Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

YCAM Event Schedule April 2009 - March 2010

Technology providing means of self-expression and manifestation in the information society: Welcome to a new dimension of "Art, Media and Physical Expression" that demonstrates the genuine value of media art unique to YCAM.







The Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] has been exploring the possibilities of artistic work using media technology as a hub for culture and information.

A model case of a new type of art center dedicated to the promotion of information art since its opening in November 2003, YCAM is not only introducing particularly outstanding existing works, but also inviting creators to produce and present original works in residence at the Center.

In its sixth year, YCAM will continue its interdisciplinary challenge while specializing at once in art, performing arts and educational programs, in order to open up new horizons in the mixture of "Art, Media and Physical Expression" that the facility has made the basic theme of its operation.

We will keep pursuing new possibilities of media art through displays and installations that make use of YCAM's entire exhibition space, including commissioned works that subsequently travel around the globe, and challenge the world of radical verbal expression through the creation of up-to-date theatre pieces together with artists from different fields. By focusing on media technology and its increasingly close link to everyday life, we aim to work out new ideas and methods of body movement and self-expression, and continue to function as a place that shares new artistic values by creating connections between people, regions, and the world.

Schedule 2009

2009 April 29	Live Concert "ATAK NIGHT 4"
May 24 - August 31	Exhibition Steve Paxton "Phantom Exhibition" "Body as InterImage"
June 6	Lecture "A playwright/director shares his thoughts" Lecturer: Masataka Matsuda Related event: Special lecture as part of Yamaguchi University's curriculum
June 27	Dance Performance Yoko Kemumaki dance session "ALL LOVES YOU!" Related event: Dance workshop "How unrestricted a thing dance really is!"
August	Summer holiday workshop "Keitai Spy Workshop"
August 29 - 31	Theatre Performance/Work-in-residence Marebito-no-Kai "PARK CITY" (new piece) Related event: "YCAM Back Stage Tour 2009"
September - December	Exhibition Semitra New installation piece
September 26	Theatre Performance "The Traveling Companion" Directed by Teresa Ludovico
November 14	Dance Performance Grupo de Rua "H3"
December 20	Theatre performance "On the Planet" (working title) Directed by Hatsumi Abe
2010 January - February	Search engine workshop "Search'n Search" (working title)
March 20, 21	Theatre workshop Workshop for aspiring expert theatre viewers
March - May	Exhibition/Work-in-residence Seiko Mikami New installation piece + "gravicells – gravity and resistance" revised edition

INQUIRY



^{*}Latest information is frequently updated on the YCAM website

^{*}Event details will be announced in a separate press release few months prior to each events.



"ATAK NIGHT 4" (2009)

April 29 (Wed), 2009 19:30 Start

Artists: Keiichiro Shibuya [ATAK], Ryoji Ikeda, Yasunao Tone, evala [ATAK, port]

Venue: Studio A

Admission: Advanced tickets ¥2,000 / "any" members and special discounts ¥1,700

Tickets at the door ¥2,500

A group of renowned artists stop over at YCAM to challenge the Center's top-notch sound and video facilities.

This is the seventh installment of "sound tectonics," a series of concerts of sound art created using media technology, designed to push the limits of the world-class sound and video technical facilities of YCAM. Artists this time are Keiichiro Shibuya, who returns to Yamaguchi after touring Europe with the "ATAK NIGHT 4," as well as New York-based legendary sound artist Yasunao Tone, who makes his YCAM debut. Completing the lineup are renowned electronic composer Ryoji Ikeda and artist evala. Look forward to a festival of sharp-pointed audio-visual expression as it is possible only in the high-quality sound environment of YCAM.

Organizer: ATAK

Exhibition

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Photo: Contredanse (Florence Corin and Baptiste Andrie

Steve Paxton "Phantom Exhibition"

May 24 (Sun) - August 31 (Mon), 2009 10:00-19:00

Venue: Studio B, Gallery 2F, Foyer

Admission Free

A leading figure in American post-modern dance, dancer/choreographer Steve Paxton is visiting Japan for the first time in 34 years.

