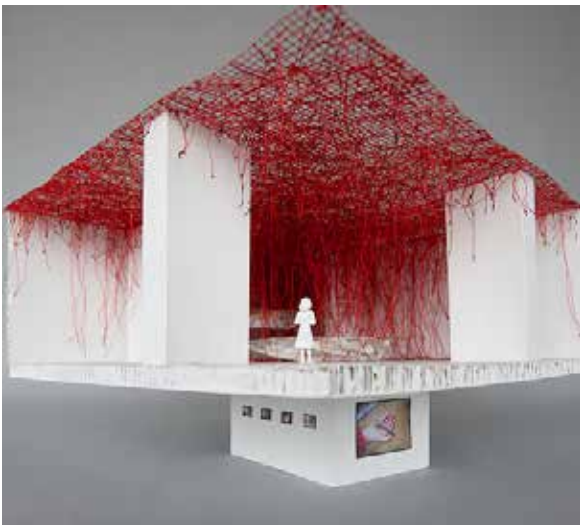


## The 56th International Exhibition–la Biennale di Venezia (2015) Chiharu Shiota has been selected to represent Japan

The Japan Foundation is proud to announce that the artist and the curator have been selected to represent the Japan Pavilion at the 56th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale, opening on May 9, 2015. We will issue updates as the project develops. We hope your media organization to feature the news.



*The Key in the Hand* 2014  
Photo:Sunhi Mang

### Japan Pavilion at the 56th International Art Exhibition– la Biennale di Venezia

**Title:** The Key in the Hand  
**Artist:** Chiharu Shiota  
**Curator :** Hitoshi Nakano (Curator, Kanagawa Arts Foundation)  
**Dates :** May 9 - November 22, 2015  
**Organizer :** The Japan Foundation  
**Website :** <http://www.jpjf.go.jp/venezia-biennale/art/e/56/index.html>

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**Japan Pavilion at the 56th International Art Exhibition– la Biennale di Venezia**

**Chiharu Shiota**

Born in Osaka Prefecture in 1972. Lives in Berlin.

Confronting fundamental human concerns like life and death, Shiota explores questions such as “What does it mean to be alive?” and “What is existence?” in large-scale installations that make use of a variety of media including sculptural elements, photography, and video. In 2007, she was awarded the Ministry of Education in the Art Encouragement Prize for her solo exhibition “From in Silence,” held at Kanagawa Kenmin Hall. She has held solo shows at the Museum of Art, Kochi (2013), Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art (2012), Casa Asia (Spain, 2012), and the National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan (2008) among others. She has also participated in countless international exhibitions such as the Kyiv International Biennale of Contemporary Art (Ukraine), Art Setouchi (Japan), Aichi Triennale (Japan), Moscow Biennale of Contemporary Art (Russia), International Biennial of Contemporary Art of Seville (Spain), Gwangju Biennale (South Korea), and Yokohama Triennale (Japan). She was also named Japan Cultural Envoy by the Agency for Cultural Affairs in 2012 and visited Australia in this capacity.

**Hitoshi Nakano**

Curator, Kanagawa Arts Foundation. Born in Kanagawa Prefecture in 1968.

Completed a master’s program in art history at the Graduate School of Letters, Keio University.

Among the performing arts events he has organized are “Music / Poetry / Drama: The Tale of Ikutagawa – Based on the Noh Play Motomezuka” (New Contemporary Noh, Kanagawa Kenritsu Ongakudo, 2004), “Alma Mahler and of the Viennese Fin-de-Siècle Artists” (music / art, Kanagawa Kenritsu Ongakudo, 2006), and “John Cage Centenary: A Struggle Between Time and Space” (music / dance, Kanagawa Prefectural Gallery, 2011). In the field of contemporary art, he has curated the following exhibitions: “Shiota Chiharu: From In Silence” (2007), “Koganezawa Takehito: Between This and That” (2008), “Everyday Life / Another Space” (2009), “Asaba Katsumi: Harbor of Design” (2009, 2010), “Izumi Taro: Kneading” (2010), “Everyday Life / Hidden Reasons” (2011), “Sawa Hiraki: Whirl” (2012), all of which were held at Kanagawa Prefectural Gallery; and “Everyday Life / Off the Record” (Kanagawa Arts Theatre, 2014). He has also organized and produced collaborative projects using installations and performing arts. He is a part-time instructor at Tokai University.

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