

ARTCOURT Gallery

Yagi Art Management, Inc.

OAP ARTCOURT 1F 1-8-5 Tenmabashi Kita-ku Osaka 5300042 JAPAN

2013 the 31st "Sakuya-Konohana Award" Commemorative Exhibition
The Sakuya-Konohana Collection

Yasuaki Onishi: empty sculpture

ARTCOURT Gallery will present "The Sakuya-Konohana Collection - Yasuaki Onishi: empty sculpture" as a commemorative exhibition for Onishi's reception of the 31st Sakuya-Konohana Award.

Sculpting empty space — Yasuaki Onishi creates sculpture that visualizes "negative" space typically referred as blank margin or hollow space with no interior by assigning uncomplicated themes such as volume, verticality and distance. He is a promising artist who traces forms that exist between artificial and nature with delicate senses by using materials with their shapes difficult to define, e.g., adhesive and polyethylene film. He has held number of exhibitions in Japan as well as overseas and has taken many residency programs. His installation works, which imply the domain beyond human understanding such as magnificent mountains, glacier caves, windy open sea with waves and silhouette of nebula, are particularly acclaimed highly.

To create 'space that does not exist' where one can spread his imagination that there might have been something there before or something may get into — I present my work as a place where viewers think and feel the space consciously, experience the phenomenon that is paradoxical and can be taken in either way depending on how one sees it like negative and positive, front and back, or interior and exterior, and expand imagination of their own.
(Yasuaki Onishi)



Conceptual image for new work 2014 | Photo: Nobutada Omote

Cylindrical balloons with timer-controlled small fans inside that inflate vertically ... the polyethylene film realized an organic movement and gave viewers the feelings of "seeing emptiness to obtain inane". The 2009 work **Untitled** (pictured lower right) is an important piece, in which Onishi himself discovered 'volume' in air or empty space and this piece eventually lead Onishi to create his later masterpiece **reverse of volume**. Onishi speaks of his plate-like piece called **exchange of surface**, in which he melted the surface painted with adhesive by using a glue gun as if it was a pencil and mixed with powdered metal, as "the trace of accumulated act and reaction."

Onishi gives ambiguous contour to space with his way of expression that is to approach space by selecting raw materials that reveal the invisible and using act, phenomenon and time as his building blocks. His creation occupies space, which is filled with floating soft gradation of light and shadow, and it becomes like an aesthetic vessel to store the thoughts and Immeasurable imagination of its viewers.

In this exhibition, we will present several examples of Onishi's 'empty sculpture' including the early piece **Gawa**, **Untitled**, **exchange of surface**, and new work attempting to create exterior by making an interior space that has no physical volume using light and gravity.

[EXHIBITION]

Show Title: The Sakuya-Konohana Collection — Yasuaki Onishi: empty sculpture

Dates: Saturday, November 8, 2014 - Saturday, November 29, 2014

*Gallery closed on Sundays, Mondays and national holidays

Location: ARTCOURT Gallery

OAP Art Court 1F, 1-8-5 Tenmabashi, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0042

Gallery Hours: 11:00 AM - 7:00 PM *5:00 PM on Saturdays

◆ TALK & RECEPTION ◆

Saturday, November 8, 2014

2:30 PM - 4:00 PM — Talk with Tadashi Kanei*, Yasuaki Onishi

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM — Reception

*Associate Professor, School of Humanities, Shinshu University

◆ PREVIEW ◆

Friday, November 7, 2014 *Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 4

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM — Introduction of work by Yasuaki Onishi



"Untitled" 2009.

Organized by Sakuya-Konohana Award Recipients Supporting Committee (Committee members include: The City of Osaka, Osaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Osaka Government Tourism Bureau, Suntory Publicity Service Group, Management Company to Osaka City Central Public Hall, and ARTCOURT Gallery (Yagi Art Management)).
Sponsored by Mitsubishi Estate Co., Ltd., Mitsubishi Materials Corporation, Mitsubishi Jisho Property Management Co., Ltd.

*Please contact Miwa Ohba at ARTCOURT Gallery for any inquiries including photographic materials.

OAP Art Court 1F, 1-8-5 Tenmabashi, Kita-ku, Osaka 530-0042 | info@artcourtgallery.com | T:(+81)6-6354-5444 | F:(+81)6-6354-5449 | artcourtgallery.com



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Biography

- 1979 Born in Osaka
- 2001 B.A. in Sculpture, School of Art & Design, University of Tsukuba, Japan
- 2004 M.A. in Sculpture, Graduate School of Art, Kyoto City University of Arts, Japan

[Selected Awards]

- 2014 The 31st Sakuya-Konohana Award
- 2012 Project to Support the Nurturing of Media Arts Creators
- 2011 Studied in UK funded by POLA Art Foundation
- 2010 Vermont Studio Center U.S. Japan Foundation Fellowship
The Pollock-Krasner Foundation
- 2007 The 1st Shu Art Studio Fellowship Award
Taro Award, 10th Taro Okamoto Contemporary Art Award
- 2006 Jury Selection at Japan Media Arts Festival, Art Division

[Selected Solo Exhibitions]

