

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

YCAM Open Lab 2021

Alternative Education

November 26, 2021 - February 26, 2022

Distributed via the Internet (YouTube Live / dedicated website)

**A series of online lectures and talk sessions on “art and education”
with experts from Japan and abroad**

The Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] announces the opening of “YCAM OpenLab 2021: Alternative Education” as an online event that reevaluates the roles of art, research & development, and public cultural facilities today. In recent years, artistic activities such as exhibitions and performances of works, have been moving away from the institutionalized environments of art museums or theaters, in a new trend of placing importance on the relationships between creators, spectators and local communities. As a result, the role of venues for such displays of creative work has been changing significantly. Titled “Alternative Education,” this event features a number of special guests who discuss “possible forms of learning through art” and “the role of art centers in society” from their own experience related to art and education. It takes place in the form of talk sessions that are streamed live via the Internet in November 2021 and February 2022, and video footage of other discussions that can be viewed during that period on a dedicated website. Look forward to a set of conversations about art and education with illustrious guests, that will certainly inspire a new discourse, and paint an entirely new picture of the art center in the present age.



From “YCAM OpenLab 2020: Understanding Living Culture 2”
(photo by Yasuhiro Tani)

INQUIRIES: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] PR representative
TEL: +81-(0)83-901-2222 FAX: +81-(0)83-901-2216 email: press@ycam.jp
7-7 Nakazono-cho Yamaguchi-shi Yamaguchi 753-0075 JAPAN www.ycam.jp

YCAM OpenLab: exploring the present state of art, research & development, and public cultural facilities



From "YCAM OpenLab 2020: Understanding Living Culture 2" (photo by Yasuhiro Tani)

Since its establishment, YCAM has been exploring new forms of artistic expression incorporating media technology, and creating and exhibiting numerous original works that can only be realized at YCAM. At the same time, the Center has also been offering gallery tours connecting artworks with their audiences; developing and implementing educational programs that stimulate people's curiosity and imagination; and in recent years, engaging in programs aimed to link all kinds of accumulated knowledge and experience related to media technology, to local issues and resources. "YCAM OpenLab" was launched in 2017 as a series of composite events that showcase these varied endeavors of YCAM to a wide range of visitors. Every year, the characteristically diverse program revolves around talk sessions with members of the "InterLab," a research & development team that has been supporting YCAM's activities, and special guests chosen according to the respective theme. The event functions as an index of the current state of YCAM, and a display of the potential of information as a foundation of culture, which has been the mission that YCAM has been pursuing since its opening. Following last year's edition, this year's fifth installment in the series is again held as an online event with the subtitle "Alternative Education." Over the period of four months, it features a continuous program of discussions on "possible forms of learning through art" and "the role of art centers in society." Invited are several creators, curators and educators from Japan and abroad, who have gained various practical experience in the field of art and education, who will appear in a string of lectures and talk sessions. Archive footage of these events are available for viewing on a dedicated website.

■ Previous YCAM Open Lab

YCAM Open Lab 2017

December 15 - 17, 2017

Guest: Asa Ito, Go Shibata, Sho Miyake, Yusuke Hashimoto, Atsushi Hayashi, exonemo, Masataka Hosoo, Yasuaki Kakehi, Ken Furudate, Nao Tokui, Tamaki Roy, Akihiro Kubota, Jung-Yeon Ma, etc.

YCAM Open Lab 2018

October 6 - 8, 2018

Guest: Alexis André, Yoko Honjo, Kaoru Sugano, Paul Dancstep, Taeyoon Choi, Hideaki Ogawa, Daito Manabe, Motoi Ishibashi, etc.

YCAM Open Lab 2019

November 16 - 17, 2019

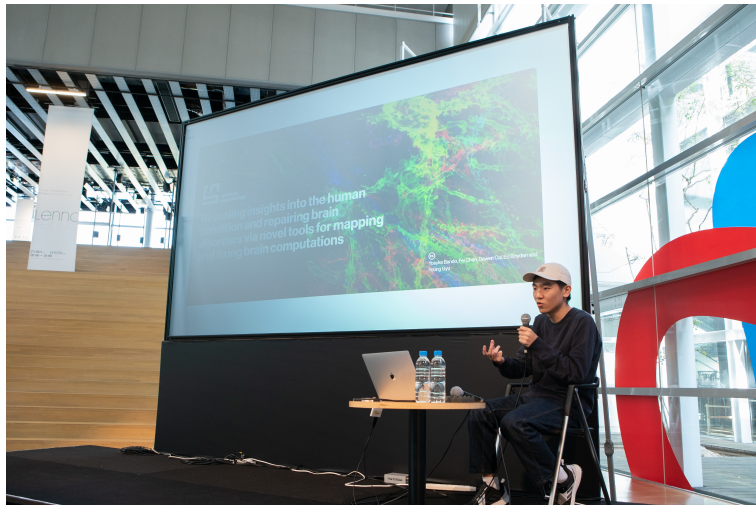
Guest: Sandra Sajovic, Nur Akbar Arofathullah, Kosuke Katano, Harry Akligoh, contact Gonzo, Oron Catts