Steve Paxton has been integrating Aikido, Yoga, Vipassana meditation, and other Asian body techniques into dance. This exhibition introduces his understanding of the body, and his works based on that. At YCAM, Steve Paxton presents a new video installation, centered around which a variety of events including demonstrations by the artist himself, and lectures with invited experts, take place as a comprehensive introduction to Paxton's body philosophy. Through the experience of a video installation and other events explaining Paxton's methods and original artistic work, which keep influencing the current dance scene, this exhibition introduces Paxton's work from the contexts of social and historical circumstances in the 1960s, and looks at the present form of the new physical and spatial qualities discovered through media-based artistic expression.

- Work "Phantom Exhibition" (New video installation)
 Steve Paxton, Florence Corin + Baptiste Andrien (Contredanse)
- Dance Demonstration May 24 (Sun) 13:00-14:30 Performance: Steve Paxton
- Lecture + Talk May 24 (Sun) 15:00-17:00 Guest: Steve Paxton, Fujiko Nakaya

Lecturer/moderator: Kikuko Toyama (Professor for Aesthetics at Saitama University)

- Gallery Tour Run on selected days during term
- Film and Document Displays

Curator: Kazunao Abe (YCAM) Design direction: Shun Kawakami (artless) Co-organizer: DANCE DOCUMENTS JAPAN COMMITTEE (DDJC)

Co-sponsor: Japan-United States Friendship Commission, Asian Cultural Council, The Saison Foundation

Exhibition

newClear + Alessio Silvestrin "skinslides"

"Body as Interimage"

April 25 (Sat) - August 10 (Mon), 2009 10:00-20:00 Venue: Gallery 2F, Foyer Admission Free

At the occasion of the Steve Paxton exhibition, YCAM hosts a special exhibition introducing the works of three up-and-coming artists as a further step in the Center's exploration of "art, media and physical expression." The "own body" and the "image of the body" have been rediscovered and exhaustively featured in media-based works of art. While focusing on the double quality of the body - the "Body as Interimage" - the event explores the possibilities and relationships between media technology and the human body today.

■Works in the exhibition

newClear + Alessio Silvestrin "skinslides" (new installation work) [commissioned by YCAM] Shinichi Takashima "Pascal pass scale" (new installation work)

Screening

Saburo Teshigawara "Friction of Time - perspective Study vol.2" (2008)

Lecture



Lecturer: Masataka Matsuda (playwright/director, Marebito-no-Kai) photo: Yujiro Sagami

June 6 (Sat), 2009 14:00 -16:00

Lecturer: Masataka Matsuda (playwright/director, Marebito-no-Kai) Venue: Studio A

Taget group: High School Student and older Capacity: 50 persons

Admission Free

Lecture with Masataka Matsuda (Marebito-no-Kai), who will unveil his new work created in residence at YCAM in 2009

Playwright/director Masataka Matsuda (Marebito-no-Kai), a leading figure in the Japanese theatre scene from the '90s up to the present, and winner of multiple theatre prizes including the annual Kunio Kishida Play Award (Kishida Kunio Gikyoku-shô), holds a lecture prior to his residency at YCAM. While shedding light on Marebito-no-Kai's unique theatrical approach by discussing "whom the voices and vocabularies of actors belong to," and "how they are expressed on stage," Matsuda will talk about the background and appeal of his newest creation, which will be officially unveiled at YCAM.

Support: the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2009 Co-sponsor: Japan Foundation for Regional Art-Activities (JAFRA), The Asahi Beer Arts Foundation

Related event: May 7 (Thu) Special lecture as part of Yamaguchi University's curriculum

Lecturer: Masataka Matsuda (Marebito-no-Kai)

This special lecture for students of Yamaguchi University is realized in cooperation with the university. It will be an opportunity to explore the frontline of theatre, while learning about currents and pieces of contemporary drama and other forms of physical expression.

Dance Performance

Yoko Kemumaki dance session "ALL LOVES YOU!"

