



ART WEEK TOKYO 2026

5th Edition

November 4–8, 2026



The AWT Bus, 2025. Courtesy Art Week Tokyo

Art Week Tokyo—an annual, five-day, citywide celebration of the creativity and diversity of art throughout the Japanese capital—returns for its 5th edition from November 4–8, 2026. Bringing together a record 55 participating venues across the city for five days of coordinated programming and special platforms, it also welcomes first-time participants including Shibunkaku (AWT Focus), Pola Museum Annex (Institutions), Ceysson & Bénétière (Galleries), and Parcel (Galleries).

Encompassing institutional exhibitions, gallery shows, performances, talks and cross disciplinary pop-up programs that engage architecture, design, fashion and culinary culture, the event champions new, hybrid platforms for activating the local art ecosystem through an ethos of community building and meaningful exchange. By uniting local and international partners and inviting all to participate, Art Week Tokyo champions the city's art ecosystem and supports the continued development of one of the world's most dynamic cultural communities.

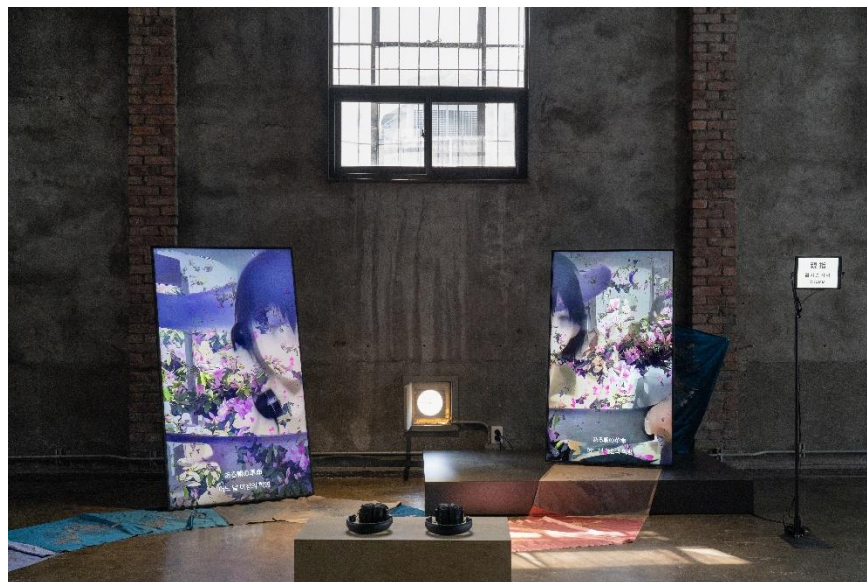
Once again, Art Week Tokyo is organized in collaboration with Art Basel, continuing a partnership that began with the event's inception in 2021.

AWT Focus

This milestone edition launches a special reconceptualization of the AWT Focus exhibition platform, expanding from one central venue to 10 venues spread across Tokyo, reflecting Art Week Tokyo's founding ethos of community building and resource sharing. Launched in 2023, AWT Focus was conceived as a laboratory for experiments in exhibition making and a platform for spotlighting the importance of curatorial practice to art discourse. This year's edition expands that original vision by inviting 10 international curators to organize projects at spaces across Tokyo.

Contributors include the Japanese queer feminist collective Multiple Spirits, British curator and writer Ekow Eshun, and American museum director Jeremy Strick. Works range from historic paintings to newly commissioned site-specific installations, new media installations, and presentations of archival materials. Participating spaces range from the leading commercial gallery SCAI The Bathhouse to the artist-run space XYZ collective and space Un, a gallery and residency program founded in 2024 dedicated to supporting art from Africa and the African diaspora in Tokyo.

