

FUTURE AND THE ARTS: AI, ROBOTICS, CITIES, LIFE - HOW HUMANITY WILL LIVE TOMORROW

NOVEMBER 19 [TUE], 2019 - MARCH 29 [SUN], 2020

MORI ART MUSEUM [53F, ROPPONGI HILLS MORI TOWER]

WHAT IS TRUE AFFLUENCE, WHAT IS IT TO BE HUMAN, WHAT IS LIFE? EXHIBITING OVER 100 PROJECTS/WORKS THAT GO BEYOND THE CONFINES OF FINE ART

The Mori Art Museum, Tokyo is proud to present *Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life - How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow* from Tuesday, November 19, 2019 to Sunday, March 29, 2020.

Advances in technology over the past few years are now starting to have a significant impact on various aspects of our lives. It is said that not too far in the future, human beings will be entrusting many of their decisions to AI (artificial intelligence) which will then supersede human intelligence; the advent of “singularity” will potentially usher in enormous changes to our society and lifestyles. Another development, that of blockchain technology, looks set to build new levels of trust and value into our social systems, while advances in biotechnology will have a major impact on food, medicine, and the environment. It is also possible that one day, we humans will be able to extend our physical functions, and enjoy longer life spans. The effect of such changes may not be necessarily and universally positive, yet surely we need to at least acquire a vision of what life may look like in the next 20-30 years, and ponder the possibilities of that new world. Doing so will also spark fundamental questions about the nature of affluence and of being human, and what constitutes life.

Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life - How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow, consisted of five

sections: i.e. “New Possibilities of Cities;” “Toward Neo-Metabolism Architecture;” “Lifestyle and Design Innovations;” “Human Augmentation and Its Ethical Issues;” and “Society and Humans in Transformation,” will showcase over 100 projects/works. The exhibition will aim to encourage us to contemplate cities, environmental issues, human lifestyles and the likely state of human beings as well as human society - all in the imminent future, via cutting-edge developments in science and technology including AI, biotechnology, robotics, and AR (augmented reality), plus art, design, and architecture influenced by all these.



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2019
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PRESS RELEASE

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GENERAL INFORMATION

Exhibition Title: *Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life - How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow*

Organizers: Mori Art Museum, NHK

Supervisor: Ito Joichi (Director, MIT Media Lab)

Curated by: Nanjo Fumio (Director, Mori Art Museum), Kondo Kenichi (Curator, Mori Art Museum), Tokuyama Hirokazu (Associate Curator, Mori Art Museum), Honor Harger (Executive Director, ArtScience Museum, Singapore)

Curatorial Advisors: MIT Media Lab; SymbioticA, The University of Western Australia; The Mori Memorial Foundation

Exhibition Period: November 19 [Tue], 2019 - March 29 [Sun], 2020

Venue: Mori Art Museum, 53F, Roppongi Hills Mori Tower, 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo

Hours: 10:00-22:00 | Tue: 10:00-17:00 | * Open until 22:00 on Tuesdays of November 19, December 31, 2019 and February 11, 2020 | * Admission until 30 minutes before closing. | * Open every day.

Admission: Adult: ¥1,800 / University/highschool student: ¥1,200 / Child (age 4 up to junior highschool student) ¥600 / Senior (ages 65 and over): ¥1,500 | * All prices include tax. | * Ticket also valid for Tokyo City View observation deck (excludes Sky Deck) | * Additional entrance fee to Sky Deck required.

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The latest exhibition press images are available on our website for downloads:
<https://press.mori.art.museum/en/press-img>



Bjarke Ingels and Jakob Lange
The Orb
2018
Photo: Michael Filippoff

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FEATURES

1. An Exhibition Prompting Us to Think about Our Lifestyles from Now on, and How Human Beings Will Look in the Not-Too-Distant Future

Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life – How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow will look at our near future with its potential for enormous changes thanks to advances in technology. It is not hard to imagine a rose-tinted future of glorious freedom in which AI and robots liberate us from labor. On the other hand, there are those who warn of humans being controlled and enslaved by these same technologies. At this exhibition, we will invite visitors to join us to consider the kind of future that might await humanity, and the kind of future we ought to be building.

