



National Center for
Art Research, Japan

Independent Administrative Institution National Museum of Art
National Center for Art Research, Japan

PRESS RELEASE

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**JUMP: Global Collaboration Program for
Emerging Artists and Curators from Japan**
Fostering the capacity to develop an international presence
Three artist/curator teams (seven individuals) selected

Jump

アーティスト + キュレーター国際協働プログラム
Global Collaboration Program for
Emerging Artists and Curators from Japan



Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Arts & Culture Revitalization Fund
(Creator Support Program), Japan Arts Council

The National Center for Art Research, Japan (abbreviation: NCAR; director: Kataoka Mami) is implementing JUMP: Global Collaboration Program for Emerging Artists and Curators from Japan, a program that aims to foster the capacity of Japanese artists and curators to develop an international presence. The three artist/curator teams selected in April 2025—seven individuals in total—will collaborate with overseas museums to create and exhibit works in Lisbon, Los Angeles, and Sydney by March 2027.

The curators were chosen first through an open call for applications, after which the selected curators conferred with the overseas art museums to select the artists. The participants will create artworks based on research conducted while developing their international experience and networks. NCAR will provide comprehensive support, including arranging opportunities for mentoring by experts, networking with others involved in contemporary art, and visits for familiarization with overseas art scenes.

Details and developments pertaining to the program will be published on the JUMP website (<https://jump-ncar.artmuseums.go.jp>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/jump.ncar/>) on an ongoing basis.

Lisbon CAM - Centro de Arte Moderna Gulbenkian

Aoyagi Natsumi (Artist) + **Mitome Sayaka** (Curator, Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media)

Los Angeles The Museum of Contemporary Art

MES (Arai Takeru, Tanikawa Kanae) (Artist) + **Tsukamoto Mari** (Curator, The Museum of Art, Kochi)

Sydney The Art Gallery of New South Wales

Endo Kaori (Artist) + **Arai Yasuhiro** (Chief Curator, Shiga Museum of Art)

■ Museums and Artists & Curators

Museum / Lisbon (Portugal)

CAM - Centro de Arte Moderna Gulbenkian

<https://gulbenkian.pt/cam/en/>

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Photo by Shintaro Wada

Aoyagi Natsumi

Born in 1990 in Tokyo. A contemporary artist working with moving image media, Aoyagi develops project-based works grounded in fieldwork and research. Recent activities and developments include holding the solo exhibition *Logbook of a Sea Goddess* (2022, Towada Art Center), being nominated for the 7th edition of *Women to Watch* at the National Museum of Women in the Arts Japan (NMWA Japan) (2022), and participating in *ICC Annual 2024: Faraway, so close* (2024, NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC]). Her poetry collection *Done Being Nurtured* (2022, thoasa) was awarded the 28th Nakahara Chuya Prize. She is also the director of the art space and bookstore honkbooks.



Photo by Shingo Kanagawa

Mitome Sayaka

Curator, Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

Born in Tokyo, Mitome served as curator of Towada Art Center from 2016 to 2023 before assuming her current position. Her research is focused on the relationship between classification and division in sexuality and gender as shaped by androcentrism and modern values. In terms of methodology, she is interested in crossovers between curation and education, and is exploring the role of art museums operating beyond the realm of privilege, focusing on provincial art museums and arts-related facilities. Exhibitions that she has curated include *Nawa Kohei: Generative Interface* (2022), *Momose Aya: Interpreter* (2022-2023), and *Liu Jianhua: Fluid Voids* (2023).

Museum / Los Angeles (United States of America)

The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles

<https://www.moca.org/>

The Geffen Contemporary at MOCA,
courtesy of The Museum of Contemporary
Art, Los Angeles, photo by Elon Schoenholz



Photo by Ayaka Endo

MES

Tokyo-based artist duo formed in 2015 by Tanikawa Kanae and Arai Takeru. À la dérive between club culture and contemporary art, they stage performances and create installations that sometimes quietly, sometimes intensely illuminate the darkness of the world through light and heat. Recent solo exhibitions include *P-L/R-A/E-Y* (2024) and *DISTANCE OF RESISTANCE* (2021). Presentations in group shows include *DA-I* at MYAF 2024 (SSS: *Super Spectrum Specification*) and *SA-I* at Reborn Art Festival 2021-22 Summer. Employing collaborative, intersectional approaches, their practice involves constant experimentation and exploration in stage directing, performing, and organizing, as can be seen in the *REVOLIC—Revolution Holic* party they hosted.



