

## Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Exhibition

**MOON Kyungwon + YCAM**  
**Promise Park Project [Research Showcase]**

November 1 (Sat.), 2014 - January 11 (Sun.), 2015 10:00-19:00  
Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Foyer

**What will parks of the future look like? This showcase introduces results of a research project exploring roles and meanings of "parks" for us humans.**

Korean artist MOON Kyungwon and the Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] have been envisaging "future park" in the "Promise Park" project launched at YCAM last year. This event presents various results that came up during the research process.

Assuming a situation in which existing social systems shaped through modernization have collapsed due to a major disaster, the "Promise Park Project" aims to propose forms and meanings of parks and gardens in urban environments of the near future.

This exhibition highlights the process of research carried out mainly at YCAM by guest researchers of various fields, with additional demonstrations based on current technologies by the YCAM InterLab team. The project at large was designed as an opportunity for reflecting on possible human concepts of nature, city and community.

In addition to this exhibition, it will also include a large-scale exhibition in 2015, for which the research results presented here are planned to be updated in parallel with a new installation piece.



MOON Kyungwon "Promise Park"  
(2013 / YCAM)

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## Historical case studies and new technological developments leading up to "future park."

This exhibition presents to the general public the process of investigation and research activities by YCAM together with guest researchers. The idea behind exhibiting the process is to facilitate discussions not only among the artists and guest researchers participating in this project, but also among other researchers from different fields of expertise, as well as general visitors to the exhibition, with the ultimate aim to deepen knowledge for the conception of "future parks" with an eye to next year new work.

The exhibition is divided into the two parts "Archive" and "Future" that each showcase research results and case examples through texts and other materials. Further introduced with occasional demonstrations are a system that enables a sensory experience of investigation and research results by way of virtual reality (VR), as well as other basic technologies researched and developed by the YCAM InterLab team in the past.

### 1. Archive part

The Archive part offers clues for considering future forms of parks in the form of three different study cases approaching the subject matter from different aspects such as cultural history, folkloristics, art history, media history and architectural history.

Guest researcher Rurihiko Hara (The University of Tokyo / Fellow at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science ) conducted field work in Yamaguchi from a folkloristic and garden historical viewpoint, departing from a discussion of the "garden" as one conceivable origin of the park. Introducing also the Millennium Village Project\* by a team around core members Norihito Nakatani (Architectural history) from Waseda University, Takeshi Kinoshita (Horticulture / Landscape design) from Chiba University, and Shigeatsu Shimizu (Arban history / Architectural history) from Kyoto Institute of Technology, as well as artist Robert Smithson's research related to the Central Park in Manhattan, New York as examples, the Archive focuses on the relationship between humans and our rapidly and continuously changing natural environments.



Rurihiko Hara (right) visiting Kogoiwa in Natajima, Yamaguchi, as part of his research. (October 2014))

\*The "Millennium Village Project" (<http://mille-vill.org>) is not related to the "Millennium Villages Project" (<http://millenniumvillages.org/>).

### 2. Future part

The Future part, revolving around the central theme of "Future sense – the boundaries between mankind and technique", examines how a blurred boundaries between mankind and technique could affect forms of the park as a place where public and private come together, while showcasing technologies developed at the YCAM InterLab.

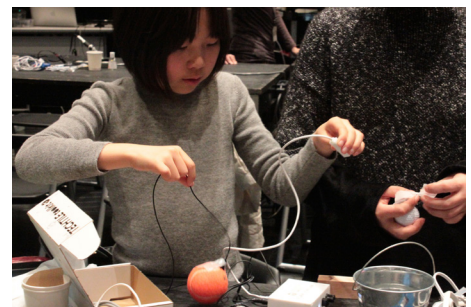
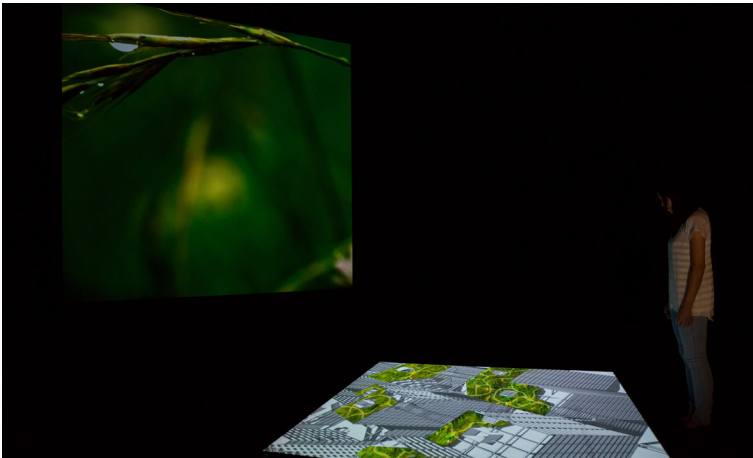


Photo: Flickr by techtile archives  
Techtile workshop at the YCAM InterLab Camp (2013 / YCAM)

## "Promise Park": The park after the breakdown of social systems.



MOON Kyungwon "Promise Park" (2013 / YCAM)

The "Promise Park Project" is a reality-based research project that aims to conceive possible forms, functions and meanings of "park" in the near future, based on the assumption of a human collective after existing social systems shaped through modernization have collapsed due to a major disaster.

