PRESS RELEASE 2013.4.18



Exhibition Title

Visceral Sensation - Voices So Far, So Near

Period

Saturday April 27 - Sunday September 1, 2013

Note: The exhibition will be divided in first half (April 27 - June 30) and second half (July 2 - September 1). Some changes will be effected in the artwork displays in the second half.

10:00 - 18:00 (until 20:00 on Fridays and Saturdays) Note: Tickets available until 30 minutes before closing

Closed: Mondays (open on April 29, May 6, July 15, August 12), May 7, July 16

Venue

21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (Galleries 7 - 12, 14, Lecture Hall)

Admission

General: ¥1,000 (¥800) / College students: ¥800 (¥600) / Elem/JH/HS: ¥400 (¥300) / Seniors over 65: ¥800 Combi Ticket for "Fiona Tan" and "Alfredo & Isabel Aquilizan In-Habit" (both opening August 3) General: ¥1,700 (¥1,400) / College students: ¥1,400 (¥1,100) / Elem/JH/HS: ¥700 (¥600) / Seniors over 65: ¥800 (Prices in brackets for groups of 20 or more, and pre-exhibition sales)

Advance Tickets:

Ticket PIA (Tel +81-(0)570-02-9999; [Exhibition ticket P code] 765-618 / [Combi ticket P code] 765-620) Lawson Ticket (Tel +81-(0)570-000-777; [Exhibition ticket L code] 52448 / [Combi ticket L code] 52449) Tickets on sale from March 27 to September 1. Combi ticket on sale from July 3 to September 1.

Paticipating Artists

Louise BOURGEOIS / CHO Shinta / Nathalie DJURBERG & Hans BERG / KATO Izumi / KUSAMA Yayoi / Ana MENDIETA / NAKAGAWA Yukio / Saskia OLDE WOLBERS / OLTA / Pipilotti RIST / SHIGA Lieko / Bill VIOLA / WATANABE Kikuma

Organized by

21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa (Kanazawa Art Promotion and Development Foundation)

Co-organized by

The Yomiuri Shimbun, The Japan Association of Art Museums

Supported by

Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Osaka-Kobe, Lion Corporation, SHIMIZU CORPORATION, Dai Nippon Printing Co., Ltd., Sompo Japan Insurance Inc.

Kingdom of the Netherlan

In cooperation with

NEC Display Solutions, Ltd., JAPAN AIRLINES, Kuni Chemical Co., Ltd., Kanazawa Yuwaku Sosaku no Mori - Center for Crafts and Culture

Inquiries

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21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa



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21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

About the Exhibition

Our organs contain life memory and life rhythms from the far distant past, according to anatomist MIKI Shigeo (1925-1987). Miki's observations of human behavior, senses, and emotions have profoundly influenced diverse fields. This exhibition will ponder Miki's views and take "visceral sensation"—the most primeval and fundamental of the human senses—as an aid to appreciating contemporary artworks that converse with the voices of life within us and induce new perceptual awakenings.

Featured will be 13 artists and artist collaboratives from Japan and abroad: Louise BOURGEOIS, CHO Shinta, Nathalie DJURBERG & Hans BERG, KATO Izumi, KUSAMA Yayoi, Ana MENDIETA, NAKAGAWA Yukio, Saskia OLDE WOLBERS, OLTA, Pipilotti RIST, SHIGA Lieko, Bill VIOLA, and WATANABE Kikuma. All, as artists, consciously or unconsciously explore the sensations, perceptions, and emotions emanating from our primordial physical embodiment, or respond to the life rhythms resonating silently in our organs, the axis of our physical being. Working in painting, sculpture, photography, video, picture books, architecture, installation, and performance, they manifest these inner voices in their artworks.

Today, when our fears of environmental and socio-economic collapse are becoming real—as demonstrated by the anxiety and discomfort we have known, concerning radiation, since the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake and nuclear power plant disaster—what do we feel in our bodies; what are our bodies saying? This exhibition will be a place where visitors, prompted by the sensations they experience in their encounter with each artwork, will tune into, feel, and ponder the "voices so far, so near" that speak within and around them as people of an uncertain age.

