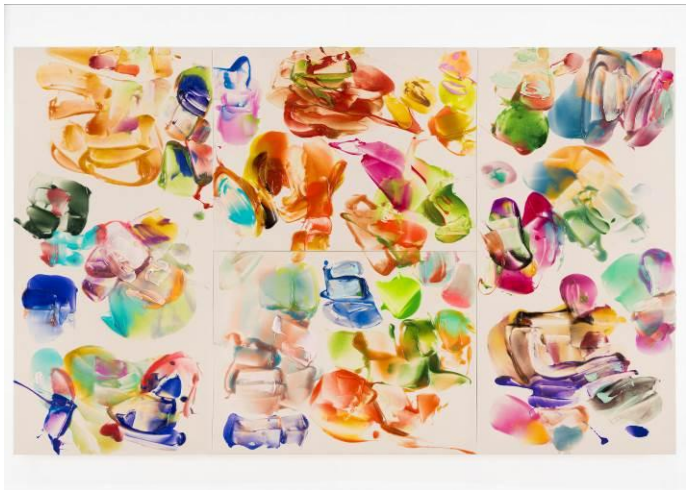


Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo

Kenjiro Okazaki

April 29 – July 21, 2025

The first large-scale exhibition in Tokyo devoted to Kenjiro Okazaki (1955-), one of Japan's foremost artists who is also celebrated for his diverse artistic practice encompassing architecture, environmental and cultural-area planning, children's books, and robotics design, not to mention his active work as a critic of culture in general. In showcasing Okazaki—an artist whose international reputation has grown in recent years—this exhibition will focus on new works created after a pivotal shift in 2021, while also featuring major works from throughout his career. Through them, we hope to unfold the possibilities and power of art creation as a method of perceiving the world.



Left) Kenjiro Okazaki

But in truth, the first creatures were driven from the sea. They fled. That's why so many of us get seasick. A mudskipper crawled onto the beach, raising its head. "Look," he said, beholding the vast expanse. "Thousands of miles of flat nothing."

Fish swim through water endlessly; no end to the water they swim. Birds fly through sky ceaselessly; no end to the sky they fly.

There is no reason. We skipped the light fandango, though in truth we were at sea. She said, "I'm home" leaving for the coast.

Darkness covered the empty earth; The Spirit hovered over waters. Let there be waters teeming with life, birds multiplying on earth. All that moves in sea and sky, each according to its kind, merely drifted through the world. Evening fell, then dawn broke.

2024 | 182.0 × 260.7 cm | Acrylic on canvas

Photo©Shu Nakagawa

Right) Kenjiro Okazaki *Title to be determined

2024 | 224.0 × 363.5 cm | Acrylic on canvas

Photo©Shu Nakagawa

Kenjiro Okazaki

Kenjiro Okazaki (b. 1955) is a Japanese plastic artist whose works span over several genres, including painting, sculpture, as well as landscape and architecture. Many of his works have been featured in public collections throughout Japan and in various exhibitions around the world. In 2002, Okazaki was selected as the director of the Japanese pavilion of the International Architecture Exhibition in Venice Biennale. His works include a collaborative performance 'I Love my Robot' with the choreographer Trisha Brown, premiered in early 2007. He received Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship at Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden (HMSG) in 2014.

Major solo exhibitions include *Kenjiro Okazaki - Retrospective Strata* (Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, 2019-2020) and *ART TODAY 2002 Kenjiro Okazaki* (Sezon Museum of Modern Art). He also exhibited his major works at Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo in 2009 (*MOT Collection "Special feature: Kenjiro Okazaki"*).

He is also extremely active as a critic, and is the author of several books, including *Jikonjigo: Hihyo no atosaki: Okazaki Kenjiro Hihyo Senshu vol. 2* [而今而後 批評のあとさき (岡崎乾二郎批評選集 vol.2), *Jikonjigo: Here After Critique: Collection of Critical Essays vol.2*] (Akishobo, 2024), *Atamano uewo nanikaga* [頭のうえを何かか, *One Passed Over Head*] (Nanarokusha Publishing, 2023), *Kaiganomoto: Topica Pictus* [絵画の素 TOPICA PICTUS] (Iwanami Shoten, Publishers, 2022), *Topica Pictus* (urizen, 2020) and *Renaissance: Keiken no Joken* [ルネサンス 経験の条件, *Renaissance: Condition of Experience*] (Chikuma Shobo, 2001/Bungeishunju Gakugei Library, 2014). He received the Ministry of Education Award in Fine Arts for *Chusho no chikara: kindageijutsu no kaiseki* [抽象の力 近代芸術の解析, *The Analysis of Modern Art: Abstract Art as Impact*] (Akishobo, 2018) in 2019 and the Mainichi Publishing Culture Award for *Kankaku no eden: Okazaki Kenjiro Hihyo Senshu vol. 1* [感覚のエデン (岡崎乾二郎批評選集 vol.1), *Sensorial Eden: Collection of Critical Essays vol.1*] (Akishobo, 2021) in 2022.

Information

Exhibition Period	Tuesday, April 29 – Monday, July 21, 2025
Opening Hours	10 AM – 6 PM (Tickets available until 30 minutes before closing.)
Venue	Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Exhibition Gallery 1F/3F
Organized by	Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo operated by Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture
Curated by	Tomoko Yabumae (Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo)
WEB	https://www.mot-art-museum.jp/en/exhibitions/kenjiro/

*Further details will be announced on the website.

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Credit lines



01

Kenjiro Okazaki

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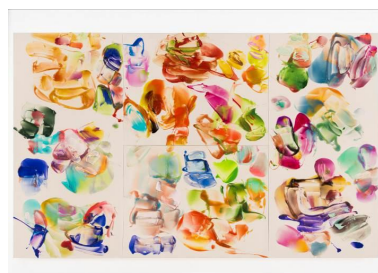
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Kenjiro Okazaki *Title to be determined

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