



National Center  
for Art Research

National Center for Art Research International Symposium and Workshop 2023  
Museum and Research: What does it mean to “deepen” art?  
Application Guidelines

The National Center for Art Research (NCAR) is pleased to host the “National Center for Art Research International Symposium and Workshop 2023—Museum and Research: What does it mean to ‘deepen’ art?” to be held at the National Art Center in Tokyo from March 21 to 23, 2024. This program, with a theme that encompasses the global art scene, aims to deepen communication through dialogue and discussion by inviting art experts from inside and outside of Japan. NCAR invites applicants for this program as follows:

### 1. Program backdrop

As a new hub for promoting art in Japan, the National Center for Art Research (NCAR) has the mission of “Connecting, Deepening, and Expanding Art.” Among the Center’s primary activities are constructing an international network of specialists and connecting Japanese art with the world. With its launch, the NCAR takes over the duties of the Bunka-cho [Agency for Cultural Affairs] Contemporary Art Workshop conducted from 2018 to 2022. From this fiscal year onward, NCAR will host the National Center for Art Research International Symposium and Workshop.

### 2. Program details/content

The Center is dedicated to enhancing the overall activities of the country’s museums and does not limit its activities to research in specific fields. An indispensable part of museum activities is research aimed at “deepening art.” Museums around the world offer public access to libraries and archives, and some museums have their own research centers, while other research centers are affiliated with universities and art archives. The NCAR International Symposium and Workshop 2023 will focus on research as an element of museum activities, sharing a wide range of case studies and exploring the potential of sustainably “deepening” art.

The first half of the program—the workshop—will entail a panel discussion on the nature of art research and ways of utilizing research resources featuring diverse vantage points including archivists, artists, and curators. A Q&A session for all audience members will immediately follow the panel discussion.

Following the workshop, the symposium will entail presentations of case studies from art research centers worldwide, and an overview of each institution’s characteristics and unique initiatives will be shared. Furthermore, there will be a discussion on the principles and challenges of research, and how to utilize them broadly in society. The symposium will be open to the public.

A visit to the 8th Yokohama Triennale will wrap up this program. During the visit, there will be opportunities to interact and have discussions with workshop participants from around the world and Triennale hosts, which will facilitate building a lasting professional network.



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- Program: National Center for Art Research International Symposium and Workshop 2023  
Museum and Research: What does it mean to “deepen” art?
- Dates: Thursday, March 21 to Saturday, March 23, 2024
- Venue: 3rd Floor Auditorium, The National Art Center, Tokyo (7-22-2 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo)
- Organized by: National Center for Art Research (NCAR)
- Workshop: Capacity approx. 40 people, including curators and researchers \*undisclosed  
(Open application, partial invitation)
- Symposium: Capacity 150 people. Open to the public (advance registration required)
- Language: Workshop: Japanese and English (simultaneous interpretation)  
Symposium: Japanese and English (simultaneous interpretation), sign language interpretation, Japanese character support (UD Talk)
- Live streaming: None (The program will be recorded and archived at a later date)
- \*Please refer to appendix 1 for program schedule and details

### 3. Eligibility

Curators and/or researchers based in Japan (approximately 10+ people)

### 4. Applicant qualifications

- 1) Curators and/or researchers (with a strong interest in art research and archival)
- 2) Applicants must understand the purpose/objective of this program and be able to attend all events as listed in appendix 1 "Program overview."
- 3) Applicants should be able to communicate in English with program participants and panelists.
- 4) Applicants should be able to proactively participate in discussions that pertain to their area of research and activities.
- 5) Applicants should have a plan and intention to implement what they gained in this program in future research and activities.
- 6) Applicants should be willing to support NCAR's marketing efforts as well as participate in workshops and symposiums in the future, as a follow-up to this program.  
\*The program will be recorded and photographed, which will be used for the purposes of marketing and promotion, and will be archived on NCAR's website (<https://ncar.artmuseums.go.jp/>) at a later date.
- 7) Applicants should not engage in other commercial or for-profit activities during the program.
- 8) Applicants will be asked to submit a report on their activities and research records (free format). Furthermore, applicants will be asked to submit a questionnaire sent by the Bureau (free format).