YOSHIOKA Emiko, Curator 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

Exhibition Features

Through "visceral sensation"—discovery of a new image of the body and new image of life, for our uncertain times

Under the concept, "visceral sensation," the exhibition will unite our primeval inner "voices of life" and "voices of memory" with the world of the artwork and provide art encounters that joggle our values and view of life and inspire new understandings of the human heart and mind.

Modern masters in one lineup with fast-rising young Japanese artists and overseas artists in their Japan debut

A striking array of artists will be presented, from Kusama Yayoi and Louise Bourgois—modern masters whose repute has been further enhanced by recent touring exhibitions—to the young artists Nathalie Djurberg & Hans Berg in their first Japanese appearance and the young Japanese artist group OLTA in their first special exhibition.

Artworks that transcend genres and appeal broadly to all ages

The exhibition will traverse painting, sculpture, photography, video, picture books, architecture, and performance and present artworks that straddle multiple art fields. Visitors of all ages will explore their own visceral sensations through encounters with artworks of many kinds.

A live arena for tuning into the "voices of life"

An array of related events will be held throughout the duration of the exhibition, including live performances by OLTA, primarily on Fridays, weekends and holidays. Connect with the "voices of life" that resonate in your inner being, through artist mediation in a live format.

Related Events

* Please note that all the events may be subject to alternation without notice. Please check our website for the latest information.

Artist Talks

Date/time:

 Saturday, April 27, 2013 11:00-12:00 Saskia Olde Wolbers 12:30-13:30 Watanabe Kikuma

12.30-13.30 Watahabe Kikuli

14:00-15:00 Kato Izumi

- Sunday, April 28, 2013 14:00-15:00 OLTA

Venue: Lecture Hall

Admission: No charge (with a ticket to this exhibition)
Capacity: First 70 arrivals to each artist talk

Performances by OLTA

OLTA will offer performances in the exhibition venue throughout the exhibition period.

Date/time: Fridays, weekends, and holidays during museum hours

Venue: Exhibition gallery and Courtyard

Lecture "History of Visceral Sensation

—In the Interval between Chimuguri and Nagurusa" (Tentative)

The lecturer, IMAFUKU Ryuta, is an anthropologist and critic (author of *The Heterology of Culture* and other books) who has examined world culture, language, and society from a unique perspective transcending academic frameworks.

Date/time: Saturday, June 29, 2013 14:00-15:30

Lecturer: IMAFUKU Ryuta

(Professor, Graduate School of Global Studies, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies; essay contributor, exhibition catalogue)

Venue: Lecture Hall Admission: No charge (with a ticket to this exhibition) Capacity: 80 first arrivals

Workshop "Creating an Ocean of Voices"

Participants will make devices that, when put to their ear, let them "hear the ocean." These they will use in complete darkness to hear the "ocean inside their body." Simulating the sounds they hear, with their voices, they will create an "ocean of voices."

Date/time: Sunday, July 14, 2013 16:00-19:00

Lecturer: TAMURA Hiroshi (Director, BF.REC; workshop creator; leader of Kurayamino Tones)

Venue: Exhibition gallery, other locations

Age: Junior high school age and older Admission: No charge (with same-day ticket to this exhibition)

Capacity: First 20 arrivals (Prior application required. Telephone applications will be accepted from June 1. TEL 076-220-2801)

Reading Picture Books

A program combining readings of a picture book by Cho Shinta, a participating artist, with viewings of exhibited works. (Readings: HAYASHI Kazumi)

Date/time: Saturday, May 25 / Saturday, June 22 / Sunday, July 21 / Saturday, August 24

From 11:00 each day, about 30 minutes duration

Meeting place: Main entrance (Honda-Dori Entrance)

Venue: Exhibition gallery, other locations Age: For all ages Admission: No charge

Baby Stroller Tour

Walk through the exhibition together with your small child.

Date/time: Thursday, May 23, 2013 10:30-, about 40 minutes duration

Meeting place: Before the Breast-feeding Room

Target participant: Parents with infants and pregnant mothers Admission: No charge (with same-day ticket to this exhibition)

Capacity: First 10 arrivals

Gallery Tour with Your Children

See the exhibition with your children and communicate using "words" and "body."

