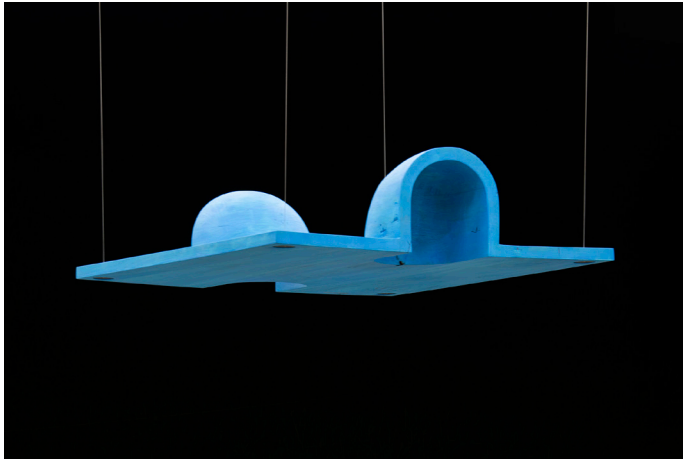


Shiro Matsui: *Far Too Close* 松井紫朗「Far Too Close」


Lag Behind/Lag Forward, 2019 | Wood (painted) | Photo: Kazuo Fukunaga

ARTCOURT Gallery is pleased to present, “*Far Too Close*,” a solo exhibition of new works by sculptor Shiro Matsui.

This exhibition will focus on Shiro Matsui’s newest works, such as *Lag Behind / Lag Forward*, an interactive sculpture that humorously brings our connections with the earth and each other into focus, and the large-scale installation *Capital T*, which will stretch through the gallery corridor into the courtyard, connecting the interior with the exterior. Through varying senses of scale and a diverse range of sculptural expression, Matsui’s works will invert the ideas of in/out and here/there to create a playful exhibition “*Far Too Close*” that expresses new conceptions of space.

In *Lag Behind / Lag Forward*, two viewers will be able to participate in a sculpture by standing back to back with their heads under a blue arch hanging from the ceiling. If their gazes extend straight forward, they will feel that they are facing each other from all the way around the world, although the other is standing just 1m away. Based on the concept of non-euclidean geometry or spherical geometry, this arch that floats in midair inside the gallery space allows the distance between the two to be measured in this curious way. The viewers that “face” each other can let their imaginations expand around the idea of this line that connects them.

Matsui has made and continues to exhibit, both here and abroad, installations featuring trumpet-ended ducts that stretch from place to place and allow viewers to transmit their voices across spaces separated by walls or distance. Here, *Capital T* consists of ducts that extend from the exhibition space through the window, and out into the courtyard like a pipeline to join these contrasting spaces.

After his first solo exhibition in 1983, Shiro Matsui garnered attention for sculptures in various materials (wood, copper, brass, aluminum, clay, marble) that were full of humor and intellect, and brought to mind the dynamics between organisms. Since the early 90s, he has been known for giant balloonlike works that fuse with the buildings in which they are installed, and works that overturn people’s perceptions and their concepts of space.

Matsui has an endless interest in the kinds of latent questions that humanity should be asking. From everyday occurrences to the movement of heavenly bodies, we exist in the context of surrounding phenomena, and are conscious of space while engaging in this bodily dialogue. Through these physical experiences, Matsui uses a wide range of materials, forms, colors, and scales to create intellectually stimulating works, and continues to present fresh and new concepts of space.

[Exhibition]

Exhibition title : **Shiro Matsui: *Far Too Close*** 松井紫朗「Far Too Close」

Duration : **Ocotober 12 (Sat) - December 21 (Sat), 2019**

*Closed on Sundays, Mondays, and national holidays

Venue : **ARTCOURT Gallery** OAP ARTCOURT 1F, 1-8-5 Tenmabashi, Kita-ku, Osaka, 530-0042

Hours : 11:00am - 7:00pm (Saturdays - 5:00pm)

◆ Related Events: October 12 (Sat), 2019

Artist Talk : 5:00pm - 6:30pm [Charles Worthen (Sculptor / Professor, Hiroshima City University, Faculty of Arts) & Shiro Matsui]

Reception : 6:30pm - 7:30pm

*RSVP is required for the talk. Please email info@artcourtgallery.com or call +81-6-6354-5444. *Free admission.