### 5. To be provided by the program

Participants will be issued the following allowances. If you are unable to receive all or part of these stipends due to rules or regulations of your office, please contact the Bureau.

- 1) Transportation: Based on the travel expense regulations of the Independent Administrative Institution National Art Museum, a round-trip ticket from your place of residence shall be provided.
  - Flights: If your transportation exceeds four hours by train, the Bureau will be able to provide air fare. If you are traveling by air, please provide the ticket stub (boarding pass)



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to the Bureau. Please also note that mileage accrual is prohibited under the government travel policy.

- 2) Accommodation: If your place of residence exceeds 50 km one-way, in accordance with the travel expense regulations of the Independent Administrative Institution National Art Museum, the Bureau will be able to provide hotel accommodation (single room, check-in: March 21; check-out: March 23) near the venue. Depending on your travel itinerary, we may be able to accommodate check-in and check-out before and/or after these dates. Guests are individually responsible for paying any expenses not included in the basic accommodation fee (laundry service, minibar, etc.).
  - We will not be able to provide accommodation if the distance between your place of residence and the venue is within 50 km.
- 3) Per diem: If the distance between your place of residence and the venue exceeds 50 km, in accordance with the travel expense regulations of the Independent Administrative Institution National Art Museum, per diem will be issued.
  - We will not be able to provide per diem if the distance between your place of residence and the venue is within 50 km.
- 4) Meals: We will provide lunch and dinner on March 21 and 22. (Subject to change)
- 5) Transportation and per diem will be paid to you in cash by JTB Corp. Please note all payments are subject to taxation and withholding if paid to you as an individual, in accordance with Japanese tax law.

## 6. Selection schedule

Applications will be accepted until: December 1–18, 2023, 12 noon (JST)

Application will be reviewed: mid-December 2023

Selection results will be announced: Late December 2023 – early January 2024

\*We will notify each applicant with results via email. Please note that inquiries regarding the selection process and results will not be responded to.

## 7. How to apply

Please fill out the below form in either Japanese or English.

<https://forms.office.com/r/d2BDQqu8vB>

\* For any amendments after submission, please email the Bureau.

[workshop2023@bunka-artplatform.jp](mailto:workshop2023@bunka-artplatform.jp)



## 8. Inquiries

Please submit all inquiries on this program before December 18, 2023, 12 noon (JST).

Bureau of International Symposium and Workshop 2023 (AMCN Ltd.)

Points of contact: Doi Miho, Igarashi Mie, Mochizuki Mamiko, Tezen Wakako, Okubo Renna, Koike Maki

Email: [workshop2023@bunka-artplatform.jp](mailto:workshop2023@bunka-artplatform.jp)

## 9. Protection of personal information

The personal information you provide will be used only for the purpose of operating and promoting this program and related businesses and will not be used for other purposes or provided to third parties other than those involved in this operation.



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Appendix 1 (\*Updated on December 14)

