

豊島美術館

TESHIMA ART MUSEUM

Museum Opening and Press Review (Vol.1)

Setouchi International Art Festival 2010 began in July, at venues on seven islands and in the Takamatsu Port area, and will continue over the next seven weeks. Toward the end of this period on October 17, on the island of Teshima in Kagawa Prefecture (a festival venue), the Naoshima Fukutake Art Museum Foundation will open the Teshima Art Museum, a harmony of art and architecture created by artist Rei Naito and architect Ryue Nishizawa.

A crowning finish to the festival, the museum will fulfill a vital role in a series of projects extending from Naoshima across the Seto Inland Sea. It is built with the hope that even after the festival it will remain at the heart of activities involving art, architecture, food, the environment, and a local renaissance supported by Inland Sea residents.

On October 16 before the museum is opened to the public, media representatives are invited to attend a press review and a press conference to be attended by Rei Naito, Ryue Nishizawa, and foundation chairman Soichiro Fukutake. Please make plans to cover this event.

Schedule

Teshima Art Museum Opening October 17 at 10:00 a.m.

Press Review and Press Conferences October 16 in the afternoon

Note: A detailed schedule will be announced in the second press release on this topic (to be sent in early October).

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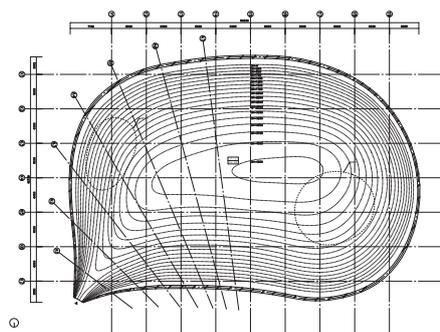
About Teshima Art Museum

Uniting the creative visions of artist Rei Naito and architect Ryue Nishizawa, Teshima Art Museum stands on a hill on the island of Teshima overlooking the Inland Sea. Shaped like a drop of water, the museum lies in a corner of the spacious grounds surrounded by once-fallow rice terraces that have been restored with help from local residents. Structurally, the building consists of a concrete shell, devoid of pillars, coving a space 40 by 60 meters. On the ceiling 4.5 meters above, two oval openings allow the air, sounds, and light of the world outside into this organic space where nature and architecture seem intimately interconnected. Inside one finds an ever-flowing fountains and an ambiance that changes from hour to hour and season to season, revealing countless appearances as time passes.

The island of Teshima, under the jurisdiction of the nearby town of Tonosho (Shozu District, Kagawa Prefecture), lies in the eastern Inland Sea. Some 1,043 residents inhabit the small island, which covers 14.6 km². True to its name in Japanese (“rich island”), the island has offered nature’s bounty in the form of “Karato” spring water, fertile soil for rice, crops, and dairy farming, and abundant fishing grounds for millennia. Unfortunately, changes in the industrial landscape led to a decline in primary industries, and the local population has dwindled (down from 3,000 to about 1,000), with many residents now in their senior years. Moreover, there is no denying that this was once the site of Japan’s worst case of illegal industrial dumping in the 1970s and 1980s.

This natural and historical context set the scene for efforts by the Naoshima Fukutake Art Museum Foundation in an attempt to restore the scenic beauty and bring a smile to residents through a series of contemporary art projects with local support, starting in 2007. Toward this end, we hope that the opening of Teshima Art Museum, located here on a veritable hub of the art festival, helps spark a local renaissance for depopulated islands that have emerged from a dark chapter in history. Teshima Art Museum stands for the future hopes and wishes of Inland Sea residents. Without a doubt, as a dynamic and positive intersection of art, architecture, and the environment, the museum awakens the simple joy of being alive. May it also contribute to the birth of a cultural sphere throughout the Seto Inland Sea.

Artist: Rei Naito / Artwork: Matrix, 2010
Architect: Ryue Nishizawa
Facilities: Art Space, Café and Shop, Ticket Center
Site area: 9,959 m²
Building area: 2,155 m²
Total floor area: 2,334 m²
Structure: Reinforced concrete (building frame/25cm)



Art Space Drawing
provided by Office of Ryue Nishizawa

Artist

Rei Naito

Rei Naito was born in Hiroshima, in 1961, Naito's major exhibitions and projects include, Being Given (2001, Kinza, Art House Project, Benesse Art Site Naoshima); Un luogo sulla terra (1997, Japanese Pavilion, 47th Venice Biennale); Tout animal est dans le monde comme de l'eau à l'intérieur de l'eau (2009, Museum of Modern Art, Kamakura).

Architect

Ryue Nishizawa

Ryue Nishizawa was born in Tokyo, in 1966. He joined Kazuyo Sejima & Associates in 1990, established SANAA with her in 1995, and established his own practice in 1997. Along with Kazuyo Sejima, he was awarded the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2010. Significant works include, Honmura Lounge and Archive (2005, Naoshima), Moriyama House (2005, Tokyo), and the Towada Art Center (2008, Aomori).

Logo Design

Shin Sobue

The Teshima Art Museum logo was designed by Shin Sobue, who also designed the Chichu Art Museum logo in 2004. Based on a familiar Mincho typeface, the new typeface is evocative of horizontal expansion, universality, vibrancy, femininity, and vitality.

Teshima Art Museum

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