Date/time: Sunday, June 23, 2013 11:00-, about 40 minutes duration

Meeting place: Before the Breast-feeding Room

Age: Pre-school age children (4-6 y.o.) and their guardians Admission: No charge (with same-day ticket to this exhibition)

Capacity: First 10 arrivals

"Visceral Sensation" Workshop for Elementary School Children

View artworks while thinking about "body" and "mind." Express your feelings in colors and shapes.

Date/time: Thursday, August 22, 2013 1.10:00~12:00 2.14:00~16:00

Meeting place: Kids Studio
Age: Elementary school children

Admission: No charge (with same-day ticket to this exhibition)

Capacity: First 10 arrivals (Prior application required. Telephone applications will be accepted from July 1. TEL 076-220-2800)

Gallery Talks by Curator

See the exhibition with the curator.

Date/time: Saturday, May 25 / Saturday, Jun 22 / Sunday, Jul 21 / Saturday, Aug 24

From 14:00 each day, about 45 minutes duration

Meeting place: Main entrance (Honda Street)

Admission: No charge (with same-day ticket to this exhibition)

Related publication

Scheduled late April publication by AKAAKA Art Publishing Inc.

Essays: IMAFUKU Ryuta (Professor, Graduate School of Global Studies, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies)

YOSHIOKA Emiko (Curator, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa)

Art Direction: TOYONAGA Seiji

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21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa

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Thank you for your understanding and cooperation in advance.

Louise BOURGEOIS

Louise BOURGEOIS The Family 2008 Gouache on paper 59.7 x 45.7 cm each, suite of 12 Courtesy Cheim & Read and Hauser & Wirth Photo: Christopher Burke © Louise Bourgeois Trust/Licensed by VAGA, NY



OR V

Born in Paris (France) in 1911. Died in New York (USA) in 2010. After studying mathematics at Sorbonne, studied art at the Académie de la Grande Chaumière and other art schools. Subsequent to training with such artists as Fernand LEGÉR, Bourgeois moved to the United States in 1938. In New York, Bourgeois befriended Marcel DUCHAMP and other avant-garde artists and threw herself into her art. Burdened by anxiety and loneliness from a troubled family environment in her childhood and adolescence, Bourgeois found her creative impulse in her own traumas and subconscious desires. These she explored in paintings, sculptures, and installations. Throughout her life, she commuted between abstract, semi-abstract, and figurative expression while continually varying her media and expressive methods. Her work has been hailed in feminist contexts, but above all—whether autobiographical pieces exploring intensely personal subjects or the primitive organic-biomorphic forms she created in the late 1960s-it is recognized for its powerful physical presence.

CHO Shinta



CHO Shinta The Mud Man 1997 published by Fukuinkan Shoten

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Born in Tokyo in 1927. Died in Tokyo in 2005.

Born as SUZUKI Shuji, Cho began by painting cinema signs in the early post-war years. In 1949, he was selected in a cartoon contest held by Tokyo Nichi Nichi newspaper and debuted as a manga artist under the penname "Cho Shinta." After his success with the picture book SALAN, the Monkey in 1958, he went on to publish many books as a picture book author.

Cho's bright colors, free-flowing lines, bold compositions, and stories filled with nonsense and humor are best displayed in picture books for which he created both pictures and text. He also produced numerous illustrations, essays, and manga works. Even after his death from illness in 2005, his books have continued to charm readers of all ages, not only children and young adults but also the adults who long ago were his readers. Cho won the 5th Bungei Shunju Manga Award for A King and His Fried Egg, as well as the Japan Picture Book Awards Grand Prize for Little Cabbage and a Japan Picture Book Award for Rubber-Head Pontaro.

