

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] long-term exhibition series

scopic measure #13

Ryoichi Kurokawa "rheo: 5 horizons"

September 17 (Sat) - November 13 (Sun) , 2011 10:00 - 19:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio B Admission Free

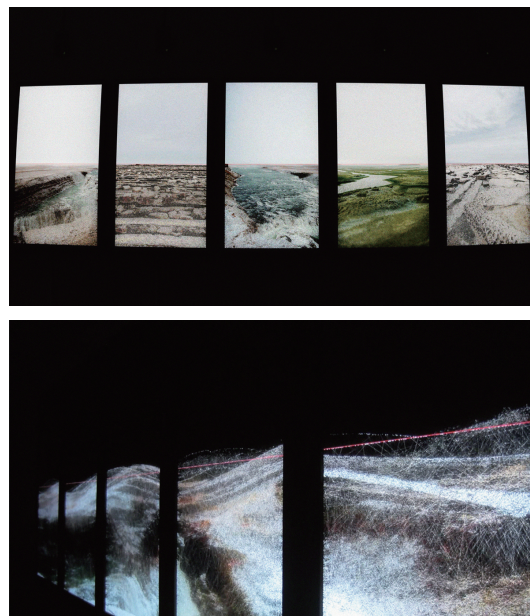
Ryoichi Kurokawa - an artist pursuing the sophisticated art of "temporal sculpting" with sound and imagery

In volume 13 of the ongoing *scopic measure* series introducing works and projects by up-and-coming artists at the Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Berlin-based video/sound artist Ryoichi Kurokawa presents his piece *rheo: 5 horizons*. In this installation, Kurokawa uses a 5-channel sound system and five large monitors to create a spatial/temporal sculpture. His elaborate technique and delicate artistic expression are highly regarded both in Japan and abroad ^(*). The scenery, merging together sound and imagery in a flowing transformation, inspires a new sensory experience of watching sound and hearing images.

In connection with this exhibition, YCAM also introduces a number of related works, and hosts a live music event with Kurokawa and other artists. Their various sophisticated performances will highlight the diverse potential of sound-based expression.

*1) Winner of a Golden Nica in the digital music category of one of the world's largest media art festivals, Ars Electronica, in 2010, and nominated by the review committee in the art category (installation) at the 14th Japan Media Arts Festival.

[In the *sound tectonics #10* live concert that takes place concurrently with *scopic measure*, Kurokawa performs his piece *Rheo* (2009), which served as a foundation for *rheo: 5 horizons*. The event marks at once the first ever combined staging of both installation and performance in Japan.]



黒川良一「rheo: 5 horizons」(2010) ©Ryoichi Kurokawa

Concurrent Event

Live Concert Series - *sound tectonics #10*

September 17 (Sat) start 19:00

Venue: Studio A

Performed by

Ryoichi Kurokawa, evala,

Team Shuta Hasunuma

Shuta Hasunuma, Shuta Ishizuka, Tomohiko Gondo,
Jimanica, Misato Kinoshita

INQUIRY

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山口情報芸術センター
Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media

Ryoichi Kurokawa "rheo: 5 horizons"

2010 | audiovisual installation | 8min

Ryoichi Kurokawa "rheo: 5 horizons" (2010) ©Ryoichi Kurokawa

rheo: 5 horizons is an audio-visual installation that inspires a new sensory experience of "watching sound" and "hearing images". It is composed of five flat-panel-displays and five multi-channel speakers, whereas each vertically long visual element is linked and synchronized with one mono channel audio source. These pairs are juxtaposed in line like a quintet, and behave as five independent audiovisual apparatuses. The scenery of digitally reproduced high-resolution imagery, perfectly synchronized with playbacks of field recordings, combines both minimalism and complexity into an exquisite spatial construct of architectural beauty.

The piece that ultimately builds a "sculpture integrating sounds and visuals" can be considered as an attempt to melt and amalgamate such different elements as imagery and sound, nature and digital technology, with the help of a computer. The title "Rheo" refers to the Greek expression for "flow/current", and was inspired by the term "panta rei" coined by philosopher Heraclitus. Like the providence of life and nature, the essential things are constantly flowing and moving along. By integrating elaborately constructed high-grade imagery and sound as a single current in time and space, the piece explores the limits of human perception.