Developed in collaboration with the Vienna-based gallery-led initiative *curated by*, the AWT Focus 2026 projects were selected, following an open call for proposals, by Misako Rosen of Misako & Rosen, Tokyo (also a member of the Art Week Tokyo selection committee), and Raphael Oberhuber, Director, Galerie nächst St. Stephan Rosemarie Schwarzwälder, Vienna, representing *curated by*.



NATSUMI AOYAGI, *Language for Our Relation: A Demonstration* (2025), 3-channel video (2 monitors and 1 tablet), color, sound, with dismantled wedding zabuton cushions, 4 min., 50 sec. Installation view, The Willow, Seoul, 2025. Photo by Minji Yi



Institutional highlights

Institutional highlights of Art Week Tokyo 2026 include a retrospective of leading Japanese artist Mariko Mori—curated by Alexandra Munroe and Mami Kataoka—at the Mori Art Museum; a retrospective for Minami Tada at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo; an exhibition shining a light on shojo (girls) manga at the National Art Center, Tokyo; and a retrospective of Yumeji Takehisa at the National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo. More exhibitions will be announced in the coming months.

AWT Video

This year's edition of AWT Video is overseen by X Zhu-Nowell, the executive director and chief curator of Rockbund Art Museum in Shanghai.

AWT Video invites a guest curator to select a program of single-channel moving image works by Japanese and international artists represented by Art Week Tokyo's participating galleries. The program is screened continuously in a special pavilion set up in a public space in the Marunouchi district and is free to view during the five days of Art Week Tokyo.

AWT Bar

The pop-up AWT Bar provides the city's art community with a gathering place and multisensory art experience during Art Week Tokyo. For 2026, the emerging architect Kae Ito—principal of Office Itokae—designs the bar space, with artists Natsumi Aoyagi, Mariko Mori and Yasuhiro Suda conceiving cocktails that reflect their artistic practices. AWT Bar also hosts sound and performance events, deepening Art Week Tokyo's ties with other creative scenes.

Founder of Art Week Tokyo, Atsuko Ninagawa comments: *'Art Week Tokyo was launched under pandemic conditions in 2021 with a mission to think of new ways of activating the Japanese art scene and reinforcing its connections with the rest of the world. As we approach our fifth full edition this year, it has been incredibly rewarding to see the event develop into a major convening point in the international art calendar. The depth and strength of Japan's art community is what enables us to keep experimenting with new forms of exhibition making and public engagement, and we look forward to continuing to grow that community with the contributions of everyone who participates in Art Week Tokyo.'*

AWT Focus Exhibitions

YUTAKA KIKUTAKE GALLERY — The Quiet

Curated by Augusto Arbizo

New York-based curator and art advisor Augusto Arbizo assembles works by six Japanese and international artists into an intergenerational discourse on painting practices that privilege observation, restraint, and stillness. Artists: Nate Antolik (b. 1981, USA), Diana Cepleanu (b.



1957, Romania), Nobuya Hitsuda (b. 1941, Japan), Yuki Katsura (1913–1991, Japan), Mai Takeshita (b. 1999, Japan), and Gregory Olympio (b. 1986, Togo).

MISAKO & ROSEN — Erika Verzutti

Curated by Julie Boukobza

Julie Boukobza is an independent curator and critic based in Paris and head of the residency program at Luma Arles. This solo project for Brazilian artist Erika Verzutti—whose recent works imagine sculptures as if they were engaged in narrative situations, from resting to having sex—builds on a collaboration the two produced for the Hôtel Balzac, Paris, in 2025.

MUJIN-TO PRODUCTION — The Constitution of Japan 2026

Curated by Greg Dvorak & Kenji Ono

Greg Dvorak, an independent curator and professor of Pacific and Asian history and cultural studies at Waseda University in Tokyo, teams with artist Kenji Ono to head up the third edition of this recurring exhibition using art to reread the Constitution of Japan. Participants include video artist Fuyuhiko Takata and the multimedia duo MES. Part of the exhibition will also be on view at Aoyama | Meguro.