Nathalie DJURBERG & Hans BERG

Nathalie DJURBERG & Hans BERG Still from I Found Myself Alone 2008 Clay animation, digital video 9 min. 45 sec. Edition 3/4 Courtesy of Zach Feuer Gallery, New York and Gib Marconi Milan



Nathalie DJURBERG: Born in Lysekil (Sweden) in 1978. Lives and works in Stockholm. Graduated from Malmö Art Academy in 2002. Hans BERG: Born in Rattvik (Sweden) in 1978. Lives and works in Stockholm.

Djurberg began creating video works using self-taught Claymation techniques in 1999. In 2004, she formed a collaboration with musician Berg, who has since composed all the music used in her video works. Their exhibit at the 53rd Venice Biennale (2009) and reception of the Silver Lion for Promising Young Artist brought them international attention, which has led to a succession of solo and group shows throughout the world. In short films of five or six minutes, Djurberg tells a story, marked by naivety and grotesqueness, concerning human (animal) desire for sexual love, food, and things. When combined with Berg's beautiful but anxiety-laden sounds, the result is a work that probes the deep layers of our subconscious.

KATO Izumi

KATO Izumi Untitled 2012 Dawn redwood, acrylic paint Front: H50 x W220 x D45 cm, Back: H30 x W230 x D50 cm Collection of SESAME Photo: TAKASHIMA Kin Courtesy of Hanshin Leisure Facilities. Co., Ltd



Born in Shimane Prefecture in 1960. Lives and works in Tokyo. Graduated from the Department of Oil Painting at Musashino Art University in 1992.

Since the 2000's, Kato has garnered attention as an innovative artist through solo and group exhibitions held in Japan and abroad. Since being invited to the 52nd Venice Biennale (2007), he is increasingly considered an important artist indicative of new painting trends in Japan. Kato depicts human figures with large heads, small limbs, and emphatically rounded bellies. The figures are striking for the distant expression in their perfectly round eyes. Kato does not use a brush, preferring to paint directly with a finger on a rough texture canvas. The "humans" he creates in this manner are loosely connected with background lines evoking mountains or water. They impart to us the vibrations of life and the rhythms of creatures' sympathetic vibrations with nature, often with plants growing from a part of their body. From the mid-2000s, he has also created wood sculptures, and in recent years he is turning to unusual media such as soft vinyl to produce three-dimensional works that seem strangely alive.

KUSAMA Yayoi

KUSAMA Yayoi *The Clouds* 1984 Sewn stuffed fabric, paint Dimensions variable Collection of the artist



Born in Nagano Prefecture in 1929. Lives and works in Tokyo. Graduated from Kyoto Municipal School of Arts & Crafts in 1949. Troubled by visual and auditory hallucinations since childhood, Kusama began to paint pictures covered with patterns of dots and nets from around the age of ten. After staging exhibitions of her paintings in Matsumoto and Tokyo, she moved to the United States in 1957. There, she settled in New York and from 1958 vigorously produced large canvas paintings covered entirely in polka dots. Thus began a line of work she has continued to this day. In the early 1960s. Kusama began producing soft sculptures covered entirely with phallic protrusions. During this period, she also organized a variety of happenings that often involved body painting. After her return to Japan in 1973, her fields of nets and polka dots flowed out in all directions, covering one-dimensional surfaces, three-dimensional objects, and outdoor sculptural works. Today, Kusama's vibrant creative explorations go on, as evidenced by her painting series of recent years, My Eternal Soul. The artworks she has produced during her long career can be considered living signs of the impulses and emotions moving in her innermost being, and living vestiges of her longing for and search to know primordial existence.

Ana MENDIETA

Ana MENDIETA Ana MENDIETA inima, Silueta de Cohetes 1976 Film still from 8mm color film transferred to DVD 3 min. Collection of 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa
© The Estate of Ana Mendieta Collection Courtesy: Galerie Lelong, New York



Born in Havana (Cuba) in 1948. Died in New York (USA) in 1985. Graduated from the University of Iowa in 1969. Completed the master's program at that university in 1972.