YCAM Open Lab 2020

June 7 - August 2, 2020

Guest: Nur Akbar Arofathullah, Harry Akligoh, Oron Catts, Kosuke Katano, Georg Tremmel, J.J. Hastings, Bess Lee, Bojana Piškur

Practitioners from Japan and abroad discuss “possible forms of learning through art”



From “YCAM OpenLab 2020: Understanding Living Culture 2” (photo by Yasuhiro Tani)

Many of the social changes that are presently occurring on a global scale, are also affecting the realm of art. While such changes are quite self-evident for individual artists, for such institutionalized bodies as art museums, they remain problems to be tackled. Also with regard to this situation, there are quite a number of facilities/institutions that have been showing initiative regarding such social issues as gender equality, transparency, community development, and resource sharing. Against this backdrop, starting in 2021, YCAM implements a three-year project titled “Alternative Education,” as an occasion for reflecting on its own practices and the general role of art centers as places of learning for local communities and citizens. Guests for this year’s installment include creators, curators, educators and researchers, who work with art and technology as tools for everyday life, and are involved with a variety of learning mechanisms. Following an initial talk event with the curators Naoko Horiuchi and Akigo Tsuguchi, which was streamed live via the Internet on November 26, two or three videos of subsequent sessions each month will be uploaded to a dedicated website, where they can be viewed until February. Each of these talk events and discussions will focus on a specific theme, such as “The usefulness of art” for example, and complemented with lectures with special guests, and talk sessions with the participation of members of the YCAM staff. Through this exchange with practitioners involved with art and education, the program aims to highlight possibilities of learning through art, and illustrate further potentials of art centers.

Naoko Horiuchi



Photo credit: Serrum

Completed a Master’s course in Contemporary Art and Art Theory at the Edinburgh College of Art. Has been involved in the planning of residency programs, exhibitions, symposia, corporate and educational programs at the non-profit organization Arts Initiative Tokyo (AIT) since 2008. In 2016, and continues to work on the planning of classes, workshops and symposia based around concepts of art and welfare.

Akigo Tsuguchi



Photo credit: Serrum

Born 1976 in Hiroshima. Curator at Tomonotsu Museum. Completed a Master’s course at the Tokyo University of the Arts. Worked at facility for children with special needs, and joined Soujukai, the mother welfare-organization that operates the museum, in 2013. Initially being involved with day care of people with disabilities, he is today in charge of curating exhibitions, while at once engaging in their art activities at the museum. Is particularly interested in private forms of creative practice that is rooted in one’s life.

General Information

YCAM Open Lab 2021

Alternative Education

From November 26, 2021, until February 26, 2022

Live Streaming (YouTube Live, special website)

Admission free

Schedule

November 26, 19:00-21:00 (Japanese time)

What can we learn from art?

Guests: Naoko Horiuchi (Arts Initiative Tokyo/AIT), Akigo Tsuguchi (Tomonotsu Museum)

December 2021 - January 2022

Two or three videos each month of conversations with special guests, will be uploaded to a dedicated website. For more information, please visit the website (link on the right).

Schedule for December

Sharing Resources

Guests: Farid Rakun (ruangrupa, documenta fifteen Artistic Director)

The Usefulness of Art

Guests: John Byrne (City Lab Dep. Liverpool John Moore's Univ.)

February 26, 2022, 19:00-21:00 (Japanese time)

How do we learn through art?

Details will be announced on the YCAM website when determined.

*All talk events will be archived on a dedicated website.

Special Website

Archive footage can be accessed via the "Alternative Education" website.

Website :

alternative-education.ycam.jp

Host: Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion
Cooperation: Yamaguchi City Board of Education
Supported by the Agency of Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, in the fiscal 2021
Technical collaboration: YCAM InterLab
Planning & production: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]