June 27 (Sat), 2009 18:00 Open/Start

Performed and directed by Yoko Kemumaki (Yoko Higashino)

DJ/Live: EY∃ (BOREDOMS/V∞REDOMS), JUZU a.k.a. MOOCHY (NXS/CROSSPOINT),

OORUTAICHI, KAJIWARA TOSHIO (DJ BING), HARUCHIKA (people)

VJ: rokapenis Decoration: OLEO Lighting: YAMACHANG

Venue: Studio A

Admission: Standing / Tickets are available on May 9

Advanced tickets ¥2,300 / "any" members and special discounts ¥1,800

Tickets at the door ¥2,800



Yoko Higashino is a dancer/choreographer who usually takes charge of everything from direction to scenic art and costumes, to charge each of her pieces with a unique world-view. Together with world renowned DJs and musicians, this time she presents a special club event style performance under the alias of Yoko Kemumaki. Look forward to a stage spectacle with artists from various fields beyond the realm of dance, aiming to carve out fascinating new aspects of physical expression.

Related event: June 20(Sat)13:00-18:00 / June 21(Sun), 2009 13:00-17:00

Dance workshop "How unrestricted a thing dance really is!"

Lecturer: Yoko Higashino Venue: Studio A Target group: Elementary students and older

Capacity: 20 persons Fee: ¥3,000 / Students ¥2,500 (Fees include tickets for the performance)

This workshop with Yoko Higashino, an artist who has been showing performance of various styles at theatres, clubs and other types of venues, offers basic dance lessons, and a peek into the world of improvised performance. Once the participants are made aware of their bodies' characteristic features and senses, they will learn to work out their own individual dance styles in relation with their (human, acoustic and spatial) environment.

Support: the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2009 Sponsorship: Toyota Motor Corporation

Summer holiday workshop

"Keitai Spy Workshop"



"Keitai Spy Workshop" (2005)

August 13 (Thu)-15 (Sat), 17 (Mon), 19 (Wed)-22 (Sat), 24 (Mon), 26 (Wed), 27 (Thu), 2009 13:00-17:00 (One-day program)

Lecturer: YCAM education team Venue: Workshop Room, Foyer and other

Target group: Elementary student (4th grade) and older

Capacity: 15 persons each time (The workshop registration begins July 1) Fee: ¥500

Play tag and encounter the rules and manners of media society

"Keitai Spy Workshop," one of the most popular of all original workshops held at YCAM so far, returns for a ten-day event this summer. A game of tag played using cell phones' built-in cameras, including the rulemaking process, provides hints at the real life rules and manners in media society. Their continuous experience of playing, rulemaking and discussing will introduce the participants to ways of utilizing new media.

Theater Performance/Work-in-residence

Marebito-no-Kai "PARK CITY" (new piece)



Marebito-no-Kai "Cryptograph" (2007/MIAMI THEATER, Cairo, Egypt)



Keiko Sasaoka "PARK CITY" (2007)

August 28 (Fri) 19:00, 29 (Sat) 14:00 /19:00, 30 (Sun) 14:00, 2009

Written and directed by Masataka Matsuda, Photography by Keiko Sasaoka

Venue: Studio A

Admisiion: Free seating / Tickets available on July 11

Advanced tickets ¥3,000 / "any" members and special discounts ¥2,500 / Under 25 ¥2,000

Tickets at the door ¥3.300

YCAM Debut: Presentation of the first new theatre piece created in residence

Playwright/director Masataka Matsuda and his company Marebito-no-Kai were invited for an artist residency at YCAM in the performing arts division in 2009. The piece he will create in collaboration with photographer Keiko Sasaoka marks at once YCAM's first ever attempt to produce and unveil a new theatre performance at the Center. It will be interesting to witness what kind of artistic expression will emerge from the combination of live body movement on stage, and photography and film as recording media. Look forward to a unique performance interweaving radical verbal expression and photography.

