

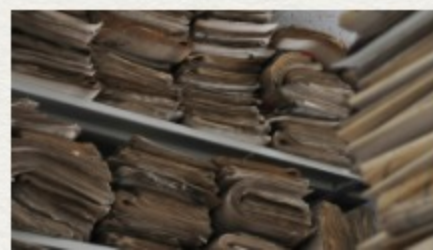
# IYAMA Yuki



▶ *hidden names*

2014, 2021, video, 25'12"

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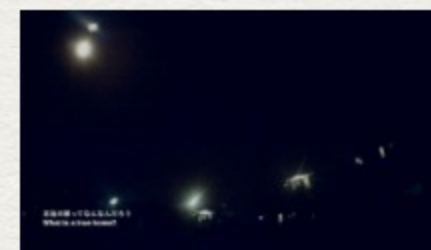




▶ *We walk and talk to search your true home*

2013, video, 33'41"

© liyama Yuki



あなたの本当の家を探しに行く

OCT. 24TH NIGHT

“This isn’t my true home.”

She begins to cry and tries to call her “true home” from the line that’s already dead.

She is about to leave the house in her pajamas in search of her “true home,” so I say to her, in the darkness of the garden, let’s make it another time. I feel like going out to look for her “true home” with her, but I see my mother shake her head no, so I let go of the idea. I do have work tomorrow and it does seem cold outside, but then, “where” is this place that we’re living now?

NOV. 18TH NIGHT

Let’s go find your “true home.”

When one of our family members who hears and sees hallucinations is having a bad day, the rest of the family, including me, feel a bit tired and confused, and wait for her to calm down. We wonder what made her so upset. Was it the conversation that we just had? That could be the reason, but there are times when she becomes this way when nothing seems wrong for us. We can’t understand. She can’t convert the things that she sees into a painting like that famous artist. Occasionally we see exhibitions of “Outsider Art,” but maybe it’s more rare for those people to be able to “express” the things they see and hear. The majority of the people who have mental illness – a word I don’t wish to use so much – are probably struggling to find a way to express themselves and end up relying on medications to live. As for myself, my senses must have been numbed because I was so used to living around people who can draw and design during my college days. I had believed that anyone can make something, but this wasn’t true. Living with my sister again after being apart for few years, I realize there are things that people just can and can’t do. But at the same time I also remember that we can all fill in for each other’s impossibilities.

The words that she speaks when she's having one of those days are perplexing. That day, she was trying to leave the house to look for her "true home," although she has been living in the house that she was born and raised. When she's in her world, we can't tell if our words are reaching her, and her will of action is so strong that it takes the three of us, or the whole family to stop her. But sometimes we can't stop her. What are her memories and experiences like when she's like this? What would become clear to us if we let her do what she wants? Another member of our family is so stressed from living with an elderly and a sick that can't help but to say to her, "We'll put you in the hospital again." I bet there are so many families like this out there. (I don't know how it is in the urban hospitals, but) The town we live is so rural that the hospital where we can take her puts her in the protection room when she has hallucinations. They say it's because the actions of patients with such symptoms are unpredictable and that they don't have enough staffs to look after her.

Protection room is a room where patients who become violent or have hallucinations are put into. Apparently, there's nothing there. Her doctor too asks her, "Do you want to be hospitalized?" in the same sense to put pressure on her. (Later, when they told the doctor that it hurt us to hear him say that, apparently he apologized, saying that he never meant to threaten her and that he was sorry if he sounded that way.) But this makes it seem like the symptom of having hallucinations itself is a crime. She worries about how she's going to live alone after our parents die. I say to her, as I eat my breakfast, that we'll live together like "The Whales of August." And I wonder if her anxiety is relieved somewhat with these words. Even if I live away from my family someday, I will live with her when I grow old, and she would be an old lady too, living the same years that I have. I understand a little that something other than medication, something about life has a great effect on people who have mental illnesses. Things like love, friends, dreams, and hobbies. Although it sounds so cheesy when I put them into words. Her sphere of life circles around the convenience store and the mall. Her goal in the recent years is to be able to go to day care. I am too, waiting for that something, in life, to happen to her. But we can fall out of the norm together, like this.

