

PRESS RELEASE October 2nd, 2019

THE NEW YORK ART SCENE From Rothko and Warhol to Kusama and Basquiat
From the Collection of The Museum of Modern Art, Shiga and More

November 14th (Thursday), 2019 – January 19th
(Sunday), 2020

The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama

New York has drawn attention for its successive creation of innovative expressions in post-World War II art. During the war, many artists emigrated from Europe to the United States to escape from the ravages and introduced contemporary art, which stimulated American youth and paved the way for new and enthusiastic expressions.

In those days, Cubism and Surrealism were at the forefront, and movements to overtake them created new forms of paintings called “abstract expressionism” as a result of the action or intense gesture of the painter, or as the vast expanse of a color field. Moreover, a Dadaistic act of Marcel Duchamp—he submitted a men’s urinal to an exhibition—gave an influence to Neo-Dada artists, who considered daily life and arts to be equivalent. Against the backdrop of the mass consumer society, an interest in popular culture was to bloom as unique American art, known as pop art. Meanwhile, from the 1960s onward, extremely stoic and reductive art that explored the root of art made an appearance in the same city, New York. In the city, which should be regarded as the capital of contemporary art, many Japanese artists also played a lively part; some of them enjoy worldwide fame today, such as Yayoi Kusama and On Kawara.

This exhibition shows about 100 works, centering on one of Japan’s best

collections of the postwar American art owned by the Museum of Modern Art, Shiga, currently closed for renovation, and also including excellent pieces of work from museum collections in Japan. Through these works, the exhibition features a half century of American art unfolded in the city of New York.

Exhibition Structure

Chapter 1 New American Paintings - Abstract Expressionism

Exhibiting artists: Arshile GORKY, Mark ROTHKO, Jackson POLLOCK, Barnett NEWMAN, Ad REINHARDT, Cy TWOMBLY, Willem DE KOONING

Chapter2 Marcel Duchamp and His Offsprings - Neo Dada and Fluxus

Exhibiting artists: Marcel DUCHAMP, Jasper JOHNS, Robert RAUSCHENBERG, Shusaku ARAKAWA, John CAGE, Fluxus, Gorge MACIUNAS, Mieko SHIOMI

Chapter3 The Dreams of Pax Americana - Pop Art and Super - Realism

Exhibiting artists: Tom WESSELMAN, Roy LICHTENSTEIN, Andy WARHOL, Jim DINE, Chuck CLOSE, George SEGAL, James ROSENQUIST

Chapter4 The Ultimate Painting - Post Painterly Abstraction

Exhibiting artists: Morris LOUIS, Kenneth NOLAND, Frank STELLA

Chapter5 Art at the Limit - Minimal Art and Conceptual Art

Exhibiting artists: Frank STELLA, Yayoi KUSAMA, Tadaaki KUWAYAMA, Carl ANDRE, Donald JUDO, Robert MORRIS, Sol LEWITT, Richard SERRA, Agnes MARTIN, On KAWARA

Chapter6 From Post Modernity Onwards - New Painting and Appropriation Art

Exhibiting artists: Hiroshi SUGIMOTO, Jonathan BOROFKY, Ushio SHINOHARA, Cindy SHERMAN, Jean- Michel BASQUIAT, Tatsuo KONDO, Felix GONZALEZ - TORRES

Exhibition Outline

1. Exhibition dates: November 14th (Thursday, Prefectural Citizens' Day), 2019
– January 19th (Sunday), 2020
Closed: Monday (open on January 13th), December 27th –
January 3rd
2. Opening hours: 10:00 – 17:00
(Last admission to the Exhibition Room: 17:00)
3. Admission: Adults: 1,200 (960) yen

High school and university students: 960 (770) yen

*Group fee in brackets applies to 20 or more people.

*Free for junior high school students and younger, as well as disabled persons (and one attendant) upon presentation of their ID booklet.

*Includes admission to the MOMAS collection (1st floor Exhibition Room).

4. Organizer: The Museum of Modern Art, Saitama
5. Special cooperation: The Museum of Modern Art, Shiga
6. Subsidized by: Japan Foundation for Regional Art-Activities
7. Cooperation: JR East Omiya Branch, FM NACK5
8. Number of exhibits: About 100

*Some of the exhibits will be changed midway through the exhibition. First half: November 14th (Thursday) – December 15th (Sunday)

Second half: December 17th (Tuesday) – January 19th (Sunday)

For more information, please visit the museum website.