Technical support: YCAM InterLab

Organizer: Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion, Biwako Hall Foundation, Marebito-no-Kai, photographers'gallery

"YCAM Back Stage Tour 2009"

August 16 (Sun), 23 (Sun) 14:00-15:00

Lecturer: Masataka Matsuda (playwright/director, Marebito-no-Kai) Venue: Studio A

Target group: Elementary students and older

Capacity: 30 persons each time (The workshop registration begins July 1) Admision Free

"YCAM Work-in-residence" is a program in which internationally operating artists stay at YCAM, and realize original works together with the "InterLab" expert production team. Held again this year is the very popular "backstage tour" event that allows visitors to observe the creation process. This time it's the making of a new piece by theatre company Marebito-no-Kai that participants can witness, while at once learning about the mechanisms of sound and lighting as parts of a theatrical production.

Support: the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2009

Co-sponsor: Japan Foundation for Regional Art-Activities (JAFRA), The Asahi Beer Arts Foundation, The Saison Foundation Sponsorship: AVOX

Exhibition

The Velvet Underground was American rock band first and from 15 to 1976 and 1978. It is bet nown member as the first and manager as the first and manager as the first and the first and

Semitra "no flash photography allowed." (2008)

Semitra New installation piece

September - December 2009 10:00-19:00 Venue: Studio B, Foyer and other Admission free

Boundary-pushing art/design collective Semitransparent Design unveil a new work

Semitransparent Design is a group of creators who have been attracting attention with works of art and design made using networking, programming, and other cutting-edge technology since 2003. Semitra, a net art collective that emerged as a sprinter group of Semitransparent Design, unveil at YCAM a revised version of their piece "no flash photography allowed.", which was exhibited at NTT InterCommunication Center [ICC] in 2008, along with a new interactive hands-on installation that explores the diverse possibilities of media.

*Also planned is a talk session with the artists, as well as a guided gallery tour and other related events.

Curator: Kazunao Abe (YCAM) Technical support: YCAM InterLab

Theatre Performance



Teresa Ludovico (Playwright /Director) photo: Lami

"The Traveling Companion"

September 26 (Sat), 2009 19:00 Start

Written and directed by Teresa Ludovico, Script by Makoto Sato, Scenery by Luca Ruzza

Cast: Keitoku Takada, KONTA, Tatsuya Kusuhara, Aki Tsujita, Keisuke Aigasa

Venue: Studio A

Admission: Free seating / Tickets available on July 25

Advanced tickets $\pm 2,700$ / "any" members and special discounts $\pm 2,500$ High school students and under $\pm 1,200$ / Tickets at the door $\pm 3,000$

A very special, colorfully dream-like story for Japanese children

Italian stage director Teresa Ludovico creates highly ingenious pieces with simple stage sets and rich colors. Her newest production tells the story of a boy who falls in love with a girl that appears in his dreams, and embarks on a journey with the aim to find her. The piece was made in collaboration with a variety of performers, including actors, dancers and musicians. The boy in his fantastic adventure symbolizes human love, and inspires our courage to face life.

Co-organizer: NPO Kodomo Station Yamaguchi

Produced by: ZA-KOENJI/Creative Theater Network

Co-produced with: ZA-KOENJI, The OWL SPOT, KOIDEGO CULTURAL HALL, Morioka Foundation for Cultural Activity,

BIRD Theatre Company TOTTORI

Support: the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2009

Dance Performance



(C)Bruno Beltrão

Grupo de Rua "H3"

November 14 (Sat), 2009 19:00 Start

Choreographed and directed by Bruno Beltrão

Venue: Studio A

Admission: Free seating / Tickets available on October 10

Advanced tickets ¥2,300 / "any" members and special discounts ¥1,800 / Under 25 ¥1,500

Tickets at the door ¥2,800

A mix of hip hop and contemporary dance to freshen up the dance world

Bruno Beltrão, a young Brazilian choreographer who keeps attracting public attention with performances by street dancers mixing elements of hip hop and contemporary dance, presents his newest work at YCAM. A dance piece swinging back and forth between the street and the theatre stage, "H3" freshens up the contemporary dance scene by focusing on hip hop as a unique socio-cultural phenomenon that has been affecting the realms of dance, music, art and fashion.

