

PRESS RELEASE February 7, 2012

## First Full-scale Contemporary Art Exhibition in Maldives Breathing Atolls: Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition

The Japan Foundation and National Centre of the Arts will present the first full-scale contemporary art exhibition *Breathing Atolls: Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition* by Japanese and Maldivian artists at The National Art Gallery of Maldives spanning from March 20 to April 19. Maldives, which consists of approximately 1,200 large and small islands, is well known for its unique beautiful natural environment formed with coral reef called “Atoll” scattering on the blue sea as if it forms a gentle loop. In spite of its beauty, Maldives has been facing danger of becoming submerged due to sea level rise caused by global warming. At this exhibition, participating artists will produce and show works to focus on natural environment, features and cultures in Maldives through installation, video, architecture, photo and drawings.

Japanese artists are planning to conduct on-site research in Maldives prior to the exhibition and wholly observe geographic and cultural environment peculiar to Maldives and people’s lifestyles through exchange with the local people. The works will be exhibited at The National Art Gallery of Maldives and verdant Sultan Park next to the gallery.

### Breathing Atolls: Japan-Maldives Contemporary Art Exhibition



Yukihiro Taguchi  
MAGU  
Street work,  
Performative  
installation(incl.  
Frottage, Press-print)  
2012  
Male, Villingilli,  
Maldives  
mixed media  
Size: variable

**【Date】** March 20 (Tue.) to April 19 (Thu.), 2012

**【Venue】** The National Art Gallery of Maldives, Sultan Park

**【Organizer】** The Japan Foundation, National Centre of the Arts

**【Curator】** Sachiko Namba (I plus N Ltd.)

**【Artists】** Terunobu Fujimori, Fujiko Nakaya, Haruka Kojin, Tetsuro Kano, Yukihiro Taguchi, Yodogawa-Technique, Afu (Afzal Shafiu Hassan), Ali Nishan (Millzero)

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