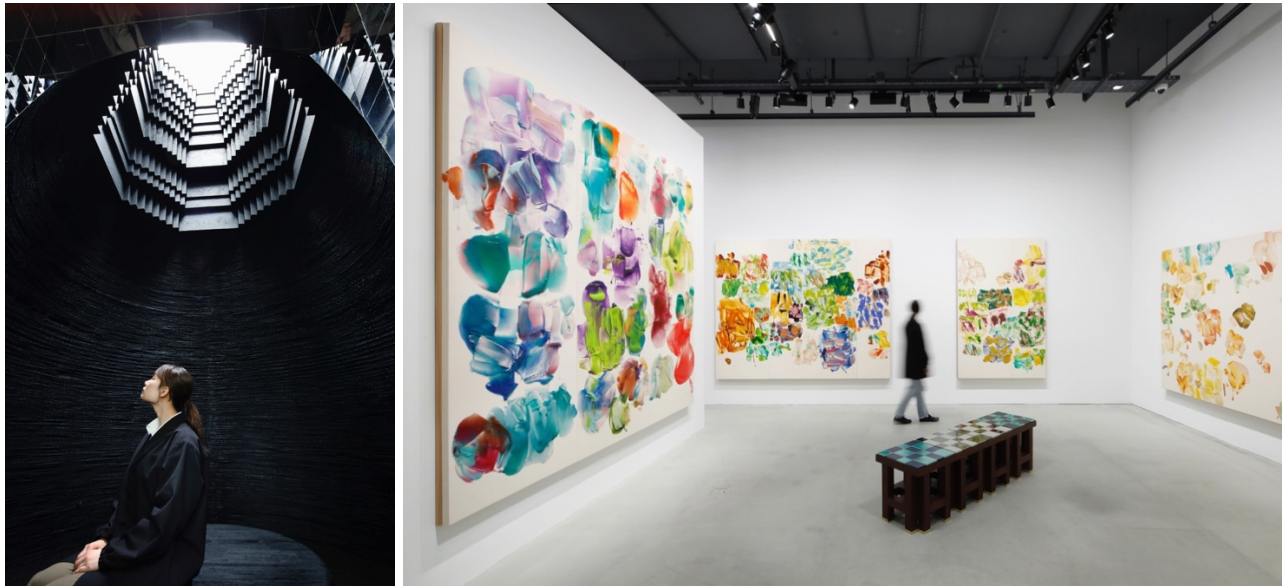


June 6, 2026

直島新美術館  
NAOSHIMA NEW MUSEUM OF ART

## New Exhibition for Summer, 2026 Opens June 7

Outdoor Installation *The Sound of Naoshima* by Sanitas Pradittasnee  
And Exhibition “Tender Buttons” by Okazaki Kenjiro



Left: Sanitas Pradittasnee, *The Sound of Naoshima* (2026), Right: Okazaki Kenjiro, View of “Tender Buttons” (2026) Photos by Takeru Koroda

Naoshima New Museum of Art (Director: Miki Akiko) opens new exhibitions by Sanitas Pradittasnee and Okazaki Kenjiro as part of the museum’s summer exhibition changeover on Sunday, June 7, 2026. Alongside these presentations, a satellite exhibition for Shitamichi Motoyuki’s Setouchi “Yoichi Midorikawa” Museum and a new library project will also be unveiled. The museum also plans a series of public programs related to the exhibitions, offering opportunities for new discoveries and exchanges for visitors from both within and outside the island. Further exhibition is planned, with Kei Imazu & Bagus Pandega scheduled for winter 2026.

### New Works on View

#### *The Sound of Naoshima* by Sanitas Pradittasnee

Admiring the “88 temples of Naoshima” scattered across the island, Sanitas Pradittasnee conceived the idea for her work in a state of mindfulness only attained through the experience of “listening to the sound of one hand clapping by the ear in mind” derived from a Zen question. The open-air installation, *The Sound of Naoshima* is constructed with traditional Thai techniques as well as materials found on Naoshima, and composed primarily of a stupa, *SILENCE*, arranged as if blending in with the surrounding nature. Pradittasnee’s work enhances our senses so that we focus on the moment and feel the cycle and transience of nature.

#### “Tender Buttons” an exhibition by Okazaki Kenjiro

Since the 1990s until present day, Okazaki Kenjiro has continuously worked on Naoshima, creating and exhibiting his works. With key concepts such as the time axis of “Okazaki Kenjiro and Naoshima,” “the

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relationship of words and painting,” and “reserve, remember, renew,” the exhibition presented in a room of Gallery 3 explores how small, everyday fragments can be connected to evoke memories and open up new perceptions through works from various time periods, including those created in relation to Naoshima.

