

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

YCAM OpenLab 2025

Can we find a natureless solution?

17 October 2025 (Fri) , 18 (Sat), 19 (Sun) 13:00-18:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] StudioA

Sharing cross-disciplinary ideas and knowledge

Holding a conference event linked to the exhibition!

The Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media (YCAM) will hold "YCAM Open Lab 2025," a three-day hybrid event linked to the exhibition PROJECT MRT — Natureless Solution, subtitled A reconsideration of technology disconnected from the sun, soil, and feces, rethinking technology separated from sun, soil, and excrement (dung). Now in its seventh iteration, this event offers participants a multifaceted opportunity to experience YCAM's research and development activities through workshops and conferences.

Under the theme "Can we find a natureless solution? Is it possible to solve problems by separating ourselves from nature?", over the course of three days, participants and invited guests — among them the exhibiting artists Oron Catts, Ionat Zurr, and Maya Erin Masuda — will reconsider the current state of food production and agricultural systems. In addition, artists crossing the boundaries of art and science, researchers, and experts involved in biotechnology and food production will join, providing multifaceted perspectives on the theme and facilitating a flexible and lively platform for dialogue. We warmly invite you to participate in this opportunity.



「YCAM OpenLab2018：ナマモノのあつかいかた」(Photo: Yasuhiro Tani)

For any inquiries for an interview or press photos, please contact us at the following address.

INQUIRIES

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開催概要

YCAM OpenLab 2025

Can we find a natureless solution?

17 October 2025 (Fri) , 18 (Sat), 19 (Sun) 13:00-18:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] StudioA

Participation Fee Capacity: 50 participants

Language: Japanese & English

Program Schedule

Friday, October 17

13:00–15:00 YCAM Tour

15:00–16:00 Opening Ceremony | Speakers: Daiya Aida, Kazutoshi Tsuda

16:00–18:00 Cross-Talk Session | Speakers: Ionat Zurr, Maya Erin Masuda [online], Sayaka Mitome*, Leonhard Bartolomeus*

Saturday, October 18 Theme: “Fermenting Wisdom and the Harvest of Data”

13:00–13:15 Opening | Speaker: Mitsuru Tokisato*

13:15–14:15 Lecture 1 | Speaker: Kailey Carolo (researcher specializing in food sovereignty and food culture)

14:30–15:15 Lecture 2 | Speaker: Yuki Hanyu (Integriculture Inc.)

15:30–16:30 Presentations | Speakers: Yasuomi Ibaraki (Professor, Yamaguchi University), Kentaro Mitsuura (Mitsuura Brewing Co.), Kazuhiro Jo (Associate Professor, Kyushu University)

16:45–18:00 Group Discussion | Moderator: Leonhard Bartolomeus*

Sunday, October 19 Theme: “Biotechnology: Aesthetics, Economics, and Governance”

13:00–13:15 Opening | Speaker: Daiya Aida*

13:15–14:15 Lecture 3 | Speaker: Meredith Sattler (Assistant Professor, Cal Poly SLO)

14:30–15:15 Lecture 4 | Speaker: Hideo Iwasaki (Professor, Waseda University)

15:30–16:30 Presentations | Speakers: Shiho Fukuhara (artist), Soichiro Mihara (artist), Sarah Cantorowitz (Process Architect)

16:45–17:30 Group Discussion

17:30–18:00 Closing | Speaker: Oron Catts, Moderator: Leonardo Bartolomeus*

*YCAM staff

Organized by Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion

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Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Fiscal Year 2025

Grant by FY2025 Agency for Cultural Affairs, Creative Base for Arts and Culture Project

Co-developed by YCAM InterLab

Planned and produced by Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

Concurrent Exhibition1

Oron Catts + Ionat Zurr + Steave Berrick

PROJECT MRT

Natureless Solution/ 太陽と土と糞から切り離れたテクノロジーの再考

In collaboration with YCAM

October 11, (Sat) – February 23, 2026 (Mon) 10:00-19:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM],

Foyer, Patio, Gallery second floor

Concurrent Exhibition2

scopic measure #17 : Maya Erin Masuda

Ecologies of Closeness 痛みが他者でなくなるとき

November 2, (Sun) – July 5, 2025 (Sun) 10:00-19:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Studio B

Participation Fee