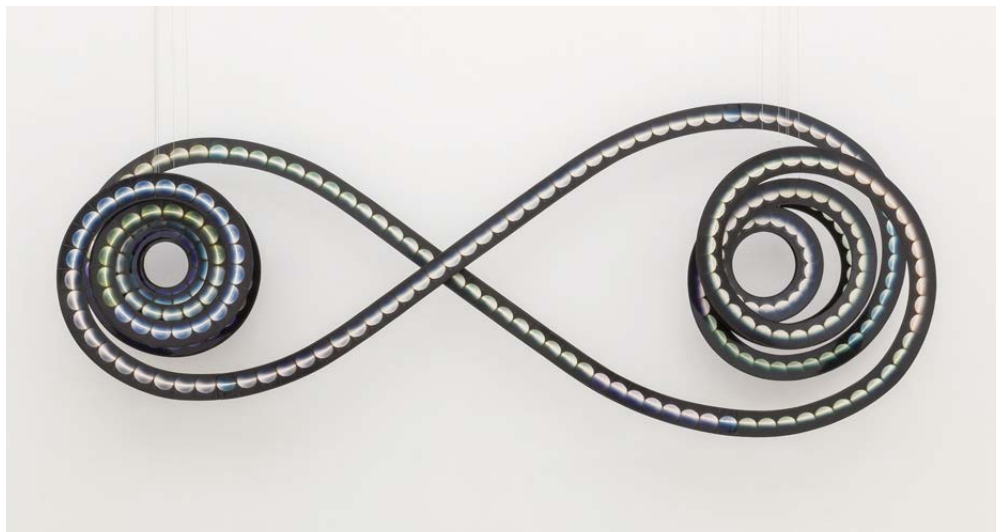


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Hitoshi Nomura: *Light and Earth Time*



The Sun on Lat. 35°N, 1982-1987
*reference work (Photo: Seiji Toyonaga)

ARTCOURT Gallery presents “Light and Earth Time”, a solo exhibition of the work of Hitoshi Nomura, featuring major pieces of his early period of activity from the 1960s to the 1980s, and new works.

Hitoshi Nomura has worked with photography as his main mode of creation ever since *Tardiology* (1969), in which he used a camera to capture the critical moments of huge cardboard boxes collapsing due to gravity and time. A medium that records processes of reaction (behavior) with regard to natural phenomena and makes possible their presentation as transitioning time, photography may be regarded as having opened up a new world of sculptural expression for this artist, who possesses the original perspective of seeing within objects the passage of time.

This exhibition is composed of *Dryice*, a work of photographs created as sculpture, ‘*moon’ score*, which depicts times of light by way of the moon’s waxing and waning and which marked the turning point when Nomura began focusing on various celestial phenomena, and *The Sun on Lat. 35°N*, a piece in which he connected one year’s worth of tracks of light of full days of the sun’s movement and made the discovery of “rings of time”, as well as new works from the series “A Fossil Branch and the Light of the Galaxy” that foster an awareness of the distant time and space of the ancient past and the universe.

“Nature will reveal its genuine features with time.” Proceeding ever deeper with this idea and pursuit, Nomura is continually engaged in a conceptual dialogue with nature. Through his practice of repeatedly capturing by camera the movements of objects and the order of the cosmos, he has created works by taking human consciousness-transcending universal presences and substituting them with forms that we are capable of perceiving. This exhibition will be an opportunity to get a bird’s-eye view of Hitoshi Nomura’s ever-broadening world of expression. It is our hope that you will be able to join this artist in his contemplations of space and time, and enjoy taking part in his visions and inquiries into deep space.

【Exhibition】

Exhibition title : Hitoshi Nomura: Light and Earth Time

Duration : May 13 (Sat) – June 24 (Sat), 2017 / Closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Venue : ARTCOURT Gallery (OAP ARTCOURT 1F, 1-8-5 Tenmabashi, Kita-ku, Osaka, 5300042 Japan)

Opening hours : 11:00 am – 7:00 pm (Saturdays 11:00 am – 5:00 pm)

◆ Events : May 20 (Sat), 2017

▷ Artist Talk : 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm / Hitoshi Nomura and Tsuyoshi Hisakado (Artist)

▷ Reception : 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

* Artist Talk and Reception are free of charge, but an RSVP is required for the talk.

Please email info@artcourtgallery.com or call.

◆ Exhibited works (plans) Major pieces from the 60’s, 70’s, 80’s, as well as new work.

