## **Eko - Interconnected Origins**

「回向 — つながる縁起」展



An experimental test version of the new exhibit ©Ingo Gunther

Announcement of Tochoji's new exhibit 'Eko - Interconnected Origins'

Tochoji Temple is holding an exhibit and supplementary programs to explore the idea of *eko* at the project space of P3 art and environment for three months from July 11<sup>th</sup> 2015. In them, eko will be examined and experienced from the six aspects of relaying, tying, weaving, resonating, connecting, and continuing through contemporary art, talks, live music and workshops.

*Eko* is a Buddhist concept, especially within the Mahayana tradition, about transferring merit that one has accumulated to others so that they might also benefit. A cyclical worldview, the very foundation upon which Tochoji is based, permeates the exhibit and the events around it.

Tochoji has been a pioneer in exploring new roles for Buddhist temples. One example is its unique system of providing and managing graves in which it conducts regular memorial services for individuals who wish to have their own grave independent from traditional family graves or family temple base graves. This approach has drawn wide attention from the media.

We would like to invite you to the exhibit and events to experience eko with your own senses.

# Features of the exhibit 'Eko - Interconnected Origins'

- 1. Experience contemporary and classical sounds.
- Sound art, and music from ancient traditions such as Noh and Indonesian Gamelan... live musical events will be held in the Temple's Main Hall. The Hall has been built following a traditional architectural method to enhance the resonance of chanted mantras. It will be a rare opportunity to listen to a variety of musical expressions in a special space.
- 2. The Buddha of light emerges from 5000 optical fibers by collecting natural light from outside. The artist Ingo Gunther from New York created a Buddha that emerges and vanishes in accordance with the amount of natural light available outside of the building.
- 3. Cai Guo Qiang will be a guest at one of the talks.

The renowned Chinese artist Cai Guo Qiang and Tochoji have a long-standing friendship of over twenty years. He will be joining the talk on July 12th.

Opening Reception

July 11th 2015 (Saturday) 17:00 ~ 19:00

Location: P3 art and environment (Shinjuku Gyoenmae Annex Building 1F, 4-34-1 Yotsuya,

Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo)

Live music: Indonesian Gamelan performed by Koheisai Kawamura and Tomoyuki Hamamoto

First Chapter: Relaying Second Chapter: Tying

Seeing Beyond the Buddha by Ingo Gunther

Under the theme of Relaying, the artist Ingo Gunther has created a new work, *Seeing Beyond the Buddha*. He uses 5000 optical fibers to relay natural light collected from outside to form an image of the Buddha that fades in and out in a reflection of subtle changes in the outdoor sunlight.

Under the theme of Tying, artist Daisuke Yamashiro's visual work and traditional bamboo crafts will be exhibited.

Location: P3 art and environment

Admission: free

## **Chapter Three: Weaving**

Under the theme of 'A Story of Memories', four talks will be organized. The memories of guest speakers from different fields will be shared and passed on to the future.

Location: Tochoji Rakan-do / Admission: free / 50 seats / Please reserve your seat in advance. / moderator Takashi Serizawa

- 1. July 12th (Sunday) 13:00~ Succession of Memories by Cai Guo Qiang
- 2. August 29th (Saturday) 18:00~ *Journey of Fragrance A 500-year Tradition of the Exclusive Transmission of the Teaching from Father to a Single Son* by Sohitsu Hachiya (21st generation of the Shino School of Kodo)
- 3. September 18th (Friday) 19:00~ *Origin of Humans* by Naohiro Takanashi (Director of Tenpura Astronomy Promotion Project / Specially Appointed Associate Professor of the University of Tokyo)
- 4. October 2nd (Friday) 19:00~ Memories of Wisdom by Naoki Ishikawa (Photographer)

#### **Chapter Four: Resonating**

Under the theme of 'Resonating Mind, Resonating Voice', three musical events will be held in Tochoji's Main Hall. The structure of the hall is designed to resonate the sound of chanting mantras, making it a perfect space for a musical performance.

Location: Tochoji Main Hall / Admission: free / 100 seats / Please reserve your seat in advance.

- 1. August 23rd (Sunday) 18:00~ Takuji Aoyagi (Artist)
- 2. September 27th (Sunday) 17:00~ evala (Musician, Sound Artist)
- 3. October 9th (Friday) 19:00~ UrotsuteNoyako (Bali Gamelan), Reijiro Tsumura (Kanze School Noh Performer)

Please make reservations on P3's website. Reservations will be accepted from July 1st.

## **Chapter Five: Connecting**

Two workshops will be held with the theme of 'A City that Connects the Past and Future'. One will offer kids a hands-on experience in a bamboo craft that has been practiced for many years in the

city of Beppu; the other will be a walk through the city and a tasting of an edible geographical model.

1. August  $21^{st}$  (Friday)  $12:00 \sim 16:00$  Memory of Handicraft by Shigeomi Ohashi (Beppu Bamboo Craft Maker, Japanese Traditional Craftsman)

Location: Tochoji / For third grade elementary school to middle school age kids / 10 seats / Cost: 1,000 yen

2. October  $3^{rd}$  (Saturday) 14:00  $\sim$  17:00 *Memory of a Place* by Kimiko Sugiura (Writer, Photographer)

Location: Tochoji / 15 seats / Cost: 1,000 yen

Please make reservations on P3's website. Reservation will be accepted from July 1st.

#### **Chapter Six: Continuing**

Yoko Ono's *Wish Tree* will be exhibited. The wishes that people tie to a tree will be gathered and sent to Yoko Ono's permanent installation *Imagine Peace Tower* in Iceland after the exhibit. The tree itself will be planted in the garden of Bunyukaku.

## Eko - Interconnected Origins

Participants and Guest Speakers of the Exhibit:

Ingo Gunther, Daisuke Yamashiro, Cai Guo Qiang, Sohitsu Hachiya, Naohiro Takanashi, Naoki Ishikawa, Takuji Aoyagi, Urotsutenoyako, Reijiro Tsumura, evala, Yoko Ono, Shigeomi Ohashi, Kimiko Sugiura

For the profiles of the participants and guest speakers, please click here.

Duration: Open  $11:00 \sim 17:00$  on Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays between July 11th (Saturday) and October 12th (Holiday Monday)

- \*Open until 19:00 on Fridays and on the dates when evening events take place.
- \*Please see P3's website for the days when the exhibit is closed and for special days when the exhibit is open.

Organized by Tochoji Temple

Venue / Planning / Production: P3 art and environment (P3 Tochoji's Cultural Department)

URL: http://p3.org/echo

Bankizan Tochoji Temple of the Soto Sect

Tochoji is a Zen temple infused with a 420-year history. As a Buddhist temple in contemporary society, Tochoji has been actively taking new steps to redefine its role; the founding of the contemporary art production organization P3 art and environment to commemorate its 400th anniversary; the organizing of the Asian Festival; the arranging of graves for individuals and postmortem services while they are still alive; all while maintaining conventional Buddhist services. In 2015, Tochoji constructed a new Bunyukaku Hall as a base for new activities rooted in Buddhist principles and focused more on future generations.

For further information, please contact: Shinobu Ito or Taro Sakata P3 art and environment Shinjuku Annex Building 1F 4-34-1 Yotsuya, Shinkuku-ku Tokyo Japan 160-0004 tel: 03-3353-6866 fax: 03-3353-6971