Photo by Kazuhito Tanaka

Tsukamoto Mari

Curator, The Museum of Art, Kochi

Born in Osaka, Tsukamoto has worked as a curator at the museum since 2016. In her practice of curation, she prioritizes dialogue with artists and endeavors to make the most of regional and other characteristics of exhibition venues. At the Museum of Art, Kochi, she launched ARTIST FOCUS in 2020 as a solo exhibition series featuring artists with ties to Kochi (herself curating exhibitions #1 Takezaki Kazuyuki, #2 Hirakawa Kota, and #4 Hokimoto Sora), and in 2022 also curated the exhibition *Sawako Goda: A Retrospective*. Projects she has curated in other venues include Echigo-Tsumari MonET Exhibition Series Vol.3 *Kazuyuki Takezaki + Yu Nishimura – The Sequel: Twin Boat Songs – Verdigris Vessel* (2023, Museum on Echigo-Tsumari, MonET, Niigata) and *Yuki Harada solo exhibition: Go stay go pakiki all da time! Eh... no give up 'til you pau!* (2023, Museum of Japanese Emigration to Hawaii, Yamaguchi).

Museum / Sydney (Australia)

The Art Gallery of New South Wales

<https://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/>

Aerial view of the Art Gallery of New South Wales'
Naala Badu building, 2023, photo © Iwan Baan



Endo Kaori

Graduated from Okinawa Prefectural University of Arts in 2013, majoring in crafts with a specialization in dyeing, and from Shimura Fukumi's Ars Shimura in 2016. Drawing on the crafts and history of Okinawa, Tohoku, and other parts of Japan, and exhibiting internationally, Endo explores social and political relationships entwined in the lives of the people of each locality. Using mainly craft techniques, she endeavors to expand the concept of craft, and her works encompass a diversity of forms, including rags, parachutes, glass, ceramics, and even boats complete with masts and sails. In recent years, she has sought to probe the unconscious by creating works inspired by her dreams. Recent major exhibitions include Aichi Triennale 2022 (2022, Toyoshima Memorial Museum, Ichinomiya), *Osaka Directory 3: Kaori Endo Gravity and Rainbow – About Minami-Hateruma Island* (2023, Nakanoshima Museum of Art, Osaka), and *Kaori Endo – Eye and Sphere: Form in Art – Seeing with Hands* (2023, Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art).



Arai Yasuhiro

Chief Curator, Shiga Museum of Art

Born in Fukuoka Prefecture and raised in Tokyo, Arai assumed his current position after working from 2011 to 2015 as an assistant in the Department of Art Studies, Tama Art University. While working closely with artists in their creative process, Arai endeavors as a curator to enhance viewer experience by prioritizing the relationship between the works on display and the exhibition space. Major exhibitions that he has curated include Shiga Art Spot Project Vol.1-3 (2018-2020), *Soft Territory – Lights of Connection* (2021, commemorating reopening of the Shiga Museum of Art), and *Rinko Kawauchi: M/E – On this sphere Endlessly interlinking*.

Jump

The “JUMP” in the program title expresses the hope that it will help participating artists and curators to transcend borders and cultural differences, build global connections, and find their way in an international context.



Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Arts & Culture Revitalization Fund (Creator Support Program), Japan Arts Council

Organized by: Independent Administrative Institution National Museum of Art, National Center for Art Research, Japan (NCAR)

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◆About the National Center for Art Research, Japan (<https://ncar.artmuseums.go.jp/en/>)

Under the mission of “connecting, deepening, and expanding art,” NCAR will continue to contribute to the activation and enhancement of museum activities in Japan. Our efforts include collecting and disseminating information both domestically and internationally, promoting the utilization of collection, building person-to-person networks, expanding learning opportunities, and supporting artists.

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