Dryice: 1969 [1969 (1969.11.2) / 2017, Set of 10 photographs]

‘*moon’ score* (4 pieces) [1977 (1977.1.1), 1978 (1978.1.12), 1979 (1979.1.1), 1980 (1980.1.1) / 2017]

The Sun on Lat. 35°N: *Toyonaka* [1986-1988 / 2017]

New works (4 pieces, the series of “A Fossil Branch & A Galaxy Light”)



Dryice, 1969 (1969.10.19)
“2nd Contemporary Plastic Art”
Kamogawa Park, Kyoto

Organized by ARTCOURT Gallery / Sponsored by Mitsubishi Estate Co., Ltd., Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, Mitsubishi Jisho Property Management Co., Ltd.

*Please contact Yuki Hamada at ARTCOURT Gallery for any inquiries including photographic materials.

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◆About Exhibited Works

(Description of works by the artist. Note: "Hitoshi Nomura, Seeing: Contingency and Necessity", 2006, AKAACA Art Publishing Inc.)

Dryice

This work represents the idea that "Nature will reveal its genuine features with time". By moving dry ice that sublimates in normal temperature, photographs were taken by a fixed camera while the changing weight and time of the dry ice were recorded. The process was repeated. When one accepts the image that is generated by nature's order and energy, one can actually feel, in the series of arbitrary forms recorded, the emergence of an inevitable power that runs through the whole phenomenon.



Dryice: 1969, 1969 ([right]Photo: Seiji Toyonaga)

'moon' score

Five lines were copied onto the films, and photos of the moon were taken with those films. However, because my hands shook and the position was unstable, the moon was randomly placed between the 5 lines. The work is presented as music, and the process is still in progress. When the photo of each moon taken at random are regarded as musical notes and are actually played, we found music. This experiment made us aware that we coexist with a movement of enormous scale and discipline, and it gave me the insight for my future works whereby natural phenomena or the relationship between the universe and time were developed and elaborated.



'moon' score, 1979 (1979.1.1)

The Sun on Lat. 35°N

The Sun on Lat. 35°N consists of traces of the sun taken at a location at latitude 35 for a year. When photos that were taken for *A Spin in Curved Air* (1980) were collected for a whole year and the curves for each day were connected, a spiral form that represents the symbol of infinity emerged. This is a discovery of the "Cycle of time", which resembles the recurrence of the seasons which we experience. It can be said that this is a visualization of the "Recurrence of time". To feel close to such awesome and dynamic movements is to be able to perceive familiar scenes that are repeated daily as the "appearance" of nature itself, which is invaluable to us.



The Sun on Lat. 35°N, 1982-1987
*reference work (Photo: Seiji Toyonaga)

A Fossil Branch & A Galaxy Light

150 million years ago, the plant life of the Jurassic Period was lush and thriving; their fossils are discovered in the present. 150 million light years far away, the light of the galaxy is captured in the present. I am looking for an intuitive imagining of the vastness of eternity and space by attempting to correspond, in a given time, the remoteness of time during which plant becomes stone to the straight-ahead distance traveled by light in space.



Plagiophyllum & NGC 2207+IC 2163(1.63 M.L.Y)
2002-2006 *reference work (Photo: Seiji Toyonaga)

Courtesy of NAOJ

*Please contact Yuki Hamada at ARTCOURT Gallery for any inquiries including photographic materials.

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Hitoshi Nomura: *Light and Earth Time*

Hitoshi Nomura

- 1945 Born Hyogo Prefecture
1967 Kyoto City University of Fine Art, B.F.A.
1969 Kyoto City University of Fine Art, M.F.A.