2. A Cross-Genre Thematic Show with Exhibits Not Limited to Contemporary Art

The Mori Art Museum has in the past presented unique, thematic exhibitions combining contemporary art with historical and scientific objects, including *Medicine and Art* (2009-2010) and *The Universe and Art* (2016-2017). This exhibition will go a step further, mixing an array of very different exhibits not confined to the contemporary art genre, but also including urban theory and architecture, design and product innovation, bio-art, and even movies and manga, in an endeavor to develop a unique style of art exhibition.

3. A Glimpse of Life in the Near Future

The exhibition will feature rather futuristic works and products connected with the basic human needs of food, clothing and housing, e.g. products/items of apparel, furniture, lighting and foodstuffs, firing the visitors' imaginations with an advance taste of items and systems that will bring added convenience and comfort to everyday living while being still environmentally-conscious, and perhaps become integral to our lives in the coming decades.

4. "Bio-Atelier" Art Laboratory!

Artists are trying to expand the scope of their subjects and artistic expression by using biotechnology. An experimental studio that gathers their works will be set up at the exhibition, with displays including a work that uses modern biotechnology to recreate the left ear that Vincent Van Gogh is believed to have cut off himself.

5. Exhibition As a Platform for the Sharing of Culture and Opinions by Raising Current, Global Issues Ahead of 2020

With the year 2020 looming, the movement of people and goods both within Japan, and in and out of the country, is gathering pace, and there is a growing need for us to take a fresh look at this country from even more international viewpoint. *Future and the Arts* exhibition will be a platform for internationally-focused discussion on matters we are now confronting, such as urbanization, environmental problems, aging demographics, automation in various fields and more – all concerns that architects, designers, artists and researchers around the world are attempting to address – and their accompanying challenges for the future.

6. Collaborating with AI to Create an Exhibition Title for the First Time

Mori Art Museum has collaborated with the "IBM Watson" suite of AI (artificial intelligence) technology and services developed by IBM to come up with the title for this exhibition. The title chosen from over 15,000 AI-generated options is now finalized as *Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life – How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow*.*

* For details, see the separate "Newsletter" of the same date.

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EXHIBITION STRUCTURE – FIVE SECTIONS

Section 1 New Possibilities of Cities

New cities being constructed are starting to make the leap beyond conventional urban parameters to desert, sea and air. They are reminiscent of, almost a revival of Metabolism* envisaged and conceptualized by young Japanese architects during the 1960s. Most of them did not come to fruition with then technologies, however, with the advances of information technology and biotechnology, the real Metabolism cities that are sustainable, and environmentally-sound are becoming possible. In this section, we look at the leading examples of urban planning, and the truly unique visions of artists and architects, via photographs, video and models and more.

* Metabolism: Japan's unique architectural movement and theory developed in the 1960s by Kurokawa Kisho, Kikutake Kiyonori, Maki Fumihiko and Ekuan Kenji. The term was derived from the word metabolism, based on the philosophy that architecture and city should be designed organically just as life repeats growth and change.

Section 2 Toward Neo-Metabolism Architecture

This section will introduce and discuss possibilities of today's architecture as exemplified by the development of environmentally-friendly organic building materials and some new construction methods that fully utilize advanced technologies represented by 3D printers, drones, robotics and such. Coexisting with nature, sustainable and dynamic, they flexibly metabolize – suggesting the possibilities of Neo-Metabolism architecture.

Section 3 Lifestyle and Design Innovations

Technical innovations are steadily altering the way we eat, dress and live. The appearance of computer modeling and 3D printing has changed the course of design history, while the development of artificial foodstuffs, for example, has emerged as one solution to global challenges such as population growth and food shortages. This section looks at the kinds of design and products emerging from the latest technologies and radical new concepts, and explores their potential to generate new lifestyles.



Bjarke Ingels Group
Oceanix City
2019



WOHA
The Oasia Hotel Downtown 2016
Photo: Patrick Bingham-Hall



Vincent Fournier
The Man Machine
2009-2017



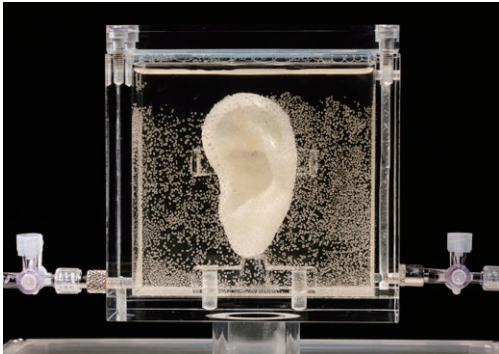
Amy Karle
Internal Collection
2016-2017

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Section 4 Human Augmentation and Its Ethical Issues

Advances in robotics and biotechnology help expand human capacity while making it possible to overcome incurable diseases. As wonderful as it all sounds, this also raises ethical questions about the extent to which we as humans should be altering our bodies. This section focuses on the body, that greatest of all human concerns.



