

21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

PRESS RELEASE

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Since April, a long-term exhibition of project format by contemporary artist TAKAMINE Tadasu, "Good House, Nice Body," has been in progress at 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa as the 4th undertaking of the Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme. The project, which takes two parts, "Good House" and "Nice Body," is being produced in collaboration with volunteer participants who have gathered in response to the Museum's public appeal. Part 2 of project, "Good House," will begin this August. Details are provided herein.

Project "Good House"

"The house has become something packaged that you buy from a catalog. We want to take the house back into our own hands."
TAKAMINE Tadasu, WATANABE Kikuma

"Good House"—a work-in-progress project inspired by TAKAMINE Tadasu's hatred for the "fraud" he has detected in contemporary houses. Through their own physical involvement, volunteer participants and museum visitors will create, feel, and think in response to the question, "A place where people live—what is it, what should it be?" and present their results. Takamine has invited WATANABE Kikuma (Associate Professor, Kochi University of Technology; D Environmental Design System Laboratory), an earthbag architecture designer, researcher, and practitioner, to be his project partner and supervise the project. Their aim—to explore the meaning of a "good house" through the process of building with earthbags and recycled materials, and to take "the house" back into their own hands.

Exhibition Title	TAKAMINE Tadasu: Good House, Nice Body
Period / Venue	Thu, April 29 (a holiday) 2010 – Mon, March 21 (a holiday) 2011 [Project 1 / Long-Term Project] April 29, 2010 – March 21, 2011 [Project 2 / Project Room] Sat, August 28, 2010 – March 21, 2011 Hours: Long-term Project / 10:00 - 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays and Saturdays) Project Room / 12:00 - 18:00 Closed: Mondays (Tuesday instead when Monday is a holiday) but open August 9, August 16, August 30, November 22, January 3, also closed September 1, November 24, December 27- January 1
Admission	Free
Organized by	21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (Kanazawa Art Promotion and Development Foundation)
Supported by	Japan Arts Fund
In cooperation with	Hashimoto Architecture and Plants Planning Associate; Clean Recycle Corporation; IAMAS (Institute of Advanced Media and Sciences)

Media Contact 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

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Project Features

1. Exhibition Part 2—"Good House" Looks at Our House

As Part 2 of the "Good House, Nice Body" exhibition being held from April, "Good House" has been inspired by Takamine's hatred for the "fraud" he has detected in contemporary housing. Our house, "the place where we live," is no longer something we have control over. "Good House" endeavors to reconsider what a good house is and take it back into our own hands.

2. A Fast-rising Artist and Dynamic Architect Join Forces

Takamine Tadasu—an artist highly rated for art expression that cuts across genres, employing wide-ranging media. Takamine this time teams up with Watanabe Kikuma, an architect of extensive experience in researching and designing earthbag architecture, who has undertaken many projects in Japan and around the world. With Takamine and Watanabe taking the lead, volunteer participants and visitors will explore the meaning of a "good house" through the process of actually building in the Project Room, using earthbags and recycled materials. Various guest lecturers have also been invited.

3. A Work-in-progress Project of Creating Together, Thinking Together, and Presenting together

This exhibition, launched as the 4th undertaking of the Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme,* is being realized as a collaboration of artists and volunteer participants. In Part 1, "Nice Body," volunteer participants auditioned, performed as actors, and produced a new video installation work. In "Good House," volunteer participants gathering in response to the Museum's public appeal will consider "what a house is" through actual building and discussion, and present their results.

***About the Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme**

The Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme was launched at the Museum in 2007 with the aim of contributing to the development of character in young people by giving them occasions for involvement in art production. It is modeled on the "Zon Moderna" educational diffusion program targeting teenagers at the Moderna Museet in Stockholm. At 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, the program takes the form of a unique long-term exhibition of project format, through which young people find personal growth by working directly with artists.

Previous Programmes

2007 Katsuhiko HIBINO Art Project "HOME→AND←AWAY" SYSTEM

2008 Katsuhiko HIBINO Art Project "HOME→AND←AWAY" SYSTEM meets NODA [But-a-I]

2009 Knit Café in My Room by Mitsuharu Hirose and Minako Nishiyama

Schedule

TAKAMINE Tadasu "Good House, Nice Body"**Project 1 "Nice Body"**

Under the artist's direction, volunteer participants performed as actors and produced a video installation that interweaves imagery and speech, "Good House, Nice Body: Those who built me and passed me by." Currently on exhibit.

· April 29 (Thu, a holiday) to March 21 (Mon, a holiday) 2011

Project 2 "Good House"

With Takamine and Watanabe taking the lead, volunteer participants and visitors will explore the meaning of a "good house" through the process of actually building in the Project Room using earthbags and recycled materials. Various guest lecturers will also collaborate.