Translation KISHIMOTO Sana

## CURATOR'S NOTE

*hidden names*(2014, 2021) is an interview with Dr. Suzuki Akihito, who continues research on early psychiatric care in Japan. It brings into focus a history of psychiatric care in Japan in which the existence of patients has been expunged from society in various ways, from detention in private homes to hospitalization, often going against the practices in other countries. And *We walk and talk to search your true home*(2013) is a record when one day Iiyama's younger sister walked out of the house, announcing, "This is not my real home," and Iiyama followed her, accompanying her through the night in search of her real home. What was the "real house" her sister found in the end?

These series of works are presented here in order from the recent work to the earliest. For Iiyama, the starting point was her relationship with her sister, who she had been closest to and yet had difficulty understanding due to mental illness, and from there she broadened her focus to the history of Japanese psychiatry and how Japanese society has created "others." Viewers here will, on the contrary, experience a narrowing of distance – from a consideration of wider social and historical issues back toward the experiences and thoughts of one person, Iiyama Yuki. (K.E.)

## CREDITS

*hidden names*

DIRECTED AND EDHITED BY

IYYAMA Yuki

LECTURER

SUZUKI Akihito

TRANSLATION

Jonathan Lloyd-Owen

SPECIAL THANKS

Komine Institute

Online Version re-edited in 2021.