Early Selected Chronology

- 1969 Mar. Presented *Tardiology*, in which cardboard boxes collapsed under their own weight.
Oct. Took part in the “2nd Contemporary Plastic Art” exhibit (Kamogawa Park, Kyoto) and presented his work *Dryice*, which depicted the process in which dry ice sublimates.
- 1970 Mar. Took part in the “Kyoto Independent” exhibition at Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, presenting the photographic works, *Dryice:1969* and *Time on a Curved Line*.
May. Took part in the “10th International Art Exhibition of Japan—Between Man and Matter” (Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum, Tokyo) for which Nakahara Yusuke was the General Commissioner.
- 1972 Jan. Shot *Turning the Arm with a Movie Camera: Person, Landscape & The Center of Gravity : Movement* (16mm films).
Mar. Began work on *Photobook or the Brownian Motion of Eyesight* using a 16mm movie camera (-Feb. 1982).
- 1975 Produced the photograph work *age: M→F* (78 video work).
The fact that the moon seen through power cables resembled a music score, Nomura began photographing the ‘moon’ score series (which is ongoing). This initiated his works in “cosmo chronography”.
Thereafter Nomura started working on another score series: ‘pleiades’ score (78-), ‘birds’ score (83-), ‘Grus’ score (04-).
- 1978 Oct. Produced the first work related to the Sun.
Dec. Began work on *The Earth Rotation* (-Nov. 1979).
- 1979 Nov. Released the LP recording ‘moon’ score (hv/001).
- 1980 Mar. Began work on *A Spin in Curved Air* series, using a fisheye lens to record the passage of the sun through the sky over the course of a day (-Dec. 1988).
- 1982 Mar. After participating in the “5th India Triennial” in New Delhi, Nomura visited various sites connected to Shakyamuni Buddha. Began *The Sun on Lat. 35°N*, which was completed in 1987 after five years of work.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

- 1970 “Iodine and Time Table”, Gallery 16, Kyoto
1972 “Shifting the Center of Gravity”, Gallery 16, Kyoto
1977 “‘moon’ score & Arcuate Islands”, Gallery 16, Kyoto
1978 “‘moon’ score & 8 discs”, Kobayashi Gallery, Tokyo
1987 “Recent Works 2 Nomura Hitoshi—Spin & Gravity”, The National Museum of Art, Osaka
1989 “Cosmo Chronography”, INAX Gallery, Tokyo
1991 “Cosmo Chronography & Phonography”, Gallery KURANUKI, Osaka
1993 “CRYO PHENOMENA”, ART GALLERY MITSUBISHI ESTATE ARTIUM, Fukuoka
1994 “Exhibition in honor of the publication of a collection of his works Time-Space”, Gallery KURANUKI, Osaka
1995 “CHANGE over TIME”, Spiral Garden, Tokyo
“CHRONOSCORE”, Tokyo Metropolitan Museum of Photography, Tokyo
1996 “CHRONO & PROTOMORPH”, Chukyo University Art Gallery C•SQUARE, Nagoya
“As the Cosmic Sensibility Works.....”, Gallery KURAUNKI, Osaka
“Soft Landing Meteor & DNA”, Gallery GAN, Tokyo
1998 “One with the Cosmos”, Gallery KURANUKI, Osaka
1999 “Mission to America & Jurassic Giant Tree in Tokyo”, Gallery GAN, Tokyo
2000 “New Vision Navigator—Harnessing Across America by Solar Car—”, Chukyo University Art Gallery C•SQUARE, Nagoya/ Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto
“Nomura Hitoshi—Genesis of Life: The Universe, The Sun, DNA—”, Contemporary Art Center, Art Tower Mito, Mito
2001 “Nomura Hitoshi—Transit/Reflect—”, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota
2004 “Chroma & Chromatic”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2006 “Hitoshi Nomura—An Introduction, Photo works 1975-92—”, McCaffrey Fine Art, New York
“Hitoshi Nomura—Cosmo—Arbor—”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2007 “Hitoshi Nomura—Chrono & Chroma—”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2008 “Hitoshi Nomura—Gravitational Shape and Flavor: The Sun, Meteorites and The Body—”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2009 “Hitoshi Nomura: Perception—Changes in Time and Field”, The National Art Center, Tokyo
“Hitoshi Nomura: View From Space, From Here On...”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2010 “Hitoshi Nomura: Marking Time”, MaCaffrey Fine Art, New York
2012 “Discover Hitoshi Nomura In Hong Kong”, Gallery 27, Hong Kong
2013 “Hitoshi Nomura: Body/Perception, or I Who Think I Am ‘T’”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2015 “Hitoshi Nomura: Contingency and Necessity”, McCaffrey Fine Art, New York