## Artist Profiles

**Sanitas Pradittasnee** was born in 1980 in Bangkok, where she remains based today. In addition to contemporary art, she works in landscape architecture and design. Interested in the forms, textures, and empty spaces found in architecture linked to faith and religion, she is known for architectural and sculptural works that encourage interaction with the viewer. Based on her belief in art as a mode of communication that stimulates human consciousness, Pradittasnee undertakes deep research into the contexts of spaces and the meaning of materials, and reflects the Buddhist principles of impermanence and emptiness in her work, offering spaces for careful introspection and prompting the viewer to reconnect with their inner selves. Her work has been shown at such events as Bangkok Art Biennale 2018 and Thailand Biennale 2024.

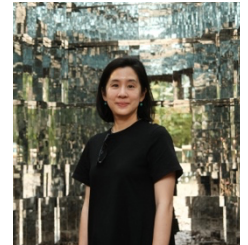
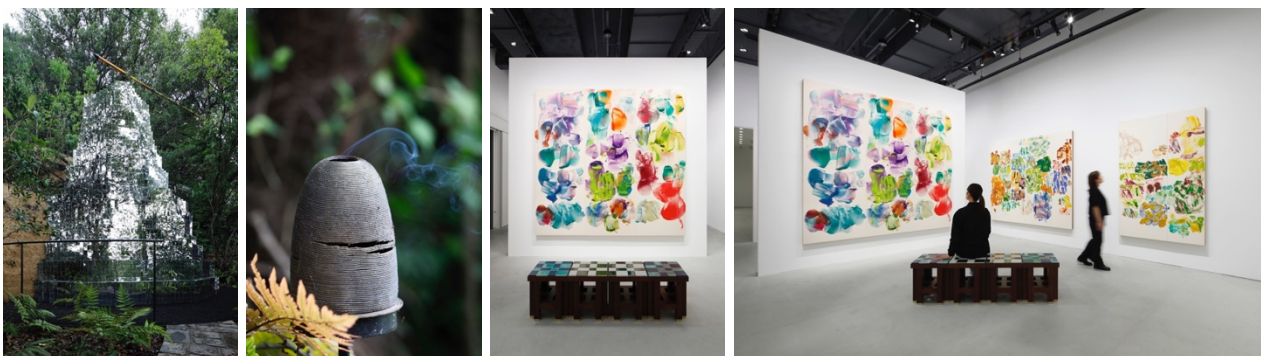


Photo: Peeraphat Kittisuwat

**Okazaki Kenjiro** was born in Tokyo in 1955. Okazaki is a Japanese visual artist and critic working across painting, sculpture, landscape design, and architecture. Since his invitation to the Paris Biennale in 1982, he has participated in numerous international exhibitions. His major projects include the Haizuka Earthwork Project, the landscape design of Nakatsukuni Park in Hiroshima, serving as Director of the Japan Pavilion at the 8th Venice Biennale of Architecture, and the collaborative performance I Love My Robot with choreographer Trisha Brown. He has held solo and curated exhibitions at institutions such as the Toyota Municipal Museum of Art and the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo. In 2026, he received the 67th Mainichi Art Award (Fine Arts Division), and has also been recognized with the Minister of Education Art Encouragement Prize and the Mainichi Publishing Culture Award.



Photo: Suzuki Risaku



Left two: Sanitas Pradittasnee, *The Sound of Naoshima* (2026), Right two: View of Okazaki Kenjiro “Tender Buttons” (2026)  
Photos by Takeru Koroda

## Other Newly Installed Works and Satellite Exhibitions

### The Satellite Exhibition of Shitamichi Motoyuki’s, Setouchi “Yoichi Midorikawa” Museum

A satellite exhibition of Setouchi “Yoichi Midorikawa” Archive, an ongoing project since 2019 in the Miyanoura district of Naoshima, which serves as a space for archives through research, collection, and exhibitions about the natural landscape, folklore, customs, history, and more of the Setouchi region. The exhibition featured photographs of workers in the copper refinery of Naoshima during the 1950s, selected from a suite of works shown previously in an exhibition organized by Shitamichi Motoyuki and held in 2019 at Miyanoura Gallery 6 presenting the work of Midorikawa Yoichi, a photographer from Okayama who extensively photographed