- 2014 vertical emptiness (GALLERY OUT of PLACE TOKIO, Tokyo)
- 2013 reverse of volume (JOICE GALLERY, Beijing, China)
- 2012 inner space (Wilfrid Israel Museum, Hazorea, Israel)
reverse of volume (Rice Gallery, Houston, USA)
- 2011 reverse of volume (Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art, Aichi)
- 2010 reverse of volume (Vermont Studio Center Red Mill Gallery, Johnson, USA)
horizontal forest (Not Quite Gallery, Fengersfors, Sweden)
ridge of boundary (para_SITE Gallery, Graz, Austria)
reverse of volume (KINOKINO Center for Art and Film/Sandnes, Norway)
- 2008 mountair (KONGSI, Enschede, The Netherlands)
dairy distance (Sølyst Artists in Residence Centre, Jyderup, Denmark)
- 2007 between inside and outside (PANTALOON, Osaka)
inner skin (neutron, Kyoto)
- 2005 breathing nebula (INAX GALLERY 2, Tokyo)

[Selected Group Exhibitions]

- 2014 Maison & Objet Trend Exhibition-Landscape (Paris Nord VillepinteHALL 7, Paris, France)
Think Over (Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka)
- 2013 The Mine - Launch Event (The Mine, Dubai, UAE)
Mono No Aware. Japanese Contemporary Art (The State Hermitage Museum, St. Petersburg, Russia)
Hanarart 2013 (Koriyama-jokamachi Area, Nara)
Rokko Meets Art, Art Walk 2013 (Rokko Music Box Museum, etc., Hyogo)
dreamscape (Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto)
- 2012 agorà - Miniartextil (Villa Olmo, Como, Italy)
- 2011 Ways of Worldmaking (The National Museum of Art Osaka)
Japan Media Arts Festival (Hardware MedienKunstVerein Dortmund U, Dortmund, Germany)
- 2010 The Transforming State (Religare Arts Initiative, Delhi, India)
Art Court Frontier #8 (ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka)
- 2009 Against the Sculptural (Seoul Museum of Art, Korea)
HOME (Aomori Contemporary Art Centre, Aomori)
Residency Project Part2 (Kala Gallery, Berkley, USA)
SU:MBISORI (Jeju Museum of Art, Korea)
- 2008 point éphémère (Bunkamura Gallery, Tokyo)
Eyes Curiosity - Japanese Contemporary Art (Soka Contemporary Space, Taipei, Taiwan)
- 2007 Discovery of Emerging Artists in Aichi (Aichi Arts Center)
- 2006 piano, piano (Osaka Red Brick Warehouse, Osaka)
- 2005 Selected Artists in Kyoto 2005 (Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Kyoto)
- 2004 Toyota Art Exhibition '04 (Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Aichi)

Many more solo and group exhibitions, and residency programs.



reverse of volume RG
2012. Rice Gallery, Houston, TX, USA

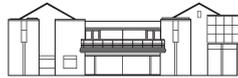
Photo: Nash Baker

About Osaka City's "Sakuya-Konohana Award" and "The Sakuya-Konohana Collection"

"Sakuya-Konohana Award" is given by the city of Osaka to young artists who are expected to carry on the future of Osaka culture since 1983. There are five categories; Art, Music, Performance Art & Dance, Popular Play, Others, and have been awarded to over 150 individuals/groups. The recipients are involved in cultural activities not only in Japan but overseas. The City of Osaka presents "The Sakuya-Konohana Collection" a few times a year to give opportunities to experience the charm of "Sakuya-Konohana Award" recipients who are important human assets of Osaka.

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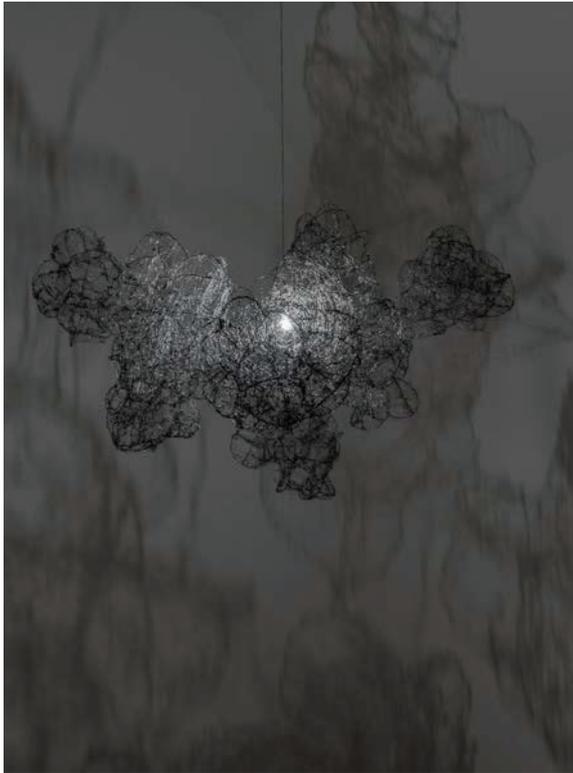
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Supplemental Photography



Conceptual image for new work 2014 | Photo: Nobutada Omote



Untitled
2009. Polyethylene film, Fan, etc. 400 x 660 x 960 cm (installation)



exchange of surface GOoP#2
2013. Adhesive, graphite, Panel. 91 x 91 x 3 cm



Gawa 2
2002. Steel. 120 x 120 x 50 cm.

Photo: Nobutada Omote

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