

Yoshinori NIWA

Born 1982 Aichi Prefecture (Japan), based in Tokyo. Graduated from Tama Art University's Department of Moving Images and Performing Arts. Niwa's socially and historically interventionist works, on the street and in other public spaces, experiment with actions and propositions involving mainly impossibility and exchange. From such unproductive physical acts as transferring water with his mouth from a puddle in East Berlin to create a new puddle a short distance away in West Berlin, in 《Transferring Puddle A to Puddle B》 (2004), to putting himself in an unusual situation to undermine the reality of what we see and to expose the emptiness of systems that give an illusion of publicness, as when he walked in the opposite direction to people demonstrating against nuclear power generation after the Great East Japan Earthquake – 《Walk in the Opposite Direction of a Demonstration Parade》 (2011) – and 《Demonstration Proceeds from the Prime Minister's Residence to the Summit of Mt. Fuji》 (2012), in which he extended a political act to a distant and unrelated spot more commonly associated with tourism. In recent years Niwa has taken an interest in the history of communism and moved on to projects that explore the nature of national history, like attempting to pick up and toss local communist party members in Romania, in 《Tossing Socialists in the Air in Romania》 (2010) and 《Looking for Vladimir Lenin in the Apartments of Moscow》 (2012), in which he searches the home an ordinary Russian family for images of Lenin years after the demise of the Soviet Union. Selected group shows are Double Vision: Contemporary Art From Japan (Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Haifa Museum of Art, 2012), Aichi Triennale 2013 (Aichi Arts Center, etc 2013), Roppongi Crossing 2013: OUT OF DOUBT (Mori Art Museum, 2013). He is awarded Future Greats 2014 by ArtReview.

<http://www.niwa-staff.org/>

Education

2005 BA, Tama Art University Department of Moving Images and Performing Arts

Selected Solo Show

- 2016 *Extra poison idea of individualism*, CAPSULE, Tokyo (proposed)
- 2016 *Selling the right to name a pile of garbage*, Minatomachi POTLUCK BUILDING, Nagoya (proposed)
- 2015 *Historically Historic Historical History of Communism*, Edel Assanti, London
- 2014 *Research and Production: Artistic Methods in a Transitional Period*, Tamsui Historical Art Museum, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2014 *Never Trust in People without Contradiction*, 1335MABINI, Manila, Philippines
- 2012 *Possibilities is the antonym of today*, Ai Kowada Gallery, Tokyo
- 2012 *Possibilities is the antonym of today*, GALLERY TERRA TOKYO, Tokyo
- 2012 *Clapping hands for the bears in Bern*, NADiff window gallery, Tokyo
- 2011 *Searching for community, or their escape drama*, Ai Kowada gallery, Tokyo
- 2010 *No solution, but brawl*, Ai Kowada gallery, Tokyo
- 2010 *The poetics of activism*, gallery alpha M, Tokyo
- 2010 *Communicating with thieves*, HIAP project room, Helsinki, Finland
- 2009 *Face round, community!*, Migigawanikenme, Tokyo
- 2009 *Transforming puddle A to puddle B*, Art in General, NYC, USA
- 2008 *Shaking hands with 100cats in Norway*, Gallery Coexist, Tokyo

Selected Group show

- 2016 *Setouchi Triennale 2016*, Naoshima Island, Kagawa (proposed)
- 2015 *Our Beloved World*, Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, Magugame (proposed)
- 2015 *Hommage for Tadeusz Kantor*, @KCUA Kyoto University of Arts Art Gallery
- 2015 *Rivers – The way of life in Transition*, Asia Contemporary Art Link, The Pier-2 Art Center, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
- 2014 *Some Like It Witty*, Gallery EXIT, Hong Kong
- 2014 *Forces at Works*, Jorge B. Vargas Museum and Filipiniana Research Center, Manila Philippines
- 2014 *Susukino Triennale 2014*, Sapporo

