

Synchronic Constellation: Cross-Boundary Perspectives in Art

September 5 – December 13, 2026

Modern Taiwanese Art through the Lens of a Maverick in Taiwanese Cinema

The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo is pleased to present “Synchronic Constellation: Cross-Boundary Perspectives in Art,” an exhibition that reconsiders the cultural and artistic modernity of Taiwan and Japan. The show draws inspiration from a film on the Le Moulin Poetry Society, a collective of modernist writers founded in Taiwan in the 1930s. Featuring approximately 200 modern Taiwanese artworks, 500 related archival materials, and 100 contemporaneous Japanese pieces, the exhibition maps a constellation of intercultural exchange, inviting viewers to rethink modernity through from today’s vantage point.

The film *Le Moulin* (2015, released in Japan in 2017) traces the efforts of a group of poets who introduced Surrealism to Taiwan during the Japanese colonial period and composed their own verses in Japanese, weaving together a diverse body of work from across multiple regions, generations, and genres. The film offers no fixed narrative, leaving room for each viewer to form their own interpretation. Its director, Huang Ya-li, serves as guest curator for the present exhibition. The six chapters of the show translate *Le Moulin*’s reflections, along with its editing techniques, into the space of the museum, bringing together artworks, literature, cinema, music, theater, and dance in a montage-like constellation. The galleries itself thus functions as a device that generates intersections of multiple relationships, implicating the viewers themselves, through its incorporation of footage directed by Huang Ya-li, reflective surfaces, and a seemingly labyrinthine floor plan.

The individual endeavors in modern Taiwan and Japan each possessed a radiance of their own. While not geographically adjacent, they belonged to the same era, linked together like stars in multiple constellations. The present exhibition seeks to distance itself from existing narratives and linear conceptions of history, fostering instead complex and diverse connections, not only among the works themselves, but also with our own bodies and perspectives. Encountered in that space, these artworks and documents emerge not as mere fragments of the past but as experiences of the present—an invitation to reexamine our own point of view.



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Guest Curator | HUANG Ya-li

Huang Ya-li is a curator and filmmaker. He has long been dedicated to the interdisciplinary exploration and practice of arts and literature. At the core of his work is the excavation and reconstruction of forgotten cultural nodes within Asian modern and contemporary history. His film *Le Moulin* (2015) won Best Documentary at the Golden Horse Awards and received multiple honors at the Taiwan International Documentary Festival (TIDF). He curated the exhibition *Synchronic Constellation: Le Moulin Poetry Society and Its Time — A Cross-Boundary Exhibition* at the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts in 2019, and the accompanying publication received numerous accolades.

Exhibited Works and Featured Artists

This exhibition consists of approximately 200 paintings, sculptures, prints, and photographs. This is supplemented with around 500 archival materials sourced from over 15 Taiwanese institutions including the Tainan Art Museum, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts, and National Taiwan Library, as well as private collections.

The featured artists are essential to understanding modern Taiwanese art such as HUANG Tu-shui (1895–1930), CHEN Cheng-po (1895–1947), LI Mei-shu (1902–1983), HO Te-lai (1904–1986), LIN Yu-shan (1907–2004), KUO Hsueh-hu (1908–2012), HONG Rui-lin (1912–1996), HUANG Tsao-tsao (1915–1999), CHEN Hsiayu (1917–2000), and CHUANG Shih-ho (1923–2020).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Exhibition Title: Synchronic Constellation: Cross-Boundary Perspectives in Art

Exhibition Period: September 5 – December 13, 2026

Opening Hours: 10 AM – 6 PM (Tickets available until 30 minutes before closing)

Closed: Mondays (except Sept 21, Oct 12, Nov 23), Sept 24, Oct 13, Nov 24

Venue: Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Exhibition Gallery 1F / 3F

Admission: Adults: 2,000yen

University & College Students, 65 and over: 1,400yen

High School & Junior High School Students: 800yen

Elementary School Students and younger: Free

Website: <https://www.mot-art-museum.jp/en/exhibitions/Constellation/>

Inquiries: 03-5245-4111 (Main line)

Organized by: Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo operated by Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture and Roots Films Ltd.

Special cooperation by: Tainan Art Museum, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, National Museum of History, National Museum of Taiwan Literature, National Museum of Taiwan History, Soka Art Museum, Taoyuan Museum of Fine Arts

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Cooperation by: TAIWAN TSUTAYA, eslite spectrum nihonbashi

Supported by: Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association

Guest Curator: HUANG Ya-Li (Director of *Le Moulin*)

Exhibition Design: UxU Studio (CHEN Kuan-Hung, CHEN Ying-Chu)

Co-Curators: KANESHIMA Takahiro (Associate Professor, SCAPE, Kanazawa College of Art), TORIGOE Mayu (Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo)

Also on View

August 29 – December 6, 2026 *Tada Minami – Still, Shimmering Light*

September 19, 2026 – January 6, 2027 *MOT Collection*

CONTACT Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo | Public Relations (Kudo / Uchibori / Nagata / Otsuka)
E-MAIL: mot-pr@mot-art.jp TEL: +81-3-5245-1134 <https://www.mot-art-museum.jp/en>
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Notes

If only one image is to be published, we recommend either **1. Main Visual** or **2. CHEN Cheng-po, A View of Chiayi Park**.



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Caption Information and Credit Lines

1. Main Visual
2. CHEN Cheng-po, *A Scene at Chiayi Park*, 1934, Collection of Chen Li-po
3. FUJISHIMA Takeji, *Landscape of Tainan*, 1933, The Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura & Hayama
4. YANG San-lang, *The Lady in Paris*, 1932, Yang San Lang Museum
5. TOGO Seiji, *Surrealistic Stroll*, 1929, Sompō Museum of Art © Sompō Museum of Art, 26012
6. CHEN Cheng-po, *Nude Female with a Green Mask*, c. 1929–1933, Private Collection
7. HSU Chen-Chou, *Aoarashi (Rising Wind)*, 1953, Taoyuan Museum of Fine Arts
8. SHIOTSUKI Toho, *Lubuw (Jew's harp)*, 1946–1954, Taoyuan Museum of Fine Arts