Diemut Strebe
Sugababe
2014-



Agi Haines
Thermal Epidermalplasty (from the series "Transfigurations")
2013

Section 5 Society and Humans in Transformation

Technological developments and the concomitant changes in outlook overturn previously-accepted notions of society and what it is to be human. In future we may see humans being nursed by robots, for instance, or "sharing" of children with the DNA of three or more parents. This last section in the exhibition urges us to rethink the definition of "human," "life" and "happiness," and questions what we should do to move to a better future.



Hasegawa Ai *Shared Baby* 2011



Zackary Canepari and Drea Cooper *THE DOG* 2015



Tezuka Osamu
Phoenix: Chapter of Future
1967-1968
© Tezuka Productions

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[ALSO ON VIEW]**MAM COLLECTION 011, MAM SCREEN 012 + MAM PROJECT 027**

Organizer: Mori Art Museum **Period:** Tuesday, November 19, 2019 – Sunday, March 29, 2020

* *Future and the Arts* admission ticket also valid for these three small programs.



MAM COLLECTION IS A SERIES OF DIVERSE, THEME-BASED EXHIBITIONS SHOWCASING MORI ART MUSEUM'S PERMANENT COLLECTION.

**MAM COLLECTION 011:
YOKOMIZO SHIZUKA + MATSUKAWA TOMONA
- THE PERSONAL TIME WE ARE LIVING**

Curated by: Tokuyama Hirokazu (Associate Curator, Mori Art Museum)

MAM Collection 011 will present Yokomizo Shizuka's video portrait of retired British female pianists *Forever (and again)* (2003), coupled with Matsukawa Tomona's paintings of women who work and live in Roppongi, Tokyo; thus exploring what it means to live and work in today's world by observing women of different cultures and generations.



Yokomizo Shizuka *Forever (and again)* 2003
2-channel video installation 17 min. (loop)
Courtesy: WAKO WORKS OF ART, Tokyo
Installation view: *Forever (and again)*, IZU PHOTO MUSEUM, Shizuoka, 2018 Photo: Kioku Keizo



MAM SCREEN FEATURES SIGNIFICANT SINGLE-CHANNEL VIDEO WORKS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

MAM SCREEN 012: CHEN CHIEH-JEN

Curated by: Yahagi Manabu (Assistant Curator, Mori Art Museum)

Chen Chieh-jen (b. 1960 in Taiwan) produces video works based on historical memories that continue to dwell in abandoned industrial complexes. His works attempt to critically rewrite Taiwan's tumultuous history from its martial law era to contemporary period governed by neo-liberalism – by interlacing present day images of former workers and archival footages. *MAM Screen 012* presents Chen's oeuvre, largely drawn from the museum collection.



Chen Chieh-jen *Factory* 2003
Super 16mm transferred to DVD, color, silent
31 min. 9 sec. (loop)



MAM PROJECTS IS A SERIES OF EXPERIMENTAL PROJECTS PRODUCED BY THE MORI ART MUSEUM IN COLLABORATION WITH ARTISTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

MAM PROJECT 027: TALA MADANI

Curated by: Tsubaki Reiko (Curator, Mori Art Museum)

Tala Madani (b. 1981 in Tehran, currently based in Los Angeles), is known for a satirical, humorous style that transcends her Iranian/American cultural background to serve up shrewd critiques of contemporary society and the march of globalization. *MAM Project 027* will present paintings and works on video from this high-profile international artist, including a number of new works.



Tala Madani
Corner Projection with Prism Refraction and Buckets
2018 Oil on linen (diptych)
182.9 x 182.9 cm [left panel], 182.9 x 365.8 cm [right panel]
Courtesy: 303 Gallery, New York
Photo: Fredrik Nilsen

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