At the age of twelve, Mendieta moved to the United States with her sister. While majoring in painting at the university, she was struck deeply by the work of performance artists and actionists, and her interest shifted to art that was more focused on the body. She thereafter began to produce photographs, videos, prints, and performances employing her own body, mud, grass, water, and fire as media. From 1973. Mendieta embarked on her Silueta series. In various outdoor locations, she used her body to create the female silhouette on the earth and filmed and photographed these actions. Through performances involving her own body, she also raised her voice against violence toward women. Mendieta was enjoying growing international acclaim through exhibitions in her native Cuba and residencies in Italy when she died in 1985.

NAKAGAWA Yukio

NAKAGAWA Yukio Sacred Book 1994 (print: 2004)
C-print (carnation, glass)
Collection of 21st Century Museum of
Contemporary Art, Kanazawa



Born in Kagawa Prefecture in 1918. Died in Kagawa in 2012.

Nakagawa's aunt was a master of ikebana (flower arrangement) in the Ikenobo School, so he became her pupil. In 1949, a collection of works he sent to Ikebana Geijutsu magazine was judged of merit by landscape architect SHIGEMORI Mirei, with result that Nakagawa joined Byakutosha, an ikebana artists group organized by Shigemori. In 1951, he left the Ikenobo School. Moving to Tokyo in 1956, he pursued ikebana as an individual artist without belonging to a group or school or taking pupils. Besides his innovative work with flowers, Nakagawa also worked in glass and calligraphy, and he was trained in photography by the renowned DOMON Ken. From the mid-1980s, he embarked on his Karaku series, in which he dripped colored liquid extracted from flowers onto paper with a sponge, causing it to absorb into the paper and spread, and displayed the changes occurring in the color as time passed. As such well-known works as Flowery Priestess (1973) and A Flower is Mystic Mountain (1989) make evident, Nakagawa looked intently at the heroic life of a flower, including its death and decay, and devoted himself body and soul to probing the foundation and essence of life.

Saskia OLDE WOLBERS

Saskia OLDE WOLBERS Placebo 2002 Courtesy of the artist and Maureen Paley, London



Born in Breda (The Netherlands) in 1971. Lives and works in London (UK). Received her B.A. in 1990 from The Gerrit Rietveld Academie and her M.A. in 1996 from Chelsea College of Art and Design

Olde Wolbers, an artist with a strong interest in medicine, psychology, philosophy, and literature, creates video works motivated by a unique vision of the world in which fiction and reality overlap. Her images look like computer graphics, at a glance, but are in fact created using meticulously made models, filmed in the studio with skillful command of lighting and underwater photography. Producing a single work requires one or two years. In a landscape set indoors or in a forest, a city or underwater, utterly uninhabited except for mysteriously flickering objects constructed by the artist, a first-person monologue commences, and before we know it, our deepest memory has become entwined with the world of the video. "Another reality" appears that, while arising from reality or historical fact, deviates, as a result of some circumstance, from the actual timeline of history.

OLTA

OLTA GENSHI Man - Dogu Man 2012-13 photo: OLTA Courtesy of nap gallery



An art collaborative formed of seven artists born in Japan in the 1980s.INOUE Toru: Born in Kanagawa Prefecture in 1986. UMEDA Gosuke: Born in Tokyo in 1985. KAWAMURA Kazuhide: Born in Shizuoka Prefecture in 1984. SAITO Takafumi: Born in Chiba in 1986. HASEGAWA Yoshiro: Born in Fukui Prefecture in 1984. MEGUNINJA: Born in Chiba in 1988. Jang-Chi: Born in Ibaraki in 1983. All live in Tokyo or its suburbs.

OLTA is an art collaborative formed of seven graduates of the Oil Painting Course at the Tama Art University Department of Painting. In 2011, the group received the 14th Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art and quickly came to prominence. OLTA bring such elements as music and video to the creation of installations using soil, reclaimed materials, FRP, and other media, and then interject their own bodies in the form of a performance. Through such performances, they inquire into the creative act and even primordial human desires and perceptions. Taking inspiration from their memory of the climate, culture, and sensibilities of the region they knew in the process of growing up, as well as contacts with sub-culture and mass-media, they create works that travel freely between the future and the ancient past, the universe and the indigenous, and technology and analog.