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

Shiro Matsui: *Far Too Close* 松井紫朗「Far Too Close」

【 Reference Work 】



Voice Scope, 1994 | Copper | 500 x 3000 x 180 cm | Solo exhibition, Stadtgalerie Saarbrücken, Germany

Shiro Matsui 松井紫朗

1960 Born in Nara, Japan
1984 B.A., Fine Art, Kyoto City University of Arts, Sculpture Course
1986 M.A., Fine Art, Kyoto City University of Arts, Sculpture Course
Present Professor at Kyoto City University of Arts

| Selected Solo Exhibitions |

2019 *Message in a Bottle DRAWING EXHIBITION 2019*, ILA Gallery, Hokkaido
2018 *Art Museum Garden Art Project: The Sense of Wonder of Shiro Matsui*, Himeji City Museum of Art, Hyogo
2016 *Learn more about "Message in a Bottle" with Shiro Matsui*, Miyanomori International Museum of Art, Hokkaido
2013 *SHIRO MATSUI, between here and there is better than either here or there*, Miyanomori International Museum of Art, Hokkaido
Forwards Backwards, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2011 *Matsui Shiro -What the Tortoise Said to Achilles-*, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Aichi
2010 *Aqua-Lung Channel*, Hakutosha, Aichi
Hundreds of Gardens, ARTCOURT Gallery, Osaka
2008 *Poincare Conjecture by Shiro Matsui*, Hakutosha, Aichi
2007 *what goes in comes out*, Hakutosha, Aichi
2006 *Shiro Matsui Jonah's Green*, Museum Haus Esters, Krefeld
2005 *...schnarchen?*, artothek, Köln
2004 *The Inside's Outside*, Hakutosha, Aichi

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



Shiro Matsui: *Far Too Close* 松井紫朗「Far Too Close」

- The Outside's Inside*, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Heidelberg
- 2003 *Glossy Dark*, Gallery Shinanobashi, Osaka
- 2002 *Days Daze*, CASO, Osaka
- Days Daze Yokohama*, Yokohama Portside Gallery, Yokohama
- 2001 *Vessels in Vessel*, Hakutosha, Aichi
- 2000 *dance, drink...*, INTERVAL, Witten
- 1997 *Estudio*, Galeria Helga de Alvear, Madrid
- 1995 Wewerka Pavilion, Münster
- 1994 Stadtgalerie Saarbrücken
- 1993 Galerie Carla Stützer, Köln
- 1990 *Today's Artist*, Osaka Prefectural Contemporary Art Center

Selected Group Exhibition (2000-)

- 2019 *The Yamamura Collection: Gutai and the Japanese Avant-Garde 1950s-1980s*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Hyogo
- KCUA Alumni Association Exhibition 2018-2019*, Kyoto City University of Arts Gallery @KCUA, Kyoto
- 2018 *Water and Land Niigata Art Festival 2018*, Bandai Multi-purpose Plaza, Niigata
- 2017 *The Intersection of Nature MATSUDO ART PICNIC*, Matsudo, Chiba
- Sapporo International Art Festival 2017*, Moerenuma Park, Hokkaido
- 2016 *Chieo Senzaki, Shiro Matsui*, Tokyo Gallery+BTAP, Tokyo
- 2014 *Object/Sculpture*, GALERIE SOL, Tokyo
- 2011 *REFLEXIONEN*, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art
- 2010 *AICHI Triennale 2010*, Aichi Arts Center
- Trouble in Paradise*, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto
- OAP Sculpture Path 2010 - UN-SYNTEX -*, OAP Sculpture Path, Osaka
- 2009 *FESTIVAL @RT OUTSIDERS*, Maison Européenne de la Photographie, France
- 2008 *Osaka Art Kaleidoscope 2008*, Building of Osaka Securities Exchange Company, Limited.
- 2007 *The 22nd Contemporary Japanese Sculpture*, Ube Open-Air Museum, Yamaguchi
- 2006 *TOUCH ART*, Kawagoe City Museum of Art, Saitama
- Comfortable places*, Kasugai Civic Cultural Foundation, Aichi
- Trans - Acting*, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto
- 3D works by Painters and 2D works by Sculptors*, Hakutosya, Aichi
- 2005 *am Project Vol.9 Shiro Matsui+namiko Fujishiro*, ASK?, Tokyo
- 2004 *Spaces for You - Stepping Out!*, The Miyagi Museum of Art
- 2003 *The Imaginary City "metamorphosis" Hiroshima*, The Former Bank of Japan, Hiroshima Branch Office
- 2002 *SYDNEY FESTIVAL 2002*, The Strand•the QVB, Sydney
- 2001 *Reading the Art Museum - Hyokeikan and Art Today*, Tokyo National Museum
- Nagoya Contemporary Art Fair*, Nagoya Civic Gallery
- The 19th Contemporary Japanese Sculpture*, Ube Open-Air Museum, Yamaguchi
- 2000 *Plastic Age - Art and Design*, The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama
- Prime-Refraction of Color and Form*, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery
- Trading Views*, Stadtgalerie Saarbrücken, Stadtische Galerie, Erlangen and other venues

| Public Collections |

Kyoto City University of Arts / Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art / The Niigata Prefectural Museum of Modern Art / Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art (Yamamura Collection) / Utsunomiya Museum of Art / Yamaguchi Prefectural Museum of Art / Agency of Cultural Affairs / Kyoto Prefecture / Ube City / Yonago City / Saarbrücken City / DaimlerChrysler AG