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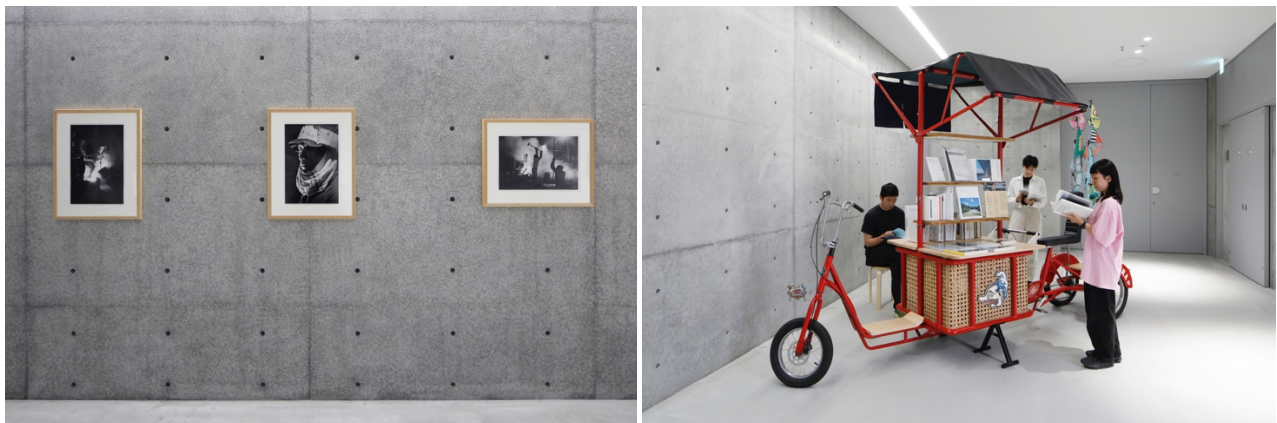
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the region from the 1930s to the early 2000s. Midorikawa's photographs capture not only beautiful sceneries of the Setouchi region but also depictions of the islands damaged by rapid modernization in Japan and people living with strength and resilience despite the adversity of their circumstances.

## Library project with indieguerillas's *Gotong-Royong/ Mutual Cooperation*

*Gotong-Royong/ Mutual Cooperation* (2019) by indieguerillas, an artist duo known for their unique style influenced by popular culture and Indonesian shadow puppetry called Wayang Kulit, is a work that was newly created for an exhibition at Fukutake House. (Shodoshima, 2013-2023) "Gotong royong" is an Indonesian phrase meaning "mutual cooperation" customary in the country. Referring to mobile stalls, the work is comprised of a van that cannot move without the cooperation and mutual trust between two persons. The value of cooperation and of working together to fulfill the goal of an entire community is conveyed by the work in the form of a mobile library that carries books, magazines, and other printed materials related to Benesse Art Site Naoshima.

Visitors are invited to browse these publications together with the maps and timelines of Benesse Art Site Naoshima displayed on the wall next to the library.



Left: Shitamichi Motoyuki, Setouchi "Yoichi Midorikawa" Museum (2019), Right: View of Library project with indieguerillas *Gotong-Royong/ Mutual Cooperation* (2026), Photos by Takeru Koroda

## New Exhibition Coming This Winter (Dates to be announced)

**Kei Imazu & Bagus Pandega** will present the exhibition "Currents without Anchors". Through concepts like currents, purification and preservation, destruction and regeneration, it attempts to visualize the movement of resources across the sea, the expansion of desire, and the disasters and memories that then result from that. Past, present, and future, along with myth and historical fact, all intersect and overlap in a space evocative of underwater life and forests. From a vast amount of driftwood that shifts in the light like waves to a large painting, and 3D-printed wall sculpture, the highly varied body of works connects with the natural materials, forming a giant, breathing living organism, and inviting the viewer to reflect deeply on the environment in which they live and on the state of the world.

## Works by the following artists will remain on display until the winter closure:

- N. S. Harsha (multipurpose cafe space & CAFE, 1F)
- Martha Atienza, Heri Dono, Heri Dono & indieguerillas, Pannaphan Yodmanee (Gallery 1, 1F)
- Do Ho Suh (Gallery 2, B1F)
- Aida Makoto, Takashi Murakami (Gallery 3, B2F)
- Cai Guo-Qiang (Gallery 4, B2F)

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## Public Programs

In addition to exhibitions, Naoshima New Museum of Art aspires through public programs and other means to be a place of exchange and collaboration where people return time and again, and where both islanders and visitors can meet and interact. The events planned for June and after 2026 are as follows.