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Hitoshi Nomura

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1969 “2nd Contemporary Plastic Art”, Kamogawa Park, Kyoto
 1970 “10th International Art Exhibition of Japan(Tokyo Biennale '70)—Between Man and Matter”, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum
 1975 “9th Biennale de Paris”, Musée National d’ Art Moderne, Paris/ Musée National d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris, Paris
 1980 “Art Now '80”, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, Kobe
 1982 “5th India Triennial”, New Delhi
 1983 “Photography in Contemporary Art”, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
 1988 “Two-Men Exhibition: with Chiaki Murata—Is temperature a Fundamental Factor of Substance”, ABC gallery, Osaka
 “Movement & Modern Art”, The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama, Saitama
 1990 “Images in Translation—Photographic Representation in the Eighties”, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto/
 The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
 “JAPANISCHE KUNST DER 80ER JAHRE”, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt/ Museum of Modern Art, Wien etc.
 1991 “Line in Contemporary art—The Destination of Eyes and Hands”, The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama, Saitama
 “A Cabibet of Signs”, Tate Gallery, Liverpool/ Whitechapel Art Gallery, London etc.
 1992 “Video: The New World—the Capacity of the Media”, O Art Gallery, Tokyo
 “The 9th Sydney Biennale The Boundary Rider”, The Art Gallery of New South Wales, Sydney
 1993 “BREDA FOTOGRAFICA '93”, De Beyond Breda, Breda, Netherland
 “Time & Motion”, ICP, New York
 1994 “Time in Contemporary Art”, Museum of Modern Art, Shiga
 “Photography and Beyond in Japan—Space, Time and Memory”, Hara Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
 1995 “Matters and Perception 1970—*Mono-ha* and the Search for Fundamentals”, The Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu etc.
 “Japanese Culture: The Fifty Postwar Years”, Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo etc.
 1996 “Photography and Beyond in Japan—Space, Time and Memory”, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California
 1997 “GRAVITY—Axis of Contemporary Art”, The National Museum of Art, Osaka
 “MODERN ART IN JAPAN—Thought and Figure”, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota
 1998 “From out Stillness Gift from the Stars”, The Museum of Modern Art, Wakayama
 1999 “ART 1999 CHICAGO”, Festival Hall, Navy Pier, Chicago
 “FUKUI BIENNALE 8—Human Body and Memory”, Fukui City Art Museum, Fukui
 2000 “Three Artistic Visions—Time and Space: Chizuru Kasai, Hitoshi Nomura, Tatsuo Miyajima”, Niigata City Art Museum, Niigata
 2002 “The Unfinished Century: Legacies of 20th Century Art”, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
 2003 “The History of Japanese Photography”, The Museum of Fine Art, Huston, Huston etc.
 “Purloined Nature”, Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art, Sakura
 2004 “TRACES—Body and Idea in Contemporary Art—”, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto / The National Museum of
 Modern Art, Tokyo
 2005 “sight—crusing—”, Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, Marugame
 “Possible Futures: Japanese postwar art and technology”, NTT Inter Communication Center, Tokyo
 “Reconsidering *Mono-ha*”, The National Museum of Art, Osaka
 2006 “The Art Museum Dreams of the Cretaceous Period”, The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama
 2007 “ART ANTI-ART NON-ART: Experimentations in the Public Sphere in Postwar Japan 1950-1970”, Getty Research Institute, Los Angeles
 “UCHUMEIZU”, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota
 2009 “Waiting for Video: Works from the 1960s to Today”, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
 “Enokura, Nomura, Takamatsu: Photographs 1968-1979”, McCaffrey Fine Art, New York
 “MEDICINE AND ART: Imagining a Future for life and Love”, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo
 “First Passage”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
 2011 “Hitoshi Nomura, Sigmar Polke, Yukinori Yanagi: Works in Progress”, McCaffrey Fine Art, New York
 2013 “Re: Quest Japanese Contemporary Art since the 1970s”, Museum of Art Seoul National University, Korea
 2015 “Re: play 1972/2015—Restaging "Expression in Film '72"”, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo
 2016 “ART1 2016: Stepping into Fresh Snow”, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
 2016-2017 “The Universe and Art Princess Kaguya, Leonardo da Vinci, team Lab”, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo / ArtScience
 Museum, Singapore

Public Collections

Kitakyusyu Municipal Museum of Art/ The Museum of Fine Arts, Gifu/ Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art/ The National Museum of
 Modern Art, Kyoto/ National Museum of Art, Osaka/ The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama/ Museum of Modern Art, Shiga/ Chiba City
 Museum of Art/ The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo/ Tochigi Prefectural Museum of Fine Arts/ Himeji City Museum of Art/
 Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art/ Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art/ Meguro Museum of Art, Tokyo/ The Museum of
 Modern Art, Wakayama/ Dallas Museum of Art/ Getty Research Institute/ International Center of Photography/ Musée d'Art Moderne
 Saint-Étienne/ Museum of Modern Art, New York/ San Francisco Museum of Modern Art