2013 *Censorship, The 7th Move on Asia*, Alternative Space LOOP, Seoul, South Korea
2013 *Aichi Triennale 2013*, Aichi Arts Center, Nagoya
2013 *Roppongi Crossing 2013 OUT OF DOUBT*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo
2012 *Double vision: Contemporary Art From Japan*, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow, Russia
2012 *Double vision: Contemporary Art From Japan*, Hifa Museum of Art, Haifa, Israel
2012 *New Gallery × New Artists × New Works*, Ai Kowada Gallery, Tokyo
2012 *RYUGU IS OVER*, Ryugu Bijutsu Ryokan, Yokohama
2012 *ARTSHOW BUSAN 2012 "Similarities and differences" -Asian contemporary media arts from Daisuke 2012 Miyatsu Collection*, BEXCO, Busan, South Korea
2012 *Identity VIII - curated by Shihoko Iida-*, nichido contemporary art, Tokyo
2012 *Daikanyama Art Street*, HILLSIDE FORUM, Tokyo
2012 *But Fresh*, Tokyo Wonder Site, Hongo, Tokyo
2011 *Social Dive*, 3331 Arts Choyoda, Tokyo
2011 *Gallery Artists' show 2011*, Ai Kowada gallery, Tokyo
2011 *Art struction*, 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo
2011 *Re-Modernologio*, Aomori Cotemporary Art Center, Aomori
2011 *Busan biennale Sea Art Festival 2011*, Busan, South Korea
2011 *BONE14 festival fur aktionskunst*, Schlachthaus Theate, Bern Switzerland
2010 *Utopia of exotic*, Pavilion Unicredit, Bucharest, Romania
2009 *The Arts of Togetherness*, Gendai gallery, Toronto, Canada
2007 *Emblem of Men*, M100, Santiago, Chile
2007 *Beauty Farm*, Neue Kunst im Hagenbucher, Heilbronn, Munich, Germany
2006 *Living art from Tokyo and San Francisco*, The Lab, San Francisco, USA
2005 *On going vol.4 -Read Look Look*, BankART1929, Tokyo
2005 *BOY!BOY!BOY!*, Ochanomizu women university, Tokyo
2005 *The Experimenter Project*, Artpool Art Research Center, Budapest, Hungary
2004 *Eyelevel gallery summer performance series 2004*, Eyelevel gallery, Halifax, Canada
2004 *While you were away:Mail Art Show*, 667shotwell, SanFrancisco, USA
2004 *In transit*, M100, Santiago, Chile
2004 *Who are you going to meet?*, BankART1929, Yokohama

Selected Performance, Screening

2015 *Bakawan project*, University of Philippines Film Center, Manila, Philippines
2011 *6th Carnival of e-creativity*, Sattal Estate, Bhimtal, India
2011 *Bone-Festival*, international performance art festival in Bern, Switzerland – Bern, Switzerland
2010 *Communicating with thieves*, Helsinki, Finland
2010 *Tossing socialist in the air in Romania*, Bucharest, Romania
2008 *Make Tama Art University Pikapikapikapika*, Tokyo
2008 *6th DaDao Live Art Festival*, China
2008 *UP-ON First Live Art Festival*, China
2007 *Bucharest Biennale 3 parallel event*, National theater Bucharest, Romania
2007 *Videoscreening II*, Lothringer 13, Munich, Germany
2007 *East-West Study Project 2007 The Art of „Encounter“*, Koln, Dusseldorf, Hanover, Germany
2007 *KargArt Video Festival*, Istanbul, Turkey
2006 *INPORT,International Video-Performance Art Festival*, Tallinn, Estonia
2006 *Action art after Zerojigen generation*, Tokyo
2006 *Performance-Festival SPRINGTIDES*, Salzau Castle, Germany

Artist-in-Residency

2014 Hotspring Project, Taipei, Taiwan

2014 1335MABINI Working in Residency, Manila, Philippines

2011 Contemporary Art Centre Aomori, Aomori, Japan.

2010 HIAP-Helsinki International Artist-in-residency Programme, Helsinki, Finland

2007 TOAH artist-in-residency programme, TOU SCENE centre for contemporary art, Stavanger Norway

2005 VENT Live Art Residency, Oxford, United Kingdom

Guest Lecture

2014 Tamkang University, Taipei

2012 Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow

2012 Japan Foundation, Moscow, Moscow

2012 The Rodchenko Moscow School of Photography and Multimedia, Moscow

2012 Waseda University, Tokyo

2012 Tama Art University, Tokyo

2011 Aomori contemporary art centre

Art Fairs

2015 *Art Fair Philippines 2015*, Manila, Philippines

2014 *ART TAIPEI 2014*, Taipei, Taiwan

2014 *3331 Art Fair Various Collectors' Prizes*, 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan

2009 *ULTRA 2009*, Tokyo, Japan

Award, Scholarship

2014 *Prudential Eye Award 2015, Prudential Contemporary Art*, Singapore (nominated)

2014 *Future Greats 2014*, ArtReview, UK

2014 *Follow Fluxus – After Fluxus 2014*, Nassauischer Kunstverein Wiesbaden, Germany (nominated)

Publication

2010 *The community of ruin* (Artistbook), self-publishing, Tokyo

2013 *Reenacting Publicness - Translating Art Work Descriptions into 23 Different Languages* (Artistbook), MyBook Service, Tokyo, ISBN 978-4-907490-02-7

2015 *Historically Historic Historical History of Communism* (monograph), Art-phil, Tokyo

2015 *Very Idea between 2008-2014* (Artistbook), Gochi press, Tokyo

2015 *Against Name* (Artistbook), self-publishing, Tokyo

Public Collection

Mori Art Museum, Tokyo

Hitotsubashi University, Tokyo