

The Magical House

マジカル・ハウス

Exhibition
08.06.—
30.07.16

パリ
日本文化会館

Maison
de la culture
du Japon
à Paris



Transphère #2

Art - architecture

トランスフェリア #2

Atelier Bow-Wow + Didier Fiuza Faustino

アトリエ・ワン
(塚本由晴、貝島桃代、玉井洋二)
+
デイデイエ・
フィウザ・フォステイノ

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75015 Paris
Métro Bir-Hakeim
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Free entry

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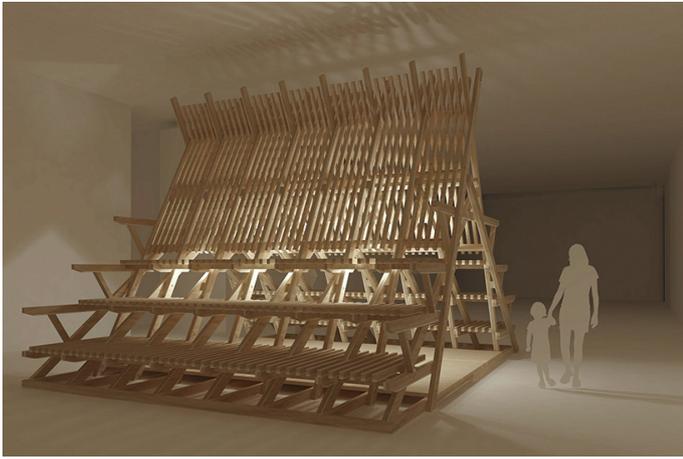


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The Magical House is a project designed for Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris (The Japan Cultural Institute in Paris) by the Atelier Bow-Wow (Yoshiharu Tsukamoto, Momoyo Kaijima and Yoichi Tamai, Tokyo) and Didier Fiuza Faustino (Bureau des Mésarchitectures, Paris). These architects have long explored the issue of the habitat, inventing innovative and often provocative 'machinery / habitats'.

They have come together to create a 'magical environment' for the second component of the *Transphere* Exhibition cycle.

The **Atelier Bow-Wow** and **Didier Fiuza Faustino** are among the most outstanding representatives of this generation of architects of the last decade who have emerged to bring a fresh look to the definitions of architecture hitherto established. Their research on the living conditions in contemporary cities is artistically subversive and socially engaged.

For this exhibition, **The Magical House**, the architects have chosen to work with a common material in a logic of cyclical production. This material - wood - used in the construction of the two architectures, is sourced in Portugal, where Didier Fiuza Faustino comes from, and will be returned at the end of the show for a second life. The two houses, rebuilt in the middle of a forest, will be accessible to all. Although the architects have decided to work with this same material, the cells they present offer visitors two complementary visions.

For this collaboration, Didier Fiuza Faustino designed a polyhedron with rounded edges. Closed on the outside by translucent walls, balancing on one of its sides, the hermetically sealed structure is like a refuge, a cell in which one might protect oneself from a hostile environment. You could close yourself inside in order to open up to other areas, to travel elsewhere, even within oneself. This cabin might also be a childhood memory, a space shuttle in which we imagine traveling through the cosmos.

Alongside this sensitive, intimate installation, the Atelier Bow-Wow has made the generous offer of a roof-shaped structure the public can enter under to take shelter, or sit upon, making it a place of exchange and conviviality. Both opaque and transparent, this structure reminds us as much of the slatted facades of traditional Japanese townhouses, or *machiya*, as it does of the roofs of the first Shinto shrines.

Visitors are invited to experience both architectures plunged into a darkness inhabited by a shadow play of light, and of sound and silence, creating a poetic atmosphere inspired by *In Praise of Shadows*, the masterpiece by the writer Junichiro Tanizaki, and the concept of the 'uncanny' described by Sigmund Freud.

Though the exhibition invites poetic meanderings, it also makes it possible to rethink current urban issues, the problems of space, but also to question the relationship between individuals and their privacy.

It will be conducive to the organization of workshops and meetings.

Curator : **Hou Hanru** (Artistic Director of the National Museum of XXI Century Arts - MAXXI, Rome)

Maison de la culture du Japon à Paris

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EXHIBITION

From June 8 to July 30, 2016
Exhibition room (level 2)

Opening hours

Tuesday to Saturday
from 12pm to 8pm
Closed public holiday

Free entry

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Around the exhibition

MEETING

Wednesday, June 8 at 6:30 p.m.

with **Momoyo Kaijima (Atelier Bow-Wow)** and **Shooshie Sulaiman**

In collaboration with the Kadist Art Foundation

(Limited number of seats / reservation www.mcjp.fr)

Contemporary architectural creation is part of a social and cultural debate that questions our relationship to urban space - public, private - and questions the encounter between art / architecture. These topics and others will be discussed throughout the evening by Momoyo Kaijima, co-founder of Atelier Bow-Wow, and artist Shooshie Sulaiman whose multifaceted work includes an architectural dimension. It will also be an occasion to enjoy the structure designed by the Atelier Bow-Wow for MCJP in another manner. Conceived as an immersive work, open to the public and disposed to meditation, it will provide time for a public meeting space favorable to discussion and reflection.

POETRY EVENING

June 25 at 6 p.m.

(Limited number of seats / reservation www.mcjp.fr)

Plunged in darkness, *The Magic House* sensitively combines art, architecture and poetry. The MCJP is thus offering an immersion in this dreamlike world with a poetry evening during which **Anny Romand** will be the voice of the poet **Masayo Koike** for *Maisons en Poèmes*.

WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNGSTERS

22 and 29 June, 6 and 13 July

(Limited number of seats / reservation www.mcjp.fr)

Workshops will be offered to children Wednesday afternoons in the exhibition space.

A good opportunity to discover this intriguing Magic House from a different perspective!