### Artists' Talk Relay 2026

Following the first partial exhibition changeover since the museum's opening in May 2025, we are pleased to present the Talk Relay featuring participating artists who will speak about their works.

Date and Time: Sunday, 7 June, 2026 at 10:30 am -12:00 pm

Venue: Naoshima New Museum of Art, &CAFE (multipurpose cafe space)

\*Free of charge. No registration is required.

\*English Japanese consecutive interpretation will be provided.

\*Please visit [here](https://benesse-artsite.jp/en/news/20260520-3514.html) for more details: <https://benesse-artsite.jp/en/news/20260520-3514.html>

#### Timetable

10:30 Sanitas Pradittasnee

11:00 Shitamichi Motoyuki, Midorikawa Yoichi's Families

11:30 Okazaki Kenjiro

12:00 End of the program

### Talk: Around *Happy Married Life*—When the Micro and Macro Meet

Inspired by the theme of marriage between the microscopic world explored through the microscope and the macroscopic world revealed through the telescope in N. S. Harsha's *Happy Married Life*, this talk brings together a biologist who studies the micro world and a space specialist who explores the macro cosmos. Through an encounter between microscopic and macroscopic perspectives, the program invites audiences to engage with the rich worldview of the work and deepen their understanding of it.

Date and Time: Saturday, 11 July, 2026 at 4:00-6:00 pm

Venue: Naoshima New Museum of Art, &CAFE (multipurpose cafe space)

Speakers:

Kobayashi Takehiko (Professor, Institute for Quantitative Biosciences, The University of Tokyo, Member of the Science Council of Japan)

Muraki Yusuke (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), First Space Technology Department, Earth Observation Program Strategy Office, Councilor)

Moderator: Miki Akiko (Director of Naoshima New Museum of Art)

\*Free of charge. No registration is required.

\*Conducted in Japanese only.

## Notes to Editors

### About Naoshima New Museum of Art

Opened in May 2025, the Naoshima New Museum of Art (Director: Akiko Miki) is located on a hilltop near the Honmura district of Naoshima. Designed by Tadao Ando as his tenth architectural project for Benesse Art Site Naoshima, the museum presents and collects significant works by artists and groups from across Asia, including newly commissioned site-specific installations. The museum occupies a three-story building with four gallery spaces, a café, and outdoor exhibition areas. Unlike other museums within Benesse Art Site Naoshima, which are primarily dedicated to permanent displays, it combines permanent installations with exhibitions that partially change over time, offering visitors new encounters with art on each visit. In

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In addition to exhibitions, the museum hosts talks, workshops, and other public programs that foster dialogue and exchange among visitors from Japan and around the world.

## Key Information

Naoshima New Museum of Art (3299-73 Naoshima, Kagawa, Japan)

Opening Hours: 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (last entry: 4 p.m.)

Closed: Mondays (open if Monday is a national holiday and closed the following day)

May be closed irregularly on other days. Check the Benesse Art Site Naoshima website calendar to confirm.

Parking: 20 cars, 15 bicycles (free of charge)

Website: <https://benesse-artsite.jp/art/nnmoa.html>

Email: [info-newmuseum@fukutake-artmuseum.jp](mailto:info-newmuseum@fukutake-artmuseum.jp)

## Tickets

Tickets for new exhibitions on sale from 10 a.m., Friday, April 10, 2026

Tickets: ¥1,500 online (advance booking for specific dates) / ¥1,700 on-site / free for 15 and under

Purchase from the Benesse Art Site Naoshima website:

<https://benesse-artsite.jp/en/general-information.html>

## About Benesse Art Site Naoshima

Benesse Art Site Naoshima is the collective name for all art-related activities conducted by Benesse Corporation and Fukutake Foundation on the islands of Naoshima and Teshima in Kagawa Prefecture and Inujima in Okayama Prefecture. Our fundamental aim is to create significant spaces by bringing contemporary art and architecture into resonance with the pristine nature of the Seto Inland Sea, a landscape with a rich cultural and historical fabric. Through contacts with art and nature, sceneries, and inhabitants of the Seto Inland Sea region, we seek to inspire visitors to reflect on the meaning of Benesse's motto: Well-Being. In all our ongoing activities, we are committed to fostering a relationship of mutual growth between art and the region, aiming to make a positive contribution to the local communities.

History of Benesse Art Site Naoshima: <https://benesse-artsite.jp/en/about/history.html>

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