

BIWAKO Biennale 2022 起源～ORIGIN

International art festival

2022 Oct 8th (Sat) – 2022 Nov 27th (Sun) / Closed on Wed

Shiga prefecture, Omihachiman / Hikone

July 2022



The BIWAKO Biennale was first held in 2001 in Ōtsu city's Biwako Hall, and its surrounding park, on the shores of lake Biwa. It was one of the first Japanese art events to be organized outside of a museum or a gallery, and it has undoubtedly paved the way for similar exhibitions and festivals that nowadays can be found all over the country.

In 2003, the Biennale moved to Ōmihachiman, and in 2020, for its 9th edition, it also expanded to the city of Hikone. Its 10th edition will take place in traditional buildings of Hikone and Ōmihachiman's old town, such as abandoned houses from the Edo, Meiji and Taisho era, a former brewery and a former shoyu warehouse, but also an ashigaru residence and the Hikone castle.

These venues are characteristic to the unique local culture, and as such should be carefully handed down to future generations. The BIWAKO Biennale is an attempt to preserve and pass on these invaluable assets. It also aims to restore a « Japanese sense of beauty ». In 2022, Oki Island, one of the world's few freshwater lake inhabited islands, and Toriimoto, a Nakasendo highway post-town, will be added to the previous exhibition sites of Ōmihachiman and Hikone,

making it the largest edition of the Biennale so far. The project will begin with the cleaning of the abandoned buildings by local residents and volunteers from all over Japan. Then, each space will be transformed into a work of art by artists from Japan and abroad, so that visitors can enjoy the artworks, as well as these historical buildings that were empty and forgotten for decades.

Summary

Curated by Yoko Nakata, this art festival invites approximately 70 artists from Japan and abroad to collaborate with local citizens of Ōmihachiman and Hikone. In both cities, abandoned Japanese houses will be repaired, cleaned and brought back to life with art : they will then be opened to the public as BIWAKO Biennale venues.

Theme - 起源～ORIGIN

2022 marks the 10th edition of the BIWAKO Biennale. The theme of its first edition, in 2001, was “Gaia's Awakening - ZEP TEPI”. “ZEP TEPI” means “the first time” in ancient Egyptian, and it was intended to express the hope that the 21st century would usher mankind into a new phase and put an end to the unceasing killing that has been going on since the dawn of history. But this wish has yet to become reality, as many people still live in dire situations.

Humans, as well as every being who exists on earth, originate from this unique and beautiful planet. Indeed, everything can be traced back to the same origin – if we go further back, to the origin of the earth, to the origin of the universe. This year’s BIWAKO Biennale will be a journey to reflect on our many origins, and to reach the origin that lies deep within our hearts....

BIWAKO Biennale 2022 highlights

- * Contemporary works by 65 artists from Japan and abroad, exhibited in traditional buildings and sceneries from Ōmihachiman and Hikone.
- * Okishima, the only inhabited freshwater lake island in Japan, and one of the few in the world.
- * Toriimoto, the 63rd post town after Edo on the former Nakasendo Road. Toriimoto’s Arikawa Pharmacy, next to the Arikawa residence, is more than 350 years old! You can still purchase *Akadama Shinkyomaru*, a multipurpose medicine that has been popular since the Edo period.
- * Experience the colorful world of plants : plant dye exhibition by Atelier Shimura in Ōmihachiman, the birthplace of textile artist and Living National Treasure Fukumi Shimura.
- * Concert by Acoon Hibino and others.

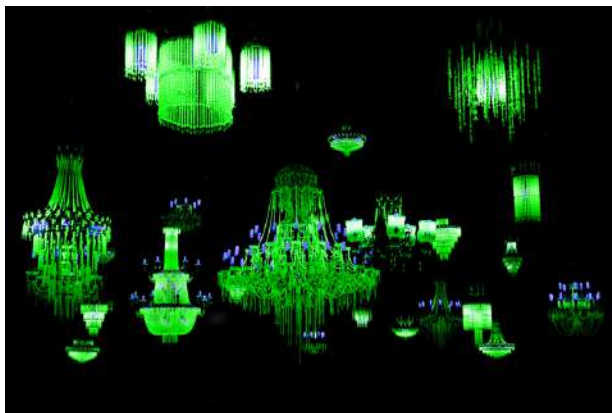
* Exhibition of an installation exploring new ways to utilize reeds, a local and traditional industry which has been in decline.

Artists

Nishijima Yuji (Japan), Ken+Julia Yonetani (Japan), Makoto Egashira (Japan), Atelier Shimura (Japan), Kumpei (Japan), Ann Eringstam (Sweden), AUJIK (Sweden), Gabriela Morawetz (France/Poland), Matthieu Quilici (France), Hicham Berrada (France), etc.



Yushi Nishijima - *Kichi-shou*



Ken+Julia Yonetani - *Crystal Palace: The Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nuclear Nations* (Courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery)



Ann Eringstam - *In search of Wonderland*



Makoto Egashira - *Happy together in the bath*



Taira Ishikawa - *Cooling Towers*

Venues

Ōmihachiman area (10 venues) : Former Hachiman post office, Machiya Club, Fujiya, Kanekichi second residence, Kita Shichiemon residence, Former Ban residence, Koumura retreat residence, Teramoto residence, Former Ogikichi storehouse, Mt Hachiman observation deck

Ōmihachiman area extended venue : Tea Space SARA KU (the cafe is open to the public : no BB Passport required to access this venue)

Oki Island area (dotted with outdoor artworks) : the public park, the public square, the pier, etc.