· Production work by participants: 8.20 (Fri) to 26 (Thu) 2010 and 2-3 days each month thereafter

· Public viewing (Project Room) 8.28 (Sat) 2010 to 3.21 (Mon, a holiday) 2011

Note: Artist Takamine Tadasu and architect Watanabe Kikuma will reside in Kanazawa until late August. For interviews, please contact the public relations office.

Artist Profile

TAKAMINE Tadasu

Born in Kagoshima Prefecture in 1968. Lives and works in Shiga Prefecture. After graduating from Kyoto City University of Arts & Music, Takamine graduated from International Academy of Media Arts and Sciences (IAMAS) in Gifu. From the early 1990s, he began undertaking art performances and participated in the works of Dumb Type. He currently works in such art genres as installations, video, photography, and performances, using wide-ranging media. Takamine has also produced and directed numerous stage works, sometimes working in a collaborative format. He has achieved international acclaim through his participation in such international art events as the Venice Biennale.

Takamine's works are in the collections of The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo; The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto; Contemporary Art Museum Kumamoto; Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art; Yokohama Museum of Art; and 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa.



Project Partner

WATANABE Kikuma

Born in Nara Prefecture in 1971. After graduating from Kyoto University (Faculty of Engineering Undergraduate School of Architecture), Watanabe completed the graduate course of the Department of Architecture and Architectural Engineering at Kyoto University Graduate School of Engineering. He thereafter went on to but left the doctorate course. Since 2001, he has undertaken the design and construction of earthbag architecture in Japan and India in collaboration with Tenri University. In recent years, he has created unique architectural spaces together with local residents in such locations as Jordan and East Africa by blending earthbag architecture with local traditional construction methods, contributing in this way to the alleviation of poverty in these regions. His numerous earthbag village projects reflect his aim of producing earthbag architecture not simply as a form of physical shelter but also as a vessel for dreams deep within the human subconscious.



Related Events

Besides an artist talk, special programs featuring talks and workshops by guest lecturers are also scheduled.

Note: "Gallery talks by curators" and "Let's Read Picture Books" will also be held during the exhibition.

July

MATSUMOTO Yuichi "enquete-art"

Date/time: Saturday July 31, 14:00 – 15:00

Venue: Project Room, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Admission: No charge

Capacity: Limited to the first 40 arrivals

Media artist MATSUMOTO Yuichi, the soundman for the video installation by Takamine now on exhibit, surveyed numerous people in general concerning "the house." Based on their responses, he will create a new work of "enquete-art."

August

Project Chapter 2 Opening Commemoration

Artist Talk by Takamine Tadasu

Date/time: Saturday August 28, 14:00 – 15:30

Venue: Lecture Hall, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Admission: No charge

Capacity: Limited to the first 80 arrivals

(Numbered tickets will be distributed before the Lecture Hall from 10 am that day)

September

Guest Talk

Talk by Watanabe Kikuma (Architect; Associate Professor, Kochi University of Technology)

Date/time: Thursday September 23 (a holiday), 14:00 – 15:30

Venue: Lecture Hall, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Admission: No charge

Capacity: Limited to the first 80 arrivals

October

Guest Workshop

Instructor: IENARI Toshikatsu (Architect, dot architects)

MIZUNO Daijiro (Design researcher; Part-time Lecturer, Kyoto University of Art and Design)

Date/time: Saturday October 23, Sunday 24

Venue: Project Room, other, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

November

Guest Talk

Instructor: Pisithpong (Ong) Siraphisut (Artist, ComPeung Village of Creativity)

Date/time: Sunday November 21 <tentative>

Venue: Lecture Hall, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Note: Details concerning program participation and fees will be posted on the Museum's website.

Note: Other programs will also be held during the exhibition. Please see the Museum's website.

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TAKAMINE Tadasu,
Twist & Twist,
production view, 2009, Exhibition "TWIST & SHOUT:
Contemporary Art from Japan"
Art and Culture Centre, Bangkok

2



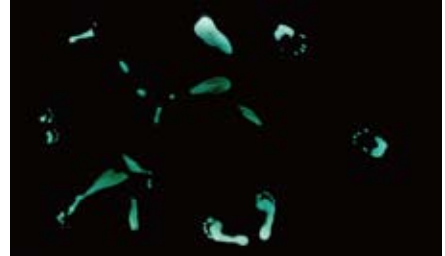
Earthbag library in West India,
D Environmental Design System Laboratory

1



TAKAMINE Tadasu,
Good House, Nice Body: Those who built me and passed me by, 2010
Collection of 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
photo : NAKAMICHI Atsushi / Nacása & Partners

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TAKAMINE Tadasu,
Good House, Nice Body: Those who built me and passed me by, 2010
Still image