Artist profile

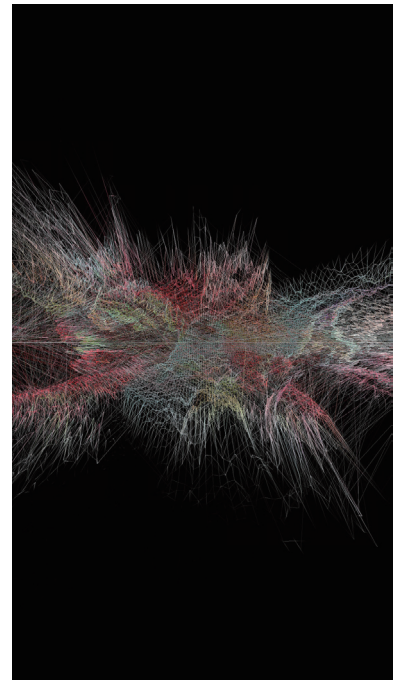
Ryoichi Kurokawa

Video/Sound artist

Born 1978. Has been creating video and sound-based works since 1999. His audiovisual work *COPYNATURE* (CD/DVD) was released on the PROGRESSIVE FORm label in 2003, followed in 2004 by *READ* another CD/DVD set that appeared on Haruoi Hosono's label daisyworld discs. Next to presenting his work at art museums and festivals around the world, such as MACBA (Barcelona) or Tate Modern (London), he has been invited to stage his audiovisual cross-media show at transmediale (Berlin) and other international art/music festivals. Is actively engaging also in collaborations with other artists including Sketch Show and Aco, at whose live concerts he was in charge of live visuals and operation respectively. In 2004 he provided live visuals also for concerts of the YMO clone HUMAN AUDIO SPONGE (ex.YMO: Sketch Show + Ryuichi Sakamoto). In 2010, he won the prestigious Golden Nica 2010 - Prix Ars Electronica (Linz) in the category of Digital Music & Sound Art with his pentaptych audiovisual installation *rheo: 5 horizons* produced by Cimatics, and in the following year he was selected to participate in the "One of a Thousand Ways to Defeat Entropy" exhibition that was held in connection with the 54th Venice Biennale. Presently lives and works in Berlin.

<http://www.ryoichikurokawa.com/>

©Ryoichi Kurokawa

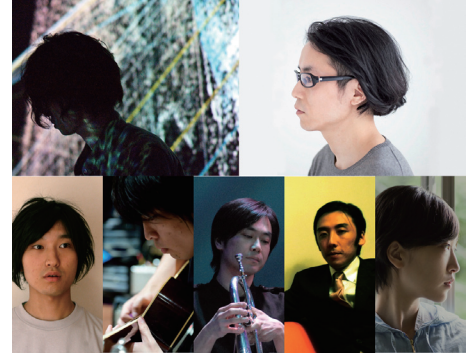


rheo: 5 horizons translates temporal and spatial transitions into audiovisual motion as a dynamic fluid, and builds a spatial construction that facilitates a new form of audiovisual perception. In combination with sound, the visual impact emphasizes the behavior of the audio source, and highlights its motion, direction and position in the space. By integrating imagery and sound, the piece layers aspects of movement, direction, speed, shape, color, weight and texture on a parallel timeline, creating out of these multi-layered elements temporal sculptures within looped sequences of eight minutes length. The spatially architectural forms generated this way reflect my synaesthetic approach encompassing the viewer's senses of vision, hearing and touch from different angles.

Ryoichi Kurokawa

Concert and exhibition held concurrently to showcase Ryoichi Kurokawa's broad-ranged artistic endeavors

YCAM presents for the first time in Japan a live performance of Ryoichi Kurokawa's *Rheo* (first staged in 2009) in connection with the exhibition of *rheo: 5 horizons*, a work based on that performance piece. Next to Kurokawa, the event - volume ten of YCAM's original concert series focusing on electronic and other forms of sound art by artists around the world - also features evala and Shuta Hasunuma, highlighting the three musicians' finely honed senses and diversely imaginative approaches to the construction of acoustic spaces. Also on display for the very first time is a sound installation version of Kurokawa's work *celeritas* (2009), set up around a sound system in YCAM's patio, to complete this multifaceted showcase of Kurokawa's various creative endeavors.



Artists: [Top - from left to right]
Ryoichi Kurokawa (@Ryoichi Kurokawa), evala (photo: Kenshu Shintsubo)
[Bottom - from left to right] Shuta Hasunuma (photo: miho kakuta)
/ Shuta Ishizuka Tomohiko Gondo / Jimanica / Misato Kinoshita

Event data

YCAM long-term exhibition series scopic measure #13

Ryoichi Kurokawa "rheo: 5 horizons"

September 17 (Sat) - November 13 (Sun). 2011 10:00-19:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio B Admission Free

Organized by: Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion
In association with: Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Board of Education
Cooperation: Cimatics
Technical support: YCAM InterLab
Produced by: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

Related event

YCAM Gallery tour [13 times during the event period]

October 8 (Sat), 9 (Sun), 10 (Mon), 15 (Sat), 16 (Sun), 22 (Sat), 23 (Sun), 29 (Sat), 30 (Sun)

November 3 (Thu), 5 (Sat), 6 (Sun), 12 (Sat)

14:00-15:00 Admission free

* Application: Please visit YCAM 1F Ticket Information prior to each tour * English-speaking participants are welcome to the Gallery Tour.

Concurrent Event

Live Concert Series - *sound tectonics* #10

September 17 (Sat), 2011 start 19:00 / open 18:30
Venue: Studio A

Performed by Ryoichi Kurokawa,
evala,

Team Shuta Hasunuma

Shuta Hasunuma, Shuta Ishizuka, Tomohiko Gondo,
Jimanica, Misato Kinoshita

Installation Series - *sound tectonics installation*

September 17 (Sat)-December 18 (Sun) 10:00-20:00
Venue: Patios Admission free

Exhibited works:

sound tectonics installation #3 (new work / commissioned by YCAM)

evala "void-inflection"

sound tectonics installation #4 (revised version / commissioned by YCAM)

Ryoichi Kurokawa "Remapped extract of 'celeritas'"