Pipilotti RIST

Lungenflügel (Lobe Of The Lung) 2009 Audio video installation Installation view, Hayward Gallery 'Eveball Massage London, England (Travelling Exhibition) (2011) Private collection Photo: Linda Nylind Courtesy the artist Hauser & Wirth and Luhring Augustine



Born in Grabs (Switzerland) in 1962. Lives and works in Zurich. Studied illustration and photography at the Institute of Applied Arts in Vienna, then studied video at the School of Design in Basel.

Rist has created a wide-ranging diversity of artworks since the late 1980s using music, video, and graphics, and has experience performing in a music band. The many video installations she produces unfold within their connection with the exhibit space or the viewer's physical art viewing experience. Her film imagery is sometimes light and humorous, and sometimes radical and sensual. Visual elements such as the female body, flowers, plants, fruit, water, land, and animals overlap on different levels, in a whirl of dreamy music and flowing colors. The extreme close-ups of body parts and emphasis on floating effects jolt our physical senses and awaken latent memories. In 2009 she produced her first full-length film, Pepperminta.

SHIGA Lieko

SHIGA Lieko Kaleidoscope of Psychosis from the series CANARY C-type print



Born in Aichi Prefecture in 1980. Lives and works in Miyagi Prefecture. Entered Chelsea College of Art and Design in London in 1999 and graduated from there in 2004. Received the 33rd Kimura Ihei Commemorative Photography Award in 2008 for her photographic collections CANARY (2007) and Lilly (2007).

During residences in different countries and regions, Shiga takes photographs on the basis of fieldwork and research. The prints she creates with this approach appear like snapshots at a glance, yet she in fact brings considerable orchestration to their production, which involves re-photographing her original photograph. Amid this process, she is able to bring to the surface unconscious aspects of daily life, as well as hints of mysterious powers, sensations, and emotions latent within us, with almost physically intuitive sensibilities. Since moving to the region of Kitagama in Natori-shi, Miyagi Prefecture, she has performed as the community's official photographer charged with recording traditional local events, while creating artworks. The fruits of this residence she presented in the 2012 RASEN KAIGAN at Sendai Mediatheque.

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Bill VIOLA

Bill VIOLA *The Passing* 1991 In Memory of Wynne Lee Viola Video, black-and-white, mono sound 54 min. Photo: Kira Perov Courtesy Bill Viola Studio



Born in New York (USA) in 1951. Lives and works in California. Obtained a B.F.A. in Experimental Studios at Syracuse University in 1973.

Viola began producing video art in the 1970s while in the university. While living in different countries, including Japan, and experiencing the culture, religion, and thinking of each land, he has expressed themes of spirituality, physical being, and emotion employing extremely direct, powerful video language, always from a taciturn philosophical perspective. Considered a video artist of the first order, he has influenced generations of young artists. In 1995, he represented the United States at the Venice Biennale. A major international touring exhibition of his work organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art (1997) and a solo exhibition at the J. Paul Getty Museum (2003) were highly acclaimed. His large-scale solo exhibition at Mori Art Museum is also still fresh in memory. In recent years, he has undertaken work for a new production of the opera, *Tristan und Isolde*.

Born in Nara Prefecture in 1971. Lives and works in Kochi and

WATANABE Kikuma

WATANABE Kikuma Image for Space between Twin Tunnels 2013 Courtesy of the artist



Nara Prefectures. Graduated from the Department of Architecture, Faculty of Engineering at Kyoto University in 1994. Left the doctoral program of the same department in 2001. While employed at Toyokazu Matha Month Community Design

Watanabe served as Chairman for the Kyoto Community Design League (Kyoto CDL). In 2007, he founded D Environmental Design System Laboratory. 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, East Africa, and Thailand by blending earthbag architecture with local traditional construction methods, contributing in this way to the alleviation of poverty in these regions. Watanabe is pursuing something he calls "Glocal Architecture," this being architecture that considers the environment of our earth and the related problems with attention to the special character of the local climate, natural environment, culture, and customs. Currently, while teaching as an associate professor at Kochi University of Technology, he is engaged in research and fieldwork in various regions, aimed at returning to architecture's beginnings to discover architecture of a different dimension