Hikone area (10 venues) : Hikone Castle – Nishi-no-Maru and Tenbin turret, Genkyu-en, Rakuraku-en, Yama-no-Yu, Taniyama residence (ashigaru residence complex), Smith Memorial Hall, Ito residence, Nakano furniture shop, Kojima Gallery Chuo (former kimono shop)

Toriimoto area (3 venues) : Arikawa residence, Momen'ya (former raincoat shop), Toriimoto station



Ōmihachiman



Hachiman canal



Hikone Castle



Oki Island



Toriimoto Station



Arikawa Pharmacy (Toriimoto)

Pre BIWAKO Biennale 2022 / Nuit Blanche KYOTO 2022

In collaboration with Nuit Blanche KYOTO, BIWAKO Biennale is programming an exhibition in Kyoto's Nijō Castle.

Sponsorship : Kyoto City, Institut Français du Japon – Kansai/Kyoto

Open : 2022 Sept 17th (Sat) – 2022 Oct 2nd (Sun), 10:00~17:00

Venue : Kyoto, Nijō Castle, Ninomaru-goten Palace Daidokoro/Okiyodokoro

Free admission

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| | BIWAKO Biennale 2022, International Art Festival |
| | 起源～ORIGIN |
| | 2022 Oct 8 th (Sat) ~ 2022 Nov 27 th (Sun) Closed on Wednesdays (no closing days on the last week of the Biennale) |
| Admission | <p><u>Adults</u> All areas Passport (Ōmihachiman and Hikone) : ¥ 4500 (¥ 4000*) Ōmihachiman Passport : ¥ 3000, Hikone Passport : ¥ 3500</p> <p><u>Students</u> All areas Passport (Ōmihachiman and Hikone) : ¥ 3500 (¥ 3000*) Ōmihachiman Passport : ¥ 2500, Hikone Passport : ¥ 3000</p> <p><u>Junior high school students / Disabled visitors</u> Free</p> <p>Admission fee to the Hikone Castle included in the Hikone Passport and the All Areas Passport * Advance sale (available online until October 7)</p> |
| Tickets sale points | Ōmihachiman Information Desk (Former post office), Hikone Information Desk (Kojima Gallery - Chuo), Ōmihachiman Station - Tourist Information Desk, Hikone Station - Tourist Information Desk Online : Peatix, Artsticker |
| Organization | BIWAKO Biennale Executive Committee ; Japan Arts Council ; The Agency for Cultural Affairs |
| Grants | The Kao Foundation for Arts and Science, The Eastern Culture Foundation, Heiwado Foundation, Kawamoto Foundation, Shomei Bunka Foundation |
| Sponsorship | Australia Council for the Arts, Hiyoshi Corp., FAME Ltd., Kanekichi Yamato Foods, Japan Cultural Expo, Ōmihachiman Machiya Club, Kyoto Chuo Shinkin Bank, Embassy of Australia, Morishima Ōmihachiman, Sennaritei, Natsuhara, Going Nuts!, Shinshindo Shoko |
| Support | Shiga Prefecture, Shiga Prefecture Board of Education, French Embassy in Japan/ Institut Français du Japon, Polish Embassy in Japan, KONSTNÄRSNÄMDEN, Australia Council for the Arts, Region Halland |
| Collaboration | Akindo Commercial District, Seian University of Art and Design – Contemporary Art course – Prof. Uno seminar, Omi Railways, Kyu Ban-ke Jutaku |
| Access | <p>【Ōmihachiman】</p> <p>◎ <u>By train</u> At the Ōmihachiman station (JR Tokaido line/ Omi Railways), take the north exit and board the bus on platform n°6 headed to Chomeiji/ Kokumin Kyuukamura. Get off at “Hachiman-bori (Ōsugichou) Hachiman Ropeway” (7 min ride)</p> <p>◎ <u>By car</u> 12km from the Chuo I.C. or 15km from the Yokaichi I.C. (Meishin Expressway), towards Ōmihachiman</p> |

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| | <p>【Oki Island】</p> <p>1) Ōmihachiman station (JR Tokaido line/ Ōmi Railways) → Horikiri Port</p> <p>◎ By bus Aprox. 35min Akakon Bus : https://montekite.com/bus/ OR Ōmi Railways Bus : http://www.biwako-okishima.com/bus.html</p> <p>◎ By car Approx. 30 min from the Ōmihachiman exhibition area to the Horikiri Port parking lot</p> <p>2) Horikiri Port → Okishima Ferry boat timetable : http://www.biwako-okishima.com/sin-access.html</p> <p>【Hikone】</p> <p>◎ By train At Hikone station (JR Tokaido line/ Ōmi railways), take the north-west exist for the castle (10 min walk), and the south-west exit for the town venues (15 min walking area) from the station</p> <p>◎ By car Approx. 12min west/north-west from the Hikone I.C (Meishin Expressway)</p> <p>【Toriimoto】</p> <p>◎ By train Ōmihachiman station (JR Tokaido line/ Ōmi Railways) → Toriimoto station (Ōmi Railways)</p> <p>◎ By car Approx. 10min North-east of Hikone area</p> |
| Address | 〒523-0847 Shiga, Ōmihachiman, Nagaharacho, Moto 12 |
| Tel | 0748-26-5832 |
| E-mail | info@energyfield.org |
| Website | http://energyfield.org/biwakobiennale/ |
| Facebook | https://www.facebook.com/biwakoBN |
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