

Press Release 2022/08/13

# Demonstration of the Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project

September 10 (Saturday) - November 9 (Wednesday), 2022 Kankai Pavilion, Hara Museum ARC



Tatsuo Miyajima, *Demonstration of the Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project* (reference image) Photo: Nobutada Omote

Using digital counters with digits that represent the eternal nature of life, Tatsuo Miyajima has continued to make art that express his thoughts about life and death based on the core concepts of "Keep Changing, Connect with Everything, Continue Forever." As part of his *Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project*, Miyajima is holding "time setting" workshops for people to share feelings and memories about the Great East Japan Earthquake that occurred on March 11, 2011. By the time he completes the project, he will have involved 3,000 people in the project. In this special exhibit, the artist will be displaying a portion of the digital counters produced for the project to date.

#### Tatsuo Miyajima



Courtesy Lisson Gallery

Tatsuo Miyajima is a contemporary artist. He was vice president of Kyoto University of Art and Design and Tohoku University of Art and Design from 2006 to 2016. He has been teaching at Kyoto University of Art and Design as a visiting professor since 2017. After graduating from Tokyo University of the Arts in 1986, he was invited to show work in 1988 in the Aperto section of the Venice Biennale where he attracted international attention with his works using digital numbers. Since then, he has exhibited at over 250 venues in 30 countries around the world. He received the 5<sup>th</sup> Japan Arts Foundation Award in 1998, the 71st Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology's Art

Encouragement Prize in 2021 and an honorary doctorate from the London Institute in 1998. His most well-known works include *Mega Death* (1999/2016).

## **Time Setting Workshop at Hara Museum ARC**

Each of the 3,000 LEDs that will eventually comprise the *Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project* counts down at different rates. In this workshop, each participant will set the time interval by which the digits change on their counter, from 0.2 to 120.0 seconds. Everyone will then share their settings with the others, as well as episodes related to the Great East Japan Earthquake, their thoughts about the Northeastern region of Japan known as "Tohoku" and their messages to loved ones. Through these workshops, small LED lights from all over Japan will eventually comprise the whole of *Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project*.

#### **■**Workshop Information

This workshop is for anyone who supports the aim of the project, from small children to adults. However, those who have taken part in a previous workshop are ineligible, as participation is limited to one time per person. Please note that an advance reservation is required for this event.

Date: Saturday, September 24, 2022 Session I: 11:00 /Session II: 14:00

Capacity: 30

**Fee:** Free (museum admission is required) **Venue:** Corridor Space at Hara Museum ARC

Please send your request to participate and/or inquiries to the Executive Committee of the Sea of Time – TOHOKU

Project (at Tatsuo Miyajima Studio).

Tel: 0297-21-7650 Email: contact@seaoftime.org https://seaoftime.org/

#### ■Bus Tour and Special Lecture and Workshop by Tatsuo Miyajima for Art Students

This event, which has been especially organized for students of art, includes a time setting workshop and a special lecture by Tatsuo Miyajima. Participants can choose to join the bus tour or arrive at the museum on their own. Please note that an advance reservation is required for this event.

Date: Friday/national holiday, September 23, 2022

Capacity: 30

Participation fee: Free (Participants will be required to show proof of student status on the day of the event.)

**Venue:** Corridor Space at Hara Museum ARC **Support provided by:** MRA Foundation

Please send your request to participate and/or inquiries by email to Hara Museum ARC at

arc@haramuseum.or.jp.

#### -Schedule for Participants in the Bus Tour

08:15	Depart from JR Shinjuku Station for Hara Museum ARC (there will be a rest stop along the way.)	
11:00	Arrive at Hara Museum ARC. During this time, participants can have lunch, view the exhibition	

and enjoy free time at the Green Bokujo recreational ranch.

13:40 Lecture by Tatsuo Miyajima, followed by a Q&A session.

14:10 Workshop.

14:50 Free time.

16:00 Depart Hara Museum ARC for Tokyo (there will be a rest stop along the way).

18:40 Arrive at JR Shinjuku Station.

#### -Schedule for Participants in the Workshop and Lecture only

Please arrive at the museum in time for the start of the lecture at 13:40.

Participants are free to view the exhibition before and after the lecture and workshop.