Theater Performance

"On the Planet" (working title)



Hatsumi Abe (Director)

December 20 (Sun), 2009 14:00 Start

Text: Masataka Matsuda (Marebito-no-Kai) Director: Hatsumi Abe

Dramaturge: Kaku Nagashima

Venue: Studio A

Admisiion: Free seating / Tickets available on November 8

Advanced tickets ¥2,300 / "any" members and special discounts ¥1,800 / Under 25 ¥1,500

Tickets at the door ¥2,800

Observing mankind in the present age from a hypothetical future world

Inspired by completely artificial confined spaces that exist in reality, this piece dealing with such actual environmental issues as global warming, atmospheric and radioactive pollution depicts a future scenario of the world based on a "global environment, man, nature and civilization" theme. Different from the usual method, where a director would adapt a finished script written by a playwright for the stage, this piece is the result of a new type of collaboration, created by the director together with his staff and cast from the playwright's incomplete, fragmentary texts.

Related event: "On the Planet" Pre-event December 5 (Sat) Venue: Foyer Admission free

Prior to the performance, stage director Hatsumi Abe and other guests will reveal some details about the piece in a talk event.

Support: the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2009

Search engine workshop

"Search'n Search" (working title)

January - February, 2010 (One-day program / 6 days)

Lecturer: Motoi Ishibashi, Daito Manabe, YCAM education team Venue: Workshop room

Target group: Elementary (4th grade) - high school students

Capacity: 20 persons each time (The workshop registration begins mid-December 2009)

Fee: ¥500

How "Googling" reveals the connection between society and media

This workshop aims to shed light on the mechanisms and functions of online search engines – tools we have come to use frequently since the popularization of the Internet. This is not a course that teaches participants methods of searching the Internet more effectively, but that focuses by way of card games on the invisible mechanisms at work in search engines. The ultimate goal is to "search" for the connection between society and media.

Theatre workshop



Theater workshop in 2007

Workshop for aspiring expert theatre viewers

March 20 (Sat), 21(Sun), 2010 (two-day program)

Lecturer: Hatsumi Abe (Director), Kiyomi Tanigawa (Actor)

Target group: High school studens and older

Capacity: 20 persons (The workshop registration begins mid-December 2009)

Fee: ¥2,500 / Under 25 ¥1,000

Workshop for aspiring expert theatre viewers

This workshop teaches participants about "subjects" and "expression" in theatre, with the aim to hone expert viewing skills. By interpreting classical texts with a contemporary mindset, participants will discuss the issue of "subjects" in theatre, and investigate the characteristics of the body, text, imagery, and other media used in theatre productions, in order to find our more about means of "expression." The idea is to help attendants understand the literary and artistic qualities of a play, with a lecture based on stock footage, as well as practical exercise in physical expression. As participants will do some basic acting in order to improve their viewing rather than acting skills, acting experience is not necessary.

Support: the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2009

Exhibition/Work-in-residence



Seiko Mikami + Sota Ichikawa "gravicells - gravity and resistance" (2004) [Commissioned by YCAM]

Seiko Mikami New installation piece + "gravicells – gravity and resistance" revised edition

March - May 2010

Venue: Foyer, Studio A, Studio B and other

Seiko Mikami's large-scale exhibition focusing on the "human body in the information war"

This is the first comprehensive exhibition in Asia introducing the work of Seiko Mikami, an artist operating on the forefront of the international media art scene, who has been showing several large-scale installations dealing with the human body and the information war since the 1980s. Making use of YCAM's entire exhibition space, the event includes among others a brand new piece developed with the YCAM InterLab, and a revised edition of the much talked-about "gravicells – gravity and resistance," which was unveiled at YCAM in 2004, and then performed at various locations in Japan and abroad. The exhibition is held as part of YCAM's full-fledged residency program in the art section in 2009.

*Also planned is a talk session with the artists, as well as a guided gallery tour and other related events.

Curator: Kazunao Abe (YCAM) Technical support: YCAM InterLab Co-sponsor: The Asahi Simbun Foundation



"orchestras" ("OTOMO YOSHIHIDE/ENSEMBLES")



Strange Kinoko Dance Company x plaplax "The Rainy Table"

About YCAM "Work-in-residence"

"Work-in-residence" is a program planned and produced by YCAM, inviting artists to stay at the Center for several weeks, and create new works of fine or performing art in residence. Approximately 40 original "works-in-residence" have been produced and exhibited at YCAM so far. Such effort to promote works of art in and outside Japan in addition to introducing outstanding existing works, is one characteristic feature of YCAM, next to the facility's own exhibition/presentation space and production section ("InterLab") made up of specialized technicians.