9. Directions: Address: 9-30-1, Tokiwa, Urawa-ku, Saitama-shi, Saitama 330-0061, Japan

Tel: 048-824-0111 Fax: 048-824-0119

<http://www.pref.spec.ed.jp/momas/>

The museum is located inside Kita-Urawa Park, a 3-minute walk from the West Exit of Kita-Urawa Station on the JR Keihin-Tohoku Line.

JR Kita-Urawa Station is approximately 35 minutes by train from JR Tokyo or JR Shinjuku Station.

Parking is not available at the museum. Please use the coin-operated parking lot named “Mitsui Repark, the Museum of Modern Art, Saitama East,” which can be used at a reduced price (300 yen off for special exhibitions and 100 yen off for the MOMAS Collection). Please contact us prior to your visit if you are planning on coming by chartered bus. Persons with disabilities can use our business-use parking space. However, space is limited.

Events

I Museum College 2019—Visual Expressions in 20th Century America— <Saitama University’s 70th Anniversary Celebration Project>

In association with the special exhibition, the Faculty of Liberal Arts, Saitama University, and the Museum of Modern Art, Saitama will jointly host the following

open lectures.

Time: 15:00 – 16:30 (doors open at 14:30) on all days / 2nd floor Auditorium /
Seating capacity: 100 (first-come, first-served) / Admission: Free

(1) November 16th (Saturday) “New York Art Scene: Development and Features of Postwar American Art”

Shinichiro Osaki (Planner of the “New York Art Scene” exhibition, Deputy Curator of the Tottori Prefectural Museum)

(2) November 23rd (Saturday) “Rothko, Cornell, Flavin, A Journey to Solitude, or Sidereal Country America” Yukiko Kato (Associate Professor, Saitama University Center of Educational Research)

(3) November 30th (Saturday) “Between Dance and Non-dance: Jadson Group and Its Surroundings”

Kikuko Toyama (Professor, Saitama University Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences)

(4) December 7th (Saturday) “From the New Bauhaus to the MIT: G. Kepes’s Art & Science” Toshino Iguchi (Professor, Vice President, Saitama University Graduate School of Humanities and Social Sciences)

II Museum Concerts

(1) December 1st (Sunday) “New York, Following the Shades of Memories” 14:30 – 15:30 (doors open at 14:00) / 2nd floor Auditorium / Seating capacity: 60 (first-come, first-served) / Admission: Free / Performers: Shingo Okudaira The Force Special <Shingo Okudaira (Ds), Makoto Oka (Sax), Mayuko Katakura (Pf), Keisuke Furuiki (B)> / Program: Shingo Okudaira, who has been active in New York for many years, selects music from jazz standards and his original pieces based on his rich experience.

(2) December 22nd (Sunday) “Flutes Are Magicians: Surging Energy!” 14:30 – 15:30 (doors open at 14:00) / Basement Center Hall / Seating capacity: 60 (first-come, first-served) / Admission: Free / Performers: Yohei Topo Yamashita (quena), Tomohiro Ibaraki (ocarina), Yuya Mori (piano) / Program: In concert with diverse exhibits including Latin artists, Yohei Topo Yamashita, a specialist of the quena, a South American flute, selects music rich in variety.

III Gallery Talk by the Exhibition Curator

December 14th (Saturday), January 11th (Saturday), about 30 minutes from 15:00 on both days / 2nd floor Exhibition Room / Special exhibition admission fee required.

IV Slide Talk

We will guide interested groups through the highlights of the exhibition using slides (reservation required).

For inquiries and reservations, please contact the education and public relations staff (Tel: 048-824-0110).

Contact Us

Exhibition staff: Mr. Ogoshi, Mr. Kikuchi / Inquiries on public relations and images: Mr. Yata

Tel: 048-824-0111 (Main) / 048-824-0110 (Curation Department) Fax 048-824-0118

About images for media use

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Images for media use



(1)
Arshile Gorky, *Untitled*
(*Landscape of Virginia*),
circa 1943-44
Oil on canvas, Collection of
the Museum of Modern Art,
Shiga



(2)
Morris Louis, *Dalet Peh*,
1959, Acrylic on canvas,
Collection of the Museum
of Modern Art, Shiga