## Tatsuo Miyajima and the Hara Museum of Contemporary Art and Hara Museum ARC

## ■Time Link (1989/1994/2021)

This work was a permanent installation that was originally created for a small space at the Hara Museum of Contemporary Art in Tokyo, but when the museum was closed, it was moved to Hara Museum ARC in January 2021. As one of Miyajima's early works using digital counters, this work is comprised dozens of digits regularly count up from 1 to 99 at different rates, then go dark, representing the Japanese concept of "mu" or "nothingness". Skipping zero, the counter starts at 1 again and



repeats the count up, again and again. Although consisting merely of digits, the way each counter changes seem to embody the different way individuals relate to time, as well as the Buddhist concept of reincarnation.

#### ■ The Revive Time: Kaki Tree Project at Hara Museum ARC



Photo: Shinya Kigure

A persimmon tree miraculously survived the atomic bombing of Nagasaki in August 1945. *The Revive Time: Kaki Tree Project* is an art project to respect life and to pray for peace through the distribution of second-generation A-bombed persimmon tree saplings, which were born from the mother tree, to various parts of the world. Since its inception in 1996, this project has spread to more than 250 locations in 23 countries, including Japan, Europe, the United States, and Asia, and continues to sow seeds of art and peace in the hearts of children in various regions.

In May 2005, a persimmon tree was planted at Hara Museum ARC in support of *The Revive Time: Kaki Tree Project*.

### Information

**Title:** Demonstration of the *Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project* 

Dates: September 10 (Saturday) - November 9 (Wednesday), 2022

**Venue:** Kankai Pavilion, Hara Museum ARC 2855-1 Kanai, Shibukawa-shi, Gunma 377-0027

Tel: 0279-24-6585 E-mail: arc@haramuseum.or.jp official website: https://www.haramuseum.or.jp \*The exhibition dates are subject to change, depending on the status of the novel coronavirus pandemic and

other factors. Please check the museum website for the latest updates.

Organized by: Executive Committee of the Sea of Time - TOHOKU Project, Hara Museum ARC

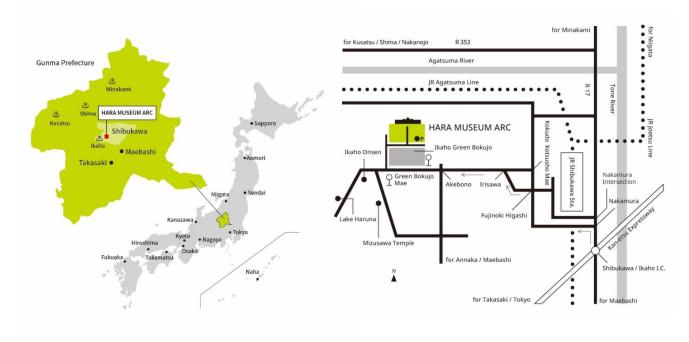
Hours: 9:30 am - 4:30 pm (last entry at 4:00 pm)

**Closed:** Thursdays (except on holidays)

**Admission:** General 1,100 yen, Students 700 yen (high school and university) or 500 yen (elementary and junior high)

- -Admission covers the Sea of Time TOHOKU Project along with the current exhibition Grasping at Clouds: Works from the Hara Museum and the Hara Rokuro Collections, Part II (Autumn/Winter) which runs from September 10, 2022 to January 9, 2023.
- -Free for Hara Museum members / For residents of Gunma Prefecture: Free admission for elementary and junior high school children every Saturday during the school term
- -Special discount for visitors with the Guchoki Passport
- -Please inquire about group visits.
- -Combination ticket for Hara Museum ARC and Ikaho Green Bokujo: General 1,800 yen; Students 1,500 yen (high school and university) or 1,400 yen (junior high), 800 yen (elementary), half price for those over 70
- \* Museum admission is also required for persons wishing to access the cafe or museum shop only.

**Directions from Tokyo:** By train: Take the Joetsu Shinkansen to Takasaki, change to the Joetsu Line, and disembark at Shibukawa. From Shibukawa, ARC is 10 minutes away by taxi or 15 minutes by bus (take the Ikaho Onsen or the Ikaho Harunaguchi bus to "Green Bokujo Mae"). By car: 8 kilometers (about 15 minutes) from the Kan-etsu Expressway Shibukawa Ikaho Interchange (in the direction of Ikaho Onsen).



■Inquiries for Demonstration for the Sea of Time – TOHOKU Project and Time Setting Workshop:

The Executive Committee of the Sea of Time – TOHOKU Project at Tatsuo Miyajima Studio

Tel: 0297-21-7650 Email: contact@seaoftime.org Website: https://seaoftime.org/

■Inquiries for the public relations:

Hara Museum ARC

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