

# GENKYO YOKOO TADANORI

Sat. 17 Jul - Sun. 17 Oct, 2021 / Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo

*It's not what to paint. It's not how to paint. It's not how to live…… – Tadanori Yokoo*

We are delighted to announce the “GENKYO YOKOO TADANORI” exhibition to be held at Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo from July 17 to October 17, 2021.

Since debuting in 1960s, Tadanori Yokoo has always been active on the front lines as one of the leading contemporary artists, keeping fascinating Japan and the world. The exhibition showcases the comprehensive collection of Yokoo’s creative work that stretches over 60 years. Yokoo himself supervised this exhibition for the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo by reorganizing his successful exhibition titled “GENKYO YOKOO TADANORI”, which was held at the Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art and drew much attention as the artist’s largest-ever exhibition. In this exhibition, more than 600 items will be on display, including his latest works shown to the public for the first time.

Yokoo has been depicting the “realm of imagination” (幻境, pronounced “genkyo”) as a wildly splendid world of images that draw from the “original homeland” (原郷, also pronounced “genkyo”) of all human souls. The exhibition will be an opportunity for witnessing the “present state” (現況, again pronounced “genkyo”) of Tadanori Yokoo’s art.



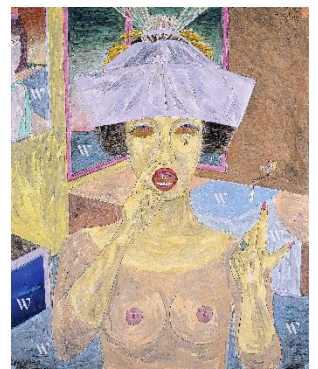
Tadanori Yokoo, *T+Y Self-portrait*, 2018 Private Collection

## Highlights

### 1. The largest-ever exhibition with the comprehensive look at Yokoo’s art

For 40 years since his so-called “painter’s declaration” in early 1980s, the artist Tadanori Yokoo has created a countless number of works using everything in nature as motifs without adhering to any given style. “GENKYO YOKOO TADANORI” in Tokyo is the largest-ever exhibition featuring the comprehensive collection of Yokoo’s art with more than 600 items, centering on paintings. The exhibits also include his early graphic works.

Tadanori Yokoo, *The Planet W*, 2005 Collection of the Artist



## 2. Exhibition supervised by Tadanori Yokoo himself

Under the supervision of Tadanori Yokoo, the successful “GENKYO YOKOO TADANORI” exhibition held at Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art under the theme of “A Visual Autobiography” has been reconstructed from the bottom up and reborn into a totally new one with more than half of the works from the "GENKYO" exhibition replaced.

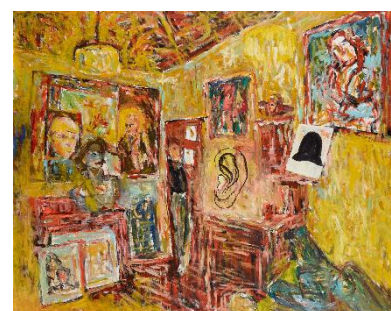
Tadanori Yokoo, *Hanshan and Shide* 2020,  
2019 Collection of the Artist



## 3. Unseen latest works revealed

The whole world is facing the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the unprecedented situation, Yokoo has shut himself up in his studio day after day devoting himself to paintings, while refraining from going out and receiving visitors. In this exhibition, more than 30 large paintings Yokoo created between the last year and this year will be presented for the first time.

Tadanori Yokoo, *Expensive Purchase*,  
2020 Collection of the Artist



## 4. Large sensory installation

In “Waterfall Installation”, the gallery walls are lined with over 10,000 postcards of waterfalls, which Yokoo collected as a reference for drawing waterfall paintings.

The exhibits also include works from “WITH CORONA” series, which are scattered throughout the museum. Yokoo has been posting the “WITH CORONA” series, a collage of his works or photos with a mask motif, on Twitter and his blog since May, 2020.



[Reference photo] “Waterfall Installation”  
at Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art



Photo: Noriko Sunami,  
2020

### Profile of Tadanori Yokoo

#### Tadanori Yokoo

Tadanori Yokoo was born in 1936 in Nishiwaki, Hyogo Prefecture. After graduating from high school, he started his career as a designer in Kobe, went to Tokyo in 1960 and became widely known as a graphic designer and illustrator. In 1980, after seeing a comprehensive Picasso retrospective exhibition at MoMA in New York, he set out to become a full-fledged painter. Using various techniques and styles, Yokoo has produced paintings on various themes relating to all things in the universe, which made him an internationally acclaimed artist. After 2000s, his works have been exhibited at many museums in Japan and the world; Yokoo’s solo exhibitions were held at national and public museums in Japan and at the Fondation Cartier pour l’art contemporain in Paris (2006). Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art opened in Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture in 2012 and Teshima Yokoo House opened in Teshima, Kagawa Prefecture in 2013.

## Information

- Exhibition Period : Sat. 17 July - Sun. 17 October 2021
- Venue : Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo Exhibition Gallery 1F/3F (4-1-1 Miyoshi, Koto-ku, Tokyo)
- Closed : Mondays (except 26 July, 2 August, 9 August, 30 August, 20 September), 10 August, 21 September
- Opening Hours : 10:00 - 18:00 (Tickets available until 30 minutes before closing.)
- Admission :  
Adults – 2,000yen / University & College Students, Over 65 – 1,300yen /  
High School & Junior High School Students – 800yen /  
Elementary School Students & Younger – Free
- Organized by : Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo operated by Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture, The Asahi Shimbun, TV Asahi, Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Japan Arts Council
- Specially cooperated by : Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art, The National Museum of Art, Osaka
- Sponsored by : TOPPAN PRINTING CO., LTD.
- Curated by : Yusuke Minami (Former Director, Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art)
- Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo website : <https://www.mot-art-museum.jp/>
- Exhibition special website : <https://genkyo-tadanoriyokoo.exhibit.jp/>
- Exhibition official Twitter : @GENKYO\_Yokooten
- Contact 050-5541-8600 (Hello Dial) 7 days a week 9:00 - 20:00

\*Please note that schedules and other details are subject to change.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture are carrying out this exhibition as part of the Tokyo Tokyo FESTIVAL.



## ★Exhibition Official Catalogue

### Official Guidebook

“GENKYO YOKOO TADANORI I ”

Published by: Kokushokankokai Inc.

Price: 2,420 yen (2,200 yen without tax)



### Official Catalogue

The definitive collection of works by an artist Tadanori Yokoo. A comprehensive compilation covering about 900 images of Yokoo's works. To be published in mid-July, 2021.

NO IMAGE

## Touring Exhibitions Schedule

Sat. December 4, 2021 – Sun. January 23, 2022

Organized by: Oita Prefectural Art Museum operated by Oita Prefectural Arts, Culture and Sports Promotion Foundation, The Asahi Shimbun

Specially cooperated by: Yokoo Tadanori Museum of Contemporary Art, The National Museum of Art, Osaka

## ★Concurrent Exhibitions

MOT Annual 2021: A sea, a living room and a skull

MOT Collection

### Press Contact

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