*We walk and talk to search your true home*

DIRECTED AND EDITED BY

IYYAMA Yuki

DIALOGUE AND PHOTOGRAPHY

IYYAMA Chika, IYYAMA Yuki

TRANSLATION

KISHIMOTO Sana

## PROFILE



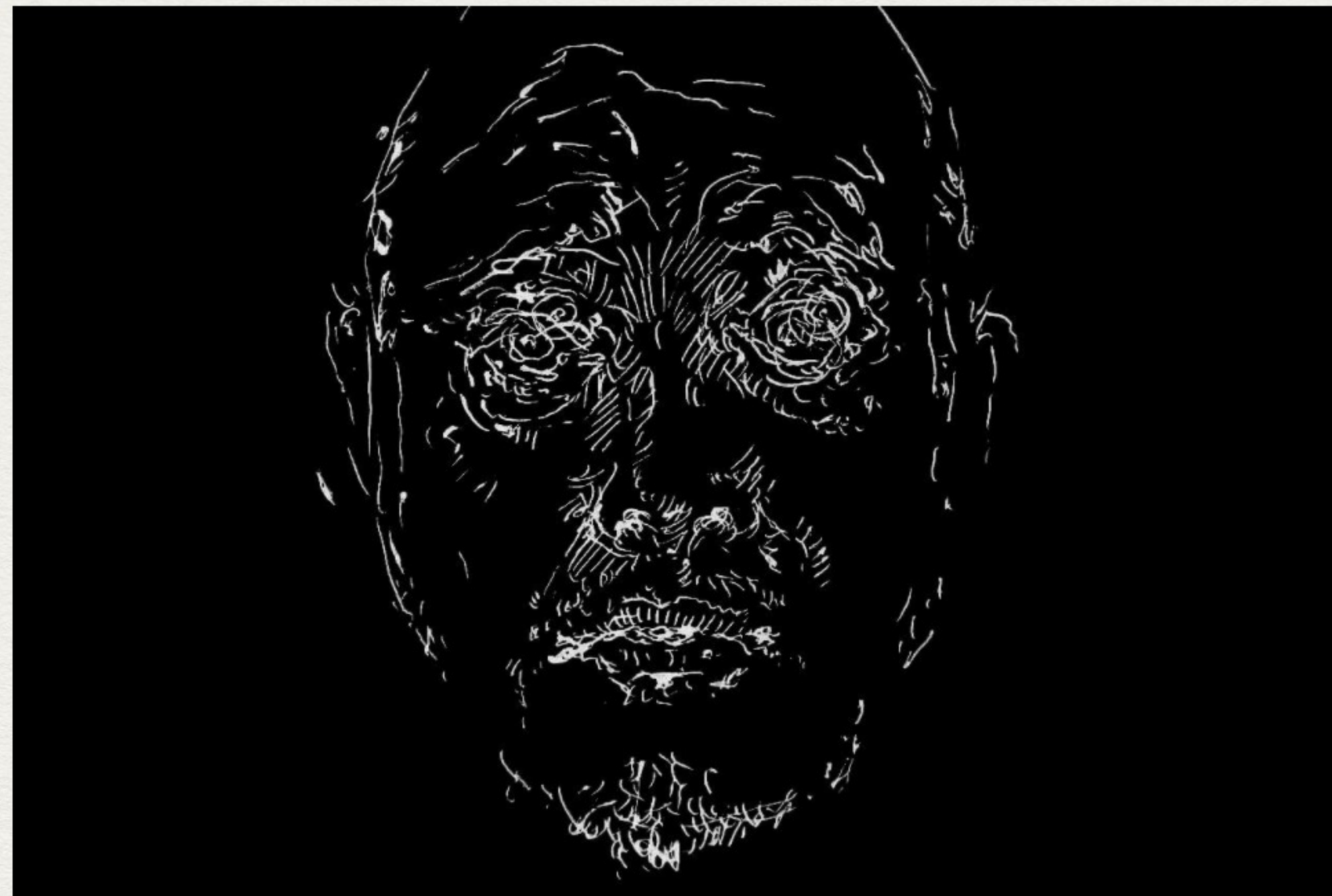
© Kanagawa Shingo

## IYAMA Yuki

Born in Kanagawa Prefecture in 1988. Based in Tokyo. Through interviews and research, Iiyama records peoples' personal lives, experiences and memories, creating videos and installations that examine their relationships with larger historical and social forces. Starting with the work exhibited here, *We walk and talk to search your true home*, in which she tries to reestablish communication with a sister suffering from mental illness, she has gone on to make what have become her representative works, a series looking at the history and challenges of modern Japanese psychiatry. Solo exhibition held as part of the APMoA Project at Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art in 2015. Major group exhibitions include "Yokohama Triennale 2020" (Kanagawa, 2020), "Nice To Meet You Artechnik" (sendai mediatheque, Miyagi, 2017) and "Doing history!" (Fukuoka Art Museum, Fukuoka, 2016).

Website [☞](#)

## KOIZUMI Meiro



*Spell of Freedom Hypno-Experiment*

2021, consciousness of the participant, sound of the experiment, instruction, questionnaire, 20' 52"

© KOIZUMI Meiro



## CURATOR'S NOTE

Created in collaboration with hypnotist and researcher Urushihara Masataka, this online performance is a work in which people from all over the world can participate. Viewers are required to prepare a space in a particular way and then deliver a performance in accordance to instructions issued by Koizumi, such as, "Look at your face in the mirror." Through the performance, it is expected that viewers will be able to test whether they become hypnotized. Koizumi himself experienced Urushihara's hypnosis and, through discussions with him, came to understand that the state of hypnosis was akin to a software "bug" in our consciousness.

Positioned as "a hypnosis experiment about freedom," it addresses present-day people, who are currently subject to physical restrictions, and attempts to liberate us just slightly from our rigid views of the

world and of the human condition. Against the backdrop of Japan's coronavirus response, in which exercising self-restraint has become a part of everyday life, the work encourages consideration of human spiritual freedom or the contradiction inherent in this imposed state of "freedom" and also of the role of language within the mechanism of human cognition.

In addition, it comprises more than just its sound component, also encompassing the very consciousness of its viewers. Hopefully it gives viewers the chance to become aware of the potential of the medium that is their consciousness. (K.K.)

\*There is a possibility that viewers of this work will become hypnotized. We ask that you view it at your own risk.



## INTRODUCTION

This is an experiment designed along with Urushihara Masataka, hypnotist/ researcher of hypnosis, to measure your susceptibility to hypnosis. Please follow the instructions and cautions on the next pages before your session, and after the session, please fill in the “questionnaire to measure your hypnosis susceptibility.” The results of the questionnaire will be updated regularly during the exhibition.