In the international group exhibition "art and collective intelligence" that was held as part of last year's YCAM 10th Anniversary Program, MOON together with architects, landscape architects and botanists envisaged "future park", assuming a society in the year 2070 that has collapsed as a result of disasters etc.

Focusing again on "park" and "garden" based on this prototype, this exhibition explores possible human concepts of nature, city and community in a state in which existing infrastructures have been completely reset.

What are parks presently that exist in any city in the world, for mankind and our ecosystem?

Interpreting "park" in a broad sense, the exhibition focuses on its aspects as a public place (and environs) where communities, people and things intersect, and as an entrance/façade. On a foundation of research into historical traces of transforming ecosystems and human civilization, connections to and disassociation from the "garden", and the transition and separation between private and public spaces, the YCAM InterLab assumes a central role in basic studies of technologies to evoke "sensations" that connect to the "future park"

### International Group Exhibition "art and collective intelligence"

This international group exhibition introducing "collective intelligence" themed works by six artists/groups from Europe, East Asia and the Middle East was held as part of the YCAM 10th Anniversary Program. Exhibited was an array of works that branched out from the realm of art, and could not be completed through individual artistic efforts.

Date: July 6 (Sat) -September 29 (Sun), 2013  
Place: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio B, Gallery second floor, Dojomonzen parking rooftop.

### MOON Kyungwon

Born in Seoul, Korea. Graduated from Ewha Womans University, and received her MFA from the California Institute of the Arts. Has been exhibiting in various media video and installation works realized by a literary approach, and involved in installation displays at public art projects, such as on the Seoul Square Media Canvas. Participated in group exhibitions including Documenta 13 (2012), Gwangju Biennale (2012), Singapore Biennale (2013), Fukuoka Triennale (2014), Moscow Biennale (2010), Nanjing Triennial (2008), and the Nam June Paik Festival (2008). In recent years she has been focusing on "News From Nowhere", a collaborative project with Jeon Joonho launched with the aim to create social platforms, which was showcased in an exhibition at the Sullivan Galleries at The Art Institute of Chicago in 2013. For 2015, MOON plans to exhibit her work at Migros Museum of Contemporary Art in Zurich, and represent her country at the Korean pavilion at the Venice Biennale.  
[www.newsfromnowhere.kr](http://www.newsfromnowhere.kr)

**Profiles****■ Rurihiko Hara** (University of Tokyo / Fellow at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science)

Born 1988. Is currently enrolled in a doctoral program at The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and a fellow at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Specializes in Japanese-style gardens, as well as Noh and Kyogen, with a particular focus on studies on the Suhamas (a sandy beach whose shoreline curvedly runs) as an archetypal image of the seaside. In the realm of performing arts, he was also in charge of dramaturgy for the Noh collaboration "LIFE-WELL" (2013) by Ryuichi Sakamoto, Mansai Nomura and Shiro Takatani, and Yuko Hirai's "The face of strangers" (2014).

**■ Millennium Village Project** (Millennium Village Project Activity)

This project was launched as a platform for collection, investigation, publication, mention and communication about "Millennium" villages throughout Japan that have existed for more than a thousand years. Participants are researchers and professionals involved with architectural history/design, social environment engineering, landscape architecture/design, folkloristics, historical geography and web design. Core members Norihito Nakatani (Architectural history, Waseda University), Takeshi Kinoshita (Horticulture / Landscape design, Chiba University) and Shigeatsu Shimizu (Urban history / Architectural history, Kyoto Institute of Technology) went into action following the Great East Japan Earthquake, and commenced serious organizational activities in 2014.

**■ YCAM InterLab**

produces art and theater works within YCAM's commission works, as well as producing technological aspects of educational programs at YCAM, and acting as technical support for invited exhibitions and performances. YCAM InterLab not only collaborates with visiting artists and outside engineers, but also collaborate with other cultural facilities and research institutions, and pursue their own independent research and development projects.

**Event Outline****MOON Kyungwon + YCAM  
Promise Park Project [Research Showcase]**

November 1 (Sat.), 2014 - January 11 (Sun.), 2015 10:00 - 19:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Foyer

Closed on Tuesdays (or the following day if Tuesday is a national holiday), 28 December–3 January

Admission free

Guest researchers: Rurihiko Hara, Millennium Village Project (Millennium Village Project Activity), YCAM InterLab

Organized by Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion  
In association with Yamaguchi City, the Board of Education of Yamaguchi City  
Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan in the fiscal 2014  
Co-developed with YCAM InterLab  
Produced by Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

**Related event****Demonstrations**

November 8 (Sat), 22(Sat)

December 7(Sun), 20(Sat), 27(Sat)

January 4(Sun), 10(Sat)

each starting at 14:00 (about 30 min.)

Admission free