SCAI THE BATHHOUSE — Nobuko Tsuchiya

Curated by Martin Clark

Martin Clark, the director of London's Camden Art Centre, oversees a new, site-specific project by Nobuko Tsuchiya, a UK-based Japanese artist known for her dispersed installations of found materials and sculptural assemblages.

SHIBUNKAKU — Mary Weatherford

Curated by Jeremy Strick

Veteran curator and museum director Jeremy Strick, who has led institutions including the Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, and the Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, presents the first exhibition in Japan of leading American painter Mary Weatherford, with a focus on recent paper and shell paintings.

MISA SHIN GALLERY — Natsumi Aoyagi

Curated by Jaemin Shin

Korean independent curator Jaemin Shin, who runs the creative space the Willow in Seoul, guides this solo exhibition by emerging multimedia artist and poet Natsumi Aoyagi, whose recent moving image and installation works link macro-territory (filled-in land) with micro-social relationships (the family registry system) through the keywords *record* and *ownership*.

SPACE UN — Julianknxx

Curated by Ekow Eshun

British independent curator and writer Ekow Eshun brings one of the UK's most exciting artists, Julianknxx, to Tokyo's space Un. Born in Freetown, Sierra Leone, Julianknxx addresses the history of Africa and its diasporas through poetry, performance, film, music, and sculpture. His



first exhibition in Japan will feature multimedia works inspired by salt and a series of special choral performances.

TAKE NINAGAWA — Koji Kamoji

Curated by Maria Brewińska

Koji Kamoji left Japan for Poland in 1959. Although he became a key contributor to the development of Polish contemporary art, he remains under-recognized outside the country. Maria Brewińska, a former curator at Poland's Zachęta—National Gallery of Art, spearheads this presentation of spatial installations and abstract compositions by the 91-year-old artist.

WAITINGROOM — Patchwork of Ruffled Wings

Curated by Multiple Spirits

Founded by curator Mika Maruyama and artist/actor Mai Endo, the queer feminist collective Multiple Spirits makes exhibitions, produces artworks, and publishes an eponymous zine, among other activities. This exhibition explores the concept of the "vine-like archive" through video works, textiles, printed matter, and other materials by Japanese and international artists.

XYZ COLLECTIVE — Taro Masushio and Sophie Nys

Curated by Olivier Mignon

Japan-based Belgian curator Olivier Mignon is the cofounder and curator of the project space Keijiban in Kanazawa. This two-person exhibition juxtaposes the works of New York-based Japanese photographer Taro Masushio, whose work addresses themes of queer embodiment, with Brussels-based artist Sophie Nys, whose sculptural practice investigates the relationship between language and objects.

Institutional Exhibitions—as of May 28, 2026

ARTIZON MUSEUM

Jam Session: The Ishibashi Foundation Collection x Fujii Hikaru: Whose Light?

Artist and filmmaker Hikaru Fujii is the latest participant in the Artizon Museum's ongoing series inviting artists to engage the collection. Known for addressing themes of postcoloniality, historical memory, and social awareness, Fujii will reread the collection through a critical lens.

MORI ART MUSEUM

Mariko Mori: All That Shines—Curated by Alexandra Munroe and Mami Kataoka

This major retrospective of Japanese art star Mariko Mori features 80 works spanning more than three decades of artistic and conceptual innovations. It is organized by the Mori Art Museum in collaboration with the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation.



MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART TOKYO

Tada Minami: Still, shimmering light + Synchronic Constellation: Cross-Boundary Perspectives in Art, curated by Huang Ya-Li

MOT features a double bill of exhibitions: a first-time retrospective for Minami Tada, who emerged as a leading sculptor in Japan's postwar avant-garde before achieving success across the fields of art, design, and architecture, paired with Taiwanese film director Huang Ya-Li's interdisciplinary investigation into the entangled development of modernity in Taiwan and Japan.