When you hear the word “hypnosis,” you may imagine something magical rather than scientific, where your body and soul are controlled by some mysterious hypnotist. That is a rather old-fashioned image of hypnosis. Recent studies on hypnosis have clarified that hypnosis is caused not by the mysterious abilities of the hypnotist, but by qualities that all humans carry. It appears that we humans are able to alter our reality much more flexibly than we think. Hypnosis is a small phenomenon that happens within your consciousness. The susceptibility

to hypnosis varies among individuals, and its experience has endless variety.

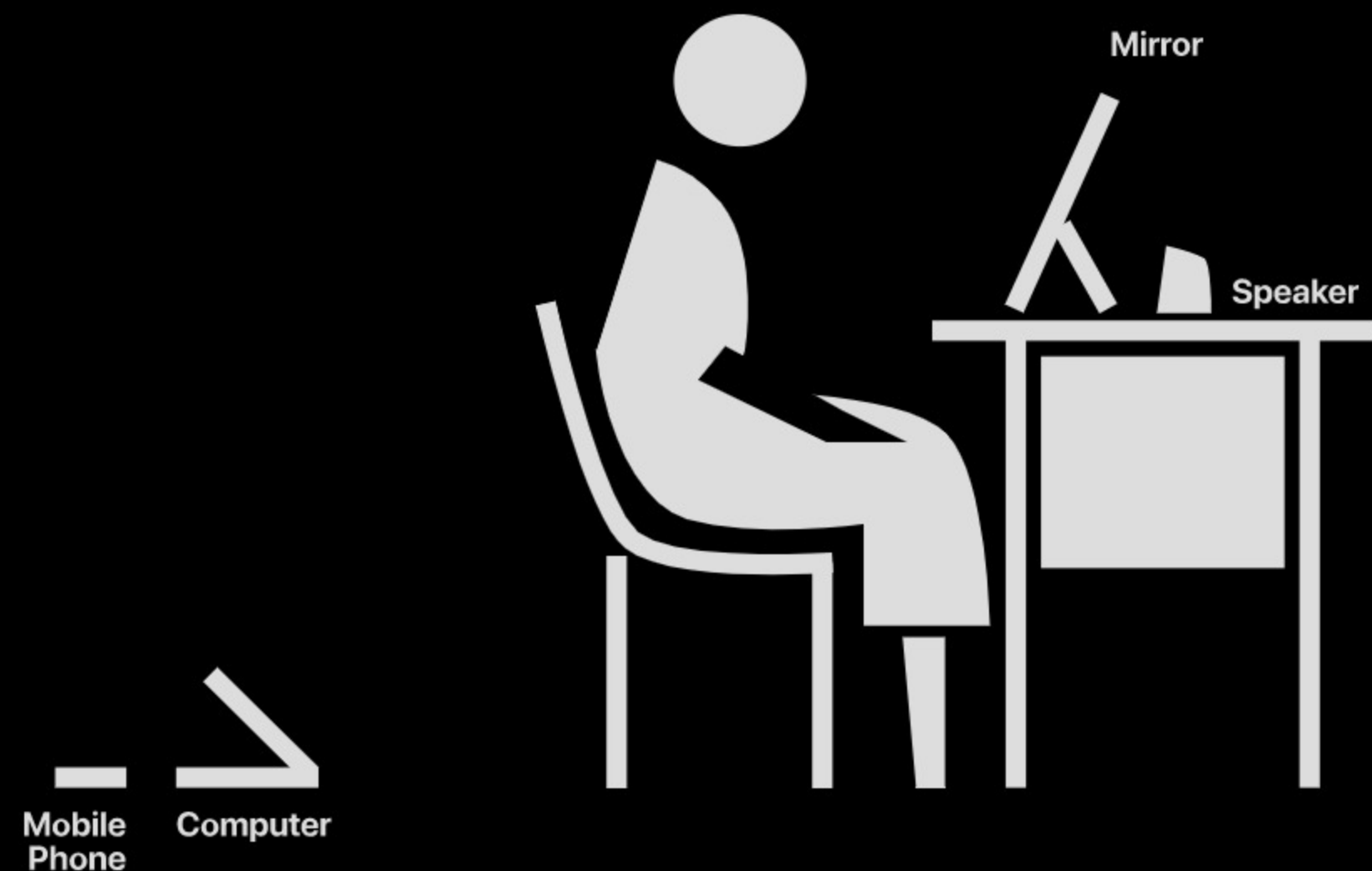
In this session, you will be presented with various hypnotic suggestions. Some of you may have experiences that go beyond Urushihara’s expectations. On contrary, others may not experience hypnosis at all. But even if you feel that you are not having any hypnotic experiences, there may come a moment when you feel slightly “strange .” This slight “strangeness” is the gateway to the state of hypnosis. It is also understood that by repeating the same hypnosis again and again, your susceptibility will improve. If you are interested, please repeat the session to find such gateways to the state of hypnosis.

