

KAKEHASHI Project: Japan-U.S. Young Creators Exchange Group 4 Five contemporary artists to visit the U.S. experiencing its vibrant art scene and presenting their artworks

Starting from the fiscal year 2014, the Japan Foundation carries out the Japan-U.S. Young Creators Exchange Program to cover four major areas of *Cool Japan*: fashion, design, anime and art. In November 2014, the Program will dispatch five artists, who have won several awards in Japan, and are expected to be more internationally active in the near future, to the U.S. as its fourth group.

The participants are scheduled to go on a seven-day tour and to visit two cities: New York that is one of art capitals of the world and Los Angeles which is considered to be the cultural hub of the West Coast. They visit major museums, galleries, and art studios, to build a network between Japan and the U.S. In addition, a presentation event, *The Next Big Thing! Five Contemporary Japanese Artists*, will be held at Japan Society in New York. The aim of this tour is to promote Japanese culture through their works and to deepen people's interest in and understanding our cultural values. For more information, please contact us as shown below.

Japan-U.S. Young Creators Exchange Group 4

<Duration of Stay> Sunday, November 9 – Saturday, November 15

<Destination> New York (NY), Los Angeles (CA)

<Main Activities> Delivering a presentation on their artworks at Japan Society

Networking with people in the U.S. art industry

Visiting museums, galleries, studios and other art-related institutions

<Participants>



Mariko Tomomasa

Mariko Tomomasa casts a question to audience about communication by using various forms of art. She was selected for 2013 VOCA exhibition, and has had many solo and group exhibitions.



Gaetan Kubo

Gaetan Kubo dynamically expresses elements positioned outside of modern society, such as the occult, delusions, and urban legends. He won several awards including Sony Movie Works in 2006 and Gunma Biennale for Young Artists 2012.



Shiho Kagabu

Shiho Kagabu expresses relations among space, objects and human beings with avant-garde ideas and has a potential to break new ground in the field of contemporary art. She has participated in many exhibitions including *Artist File 2013* (The National Art Center, Tokyo).



Yasuka Goto

Yasuka Goto dynamically draws people who survived a war and other tough periods, through careful research. She won several awards including the Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art.



Yuta Nakamura

Yuta Nakamura is an artist who started his artistic career as a ceramicist. Referring to the history of ceramics, he creates his artworks which reveal various contradictions lurking in the process of Japanese modernization.

* This program is part of the KAKEHASHI Project -The Bridge for Tomorrow- within the Youth Exchange Program with North America promoted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA).

* The Japan Foundation KAKEHASHI website: <http://www.jpff.go.jp/e/intel/youth/index.html>

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