NATIONAL ART CENTER, TOKYO

Shojo Manga Infinity: Moto Hagio, Ryoko Yamagishi, and Waki Yamato

This exhibition shines a light on shojo (girls) manga—a subversive genre in which authors explore themes including gender issues, queer desire, and war—through three giants of the form who have been active since the 1960s.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, TOKYO

Takehisa Yumeji: An Artist Who Defined His Era

Yumeji Takehisa was a prolific creator who worked across painting, illustration, graphic design, and other fields, combining both traditional and modern elements to define the look of early 20th-century Japan. This landmark retrospective assembles some of the artist's most iconic works in one place.

Participating Venues (55 Total)

AWT Focus (10 Venues)

Yutaka Kikutake Gallery · Misako & Rosen · Mujin-to Production · SCAI The Bathhouse · Shibunkaku · Misa Shin Gallery · space Un · Take Ninagawa · Waitingroom · XYZ collective

Institutions (13 Venues)

Artizon Museum · Chanel Nexus Hall · Ginza Maison Hermès Le Forum · Mori Art Museum · Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo · National Art Center, Tokyo · National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo · Pola Museum Annex · Shiseido Gallery · Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum · Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery · Tokyo Photographic Art Museum · Watari-um

Galleries (32 Venues)

Gallery 38 · Anomaly · Aoyama | Meguro · Ceysson & Bénétière · Yumiko Chiba Associates · Fig. · Hagiwara Projects · Taka Ishii Gallery · Kaikai Kiki Gallery · Kosaku Kanechika · Kana Kawanishi Gallery · Kayokoyuki · Tomio Koyama Gallery · Gallery Koyanagi · Leesaya · Fergus McCaffrey · MEM · Mizuma Art Gallery · Ken Nakahashi · Nanzuka · Taro Nasu · nca | nichido contemporary art · Kotaro Nukaga · Pace Gallery · Parcel · Perrotin · PGI · Poetic Scape · ShugoArts · Takuro Someya Contemporary Art · Standing Pine · Tokyo Gallery + BTAP

Notes to editors

Art Week Tokyo is an annual five-day, citywide platform celebrating the creativity and diversity of Tokyo's art scene. Through exhibitions, gallery presentations, performances, talks, and cross-disciplinary programs spanning architecture, design, fashion and culinary culture, it encourages meaningful connection, exchange, and dialogue across communities. By uniting local and international partners and inviting all to participate, Art Week Tokyo champions the city's art ecosystem and supports the continued development of one of the world's most dynamic cultural communities. Art Week Tokyo is organized by Japan Contemporary Art Platform in collaboration with Art Basel, with support from Japan's Agency for Cultural Affairs. Art Week Tokyo's infrastructural development initiative, the Art Week Tokyo Mobile Project, is co-organized by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Art Week Tokyo Mobile Project Organizing Committee.

Atsuko Ninagawa is Cofounder and Director of Art Week Tokyo and Owner and Director of Take Ninagawa, Tokyo. Established in 2008, Take Ninagawa is dedicated to promoting emerging and historically significant Japanese artists in a cross-generational, international framework and to organizing projects by international artists in a Japanese context. Atsuko Ninagawa is a member of the selection committee of Art Basel in Basel and is one of the founders of Japan Contemporary Art Platform. She has also contributed to peer-led initiatives such as South South and Galleries Curate. She has been included in the ArtReview Power 100, an annual ranking of the most influential people in art, every year since 2022. She has also been featured in the Artnet Innovators List, which spotlights innovators who are cultivating the market centers of the future.

Art Basel stages the world's premier art shows for modern and contemporary art, sited in Basel, Miami Beach, Hong Kong, and Paris. Bringing its expertise in organizing world-class art events, Art Basel shares Art Week Tokyo's mission to support the growth of Tokyo's art ecosystem and to establish Tokyo as a convening point for regional and international art professionals and art lovers alike.

Dates: November 4–8, 2026

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