I hope that this experiment will help more people find relief in this suffocating world we currently live in.

KOIZUMI Meiro

## INSTRUCTION

Before your session, please read the instructions below, and prepare an environment where you can relax and focus on the voice.



### 1) ENVIRONMENT

Experience the session alone in a quiet room. Create an environment where there is no interference from others during the 20-minute session.

### 2) MIRROR

Please prepare a self-standing mirror large enough for you to see the image of your whole face. Place it on a desk, close to yourself so that you are not distracted by the surroundings.

### 3) SPEAKER

Please listen to the session through speakers, on a slightly louder volume. If speakers are not an option, you can use earphones, using just one side, so you can hear your own voice with the other ear. Make sure to set the earphones in such a way that the cables do not disturb your concentration.

### 4) MOBILE PHONE AND COMPUTER

Please turn off your mobile phone, and put it out of your sight. Keep your computer screen away from sight as well.

## CAUTION

- Hypnosis can not force you to do something against your will. So please don't worry.
- Please listen to the full 20 minute session, as the hypnotist will properly awake you from hypnosis in the end.
- If you feel ill during hypnosis, or if you want to stop midway, simply close and open your hands repeatedly. By doing so, you can awaken from hypnosis anytime you want.

Please download the audio file of the experiment.

DOWNLOAD

↓ Spell of Freedom Hypno-Experiment (36MB, approx. 21min.)

© KOIZUMI Meiro

Please fill in the questionnaire to measure your hypnosis susceptibility after the session.

- [To fill in the questionnaire](#)
- [To see questionnaire results](#)

## CREDITS

HYPNOSIS, ADVICE, AND EXPERIMENT  
DESIGN

URUSHIHARA Masataka

COORDINATION

SAKATA Taro

VOICE FOR THE ENGLISH VERSION

Kyle Yamada

SOUND RECORDING

FUJIGUCHI Ryota

Courtesy: Annet Gelink Gallery (Amsterdam)

& MUJIN-TO Production (Tokyo)

## PROFILE



photo: Matadero Madrid/Photo: Bego Solís

## KOIZUMI Meiro

Born in Gunma Prefecture in 1976. Resides in Kanagawa Prefecture. Containing acute social commentary on the relationship between the individual and their community or state, Koizumi's video art has addressed such topics as the memory or trauma from wars or major earthquakes, the Imperial family and society's hidden pockets of darkness or madness. His works often explore the mechanisms by which violence or self-sacrifice emerge, or the connections between the physical and emotional. Using interviews to directly present the emotions of real people, his work blurs the boundaries between fiction and reality. In recent years, his means of expression has expanded to encompass sound and virtual reality. Major exhibitions and festivals include "Theatre Commons '21" (Tokyo, 2021), "Aichi Triennale 2019" (Aichi, 2019), "Shanghai Biennale 2018" (Shanghai, 2018), "Trapped Voice Would Dream of Silence," (solo exhibition—Arts Maebashi, Gunma, 2015), "Project Series 99: Meiro Koizumi" (solo exhibition—Museum of Modern Art, New York, 2013).

Website [↗](#)