Last year, YCAM celebrated its fifth anniversary with a large-scale artist residency project. The "OTOMO YOSHIHIDE / ENSEMBLES" exhibition consisted of five installations, realized with a total of about 400 creative people ranging from artists to participants from the general public. In the performing arts division, Strange Kinoko Dance and plaplax presented their new piece "The Rainy Table." Following the production and performance in residence at YCAM, the piece was staged to great success also in Tokyo.

YCAM original productions on tour

In addition to introducing outstanding existing works, YCAM implements residency programs for the production and presentation of original works. Past collaborations between a variety of artists and the YCAM InterLab production section have resulted in internationally acclaimed works that have been exhibited and performed in all parts of the world.

*Information regarding traveling exhibitions and performances is frequently updated on the YCAM website.



doubleNegatives Architecture "Corpora in Si(gh)te" (2007)

2008

Architectural projects

doubleNegatives Architecture "Corpora in Si(gh)te" (2007)

September 14 - November 23, 2008

11th Venice Architectural Biennale, Hungarian Pavilion (Venice, Italy)

January 26 - March 8, 2009

Transmediale 09 "DEEP NORTH," Collegium Hungaricum Berlin (Berlin, Germany)

Dance perfomance

Tsuyoshi Shirai + Takao Kawaguchi + Takayuki Fujimoto "true / 本当のこと" (2007)

July 24-26, 2008 Esplanade Theatre Studio (Singapore) November 13-15, 2008 Japan Society (New York, USA)

2009

Dance perfomance

Tsuyoshi Shirai + Takao Kawaguchi + Takayuki Fujimoto "true / 本当のこと" (2007)

August 6-9, 2009 Setagaya Public Theatre / Theatre Tram (Tokyo, Japan)

September 25 - October 17, 2009 Europe tour

Stadsschouwburg Amsterdam (Amsterdam, Netherland)

Tanzhaus NRW Dusseldorf (Frankfurt, Germany)

Maison de la Culture du Japon a Paris (Paris, France)

End of October - November, 2009 Brazil tour

*Please check the website's "YCAM ACTIVITIES" section for more information on each work.

The site is regularly updated with introductions of artworks, their respective creators, and technologies used. http://archive.ycam.jp/



Tsuyoshi Shirai + Takao Kawaguchi + Takayuki Fujimoto "true / 本当のこと" (2007)

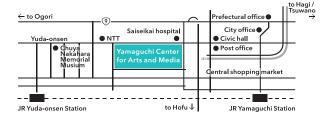
ロ 情 報 芸 術 セン ター Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media

Hours: 10:00-22:00

Closed: Tuesday (If Tuesday is a holiday, then Wednesday),

Winter holiday season (December 29-January 3)

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- ·1 hour 30 minutes from Haneda Airport (Tokyo) to Yamaguchi Ube Airport
- ·30 minutes from Yamaguchi Ube Airport to Shin-Yamaguchi station by shuttle bus

by Shinkansen Line (train) from Tokyo to Shin-Yamaguchi; 4 hours 28 minutes

- ·from Shin-Osaka to Shin-Yamaguchi; 1 hours 57 minutes
- ·from Hiroshima to Shin-Yamaguchi; 33 minutes ·from Hakata to Shin-Yamaguchi; 37 minutes

from Shin-Yamaguchi station to YCAM:

· hy Taxi

about 30 minutes (about ¥3,000)

- by JR Yamaguchi line;
 18 minutes to Yuda Onsen station and 20 minutes walk
- 20 minutes to Yamaguchi station and 20 minutes walk or 5 minutes by taxi by JR Yamaguchi line (Yamaguchi liner);
- 10 minutes to Yuda Onsen station and 20 minutes walk
- 13 minutes to Yamaguchi station and 20 minutes walk or 5 minutes by taxi