Program Schedule

\* Honorifics omitted; Timing and details are subject to change

**Thursday, March 21: Workshop**

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9:30–10am	Registration for participants
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10–10:30am Workshop	<b><u>Introductions</u></b>
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10:30am–1pm Workshop	<b><u>Session 1: Archive Case Studies (tentative title)</u></b> This session will present case studies of art archives overseas and in Japan, compare various initiatives and discuss challenges. Also, there will be a discussion of future prospects not only for preservation of artworks and archival materials, but also for their public exhibition and utilization. The discussion should also cover the manner in which specific artists' works and materials are handled.  © Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Hara Maiko (Curator, Mie Prefectural Art Museum)</li><li>- Daniel Muzyczuk (Head of Modern Art Department, Muzeum Sztuki)</li><li>- Egami Yuka (Curator, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art)</li></ul> © Moderator: Mitsuda Yuri (Director, Tama Art University Art Archive Center)
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1–2pm	Lunch
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2–4:30pm Workshop	<b><u>Session 2: Artist Session (tentative title)</u></b> This session will present case studies of artists who conduct research of international scope and create art based on resources obtained during the research process. Specifically, there will be a discussion of how artists approach and conduct research and fieldwork, and how they transform information and engagement with places and people into works or projects. Based on this, the discussion will extend to research challenges, ways of utilizing research resources to make art, and prospects for the future.  © Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kyunchome (Homma Eri, Nabuchi) (Artists)</li><li>- Takayama Akira (Theater Director / Artist)</li><li>- Fujii Hikaru (Artist)</li><li>- Cho Jieun (Artist)</li></ul> © Moderator: Odate Natsuko (Yoshiko Isshiki Office / Director, Arts Commons Tokyo)
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4:30–5pm	Break
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5–7:30pm  
Workshop

**Session 3: Curatorial Session (tentative title)**

This session will present research required for participation in international exhibitions such as biennials from a curator's perspective (including on-site inspections, determination of concepts, research on artists, exhibition structure, commentary, and writing). Key points and challenges pertaining to deepening research will be discussed.

© Panelists:

- Su Wei (Curator/Art writer)
- Abhijan Toto (Curator/Artist/Writer)
- Marie Hélène Pereira (Curator/Director, RAW Material Company)

© Moderator: Hallie Ayres (e-flux / Curator, Shanghai Biennale 2023)

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7:45pm–

Dinner

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**Friday, March 22: Workshop & Symposium**

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10am–  
12:30pm  
Workshop

**Session 4: Research Activities (tentative title)**

This session will entail discussion, from diverse vantage points such as those universities and other research institutions, museums, artists, and curators, of the nature of art research and ways of utilizing research resources. There will also be discussion of approaches to ensuring that not only art specialists, but also diverse audiences can take interest in, gain access to, and utilize research resources.

© Panelists:

- Justin Jesty (Associate Professor, University of Washington)
- Kikuchi Yuko (Head of Academic Programmes, Victoria and Albert Museum)
- Ma Jung-Yeon (Associate Professor, Kansai University / Guest Curator, National Museum of Art, Osaka)
- Takeuchi Kota (Artist)

© Moderator: Kataoka Mami (Director, NCAR / Director, Mori Art Museum)

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12:30–1:15pm

Lunch

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1:15–4:15pm  
Workshop

**Wrap-up Session**

Post-workshop wrap-up session with participants.

© Moderator: Kataoka Mami (Director, NCAR / Director, Mori Art Museum)

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4:15–5:30pm

**Museum Visit: The National Art Center, Tokyo**

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5:30–8pm  
Symposium

**NCAR International Symposium 2023:**

**Museum and Research: What does it mean to “deepen” art?**

Presentation of case studies from art research centers worldwide, and overview of each institution’s characteristics and unique initiatives. Discussion of challenges faced by each institution and perspectives on sustainable operation (including institutions’ sources of funding and approaches to personnel recruitment). Further discussion of approaches to making research resources publicly available and utilizing them broadly on an international scale.

© Panelists:

- Mari Carmen Ramírez (Curator, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston)
- Daehyung Lee (Founder & Director, Hzone)
- Özge Ersoy (Senior Curator, Asia Art Archive)
- Mary E. Miller (Director, Getty Research Institute)
- Kawaguchi Masako (Leader, Research Resources Group, National Center for Art Research)

© Moderator: Kataoka Mami (Director, NCAR / Director, Mori Art Museum)

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8:15pm–

Dinner

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**Saturday, March 23: Visit the 8th Yokohama Triennale**

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9:15–10am

Depart Roppongi via bus

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10am–6pm

**Visit Yokohama Triennale**

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6pm–

Dinner (optional)

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Evening

Dismissal after dinner

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