

merci

ARCHITECTURE | INTERIOR DESIGN | CREATIVE LIVING
YOUR LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE



Late Fall & Pre-winter 2021



Perrier-Jouët & mischer'traxler "Curiosity Cloud Mobile"

10. 22 FRI ————— 10. 31 SUN

DESIGNART TOKYO 2021

A Festival of around 300 Designers and Artists

*Photo courtesy of DESIGNART TOKYO
Layout design by Dasom Park*

DESIGNART TOKYO, one of Japan's largest design and art festivals, will be held in Tokyo, one of the world's most culturally diverse cities, bringing together various genres of art, design, interior design and fashion from around the world. In this time when new ideas, creative thinking, and actions are particularly needed, design and art that will be loved by people for long, and contribute to the creation of

new value in the new era, will converge in DESIGNART TOKYO 2021 under the theme of "CHANCE!"

With one month to go until the exhibition opens, the details of this remarkable exhibition have been finalized.

KURADASHI, which was planned and conceived from the ground up, and works that will be unveiled for the first time at DESIGNART TOKYO 2021.

KURADASHI - the archetypes

A New Creative Market Created by
Jin Kuramoto, ubgoe and DESIGNART TOKYO.

Exhibition works / Artists Jo Nagasaka, Fumie Shibata, Teruhi-ro Yanagihara, Kazuhiro Yamanaka, Yusuke Seki, Daisuke Motogi, Norihiko Terayama, Baku maeda, GELCHOP, we+, Satoshi Itasaka, Ryota Akiyama, Yoshiki Matsuyama, mina perhonen, Sho Ota, YOY, Gen Suzuki, Ryohei Yoshiyuki, Shigeki Fujishiro, TOMOKO AZUMI, and more.

While the pandemic keeps limiting the opportunities for creators and users to meet, DESIGNART TOKYO, together with the Crowdfunding service “ubgoe”, will hold “KURADASHI”, an exhibition where you can actually see and purchase valuable works by creators that are not yet available on the market. The designer Jin Kuramoto as the curator, many creators from Japan and abroad, from young to established, will participate. The rare selection of works will be exhibited and sold – the prototypes as results of their trials and errors during their creation process, or the treasured works that have been stored in their ateliers for various reasons, and never reached the market.



Swirl_ we+



Bulge lines / gray_ Norihiko Terayama



Vannfall/ NedreFoss_ JIN KURAMOTO STUDIO



A DIFFERENT CORNER_ Kazuhiro Yamanaka

Perrier-Jouët & mischer'traxler

New artwork, "I am Nature", making its world premiere in Japan



Maison Perrier-Jouët continues its years of collaboration with Austrian designer duo, mischer'traxler, unveiling their new artwork "I am Nature" premiering in Japan. "I am Nature" is the first artwork that mischer'traxler used digital technology, inviting us to reconsider how humans coexist with nature. Additionally, "Curiosity Cloud Mobile" will be exhibited at the same time. The art piece is composed of mouth-brown glass bulbs, specially created by the renowned Viennese glassware company Lobmeyr.

KEF 60 YEARS

Listen & Believe

Welcome to the Wireless High-Fidelity Experience

Experience the sounds of KEF, a leader in the wireless HiFi speaker market. Installation by Klein Dytham architecture and soundscape by DJ Quietstorm.

A group exhibition where you can find the next talents

MULTISTANDARD / 1-15-22 Apartment

MULTISTANDARD and other young creators' works will convene in an abandoned building

Exhibition works / Artists

MULTISTANDARD, Hikari Yamaguchi, Leo Koda, messagingleaving, Nobuaki Sato, pan_object, Sera Yanagisawa, Tamako Yamada, Yurika Tanaka

HIBIYA OKUROJI

Pairing the century-old space below a viaduct with various artworks

Exhibition works / Artists pivoto, CAL TOUGH / ATSUSHI ONUMA(DECO), Yuri Matumoto, Satoru Ookubo, Syunsuke Takase. (Communicati-wa), bud brand, TSUYAMA FURNITURE, Yushima Art & Okunote / Kiyoshi Isshiki Satoru Shimizu, KARAKURI powered by EPL inc., KINJO JAPAN / Shinya Kobayashi, Johanna Gullichsen Rakusai Collection



A space where fashion and art blend with each other

“Sturm & Drang Preview Service”

Supported by Fondazione Prada

Y's / ambi



**TORY BURCH ×
Kayoko Kimura**

Salvatore Ferragamo × IMURA Kazuto



Design and inspiration enriching our lifestyle

YKK AP & Keita Suzuki 「 Window on the Future—Gaudí Meets 3D Printing 」

This particular exhibit will showcase prototypes of windows created with cutting-edge 3D-printing technology, designed with various forms and functions that resonate with the natural environment and inspired by the windows of world-renowned architect Antoni Gaudí, realized with the Special Collaboration of Gaudí-designed UNESCO World Heritage Sites such as Casa Batlló and Casa Milà.



INTERIOR_new collections and presentations by interior brands

FLEXFORM

“Velocity of Colours”

An installation of various colors inspired by the beautiful nature of Italy.



Tents At Work The “Steelcase Work Tent”

Steelcase, an insight lead industry leading office furniture manufacturer, has launched the “Steelcase Work Tents Collection” as a versatile privacy solution.



Time & Style

New furniture collection 2021

The people of Japan have long embraced and lived alongside nature. The collection presents a dense lineup of products combining wood with different materials, crafted using traditional techniques from across Japan.



ARIAKE

New Collection Show 2021 Comes to Japan

Ariake, a furniture brand founded by the two factories Legnatec and Hirata Chair Manufacture from the furniture-producing town of Morodomi in Saga prefecture brings the exhibition Ariake Collection to Japan for the first time. For their first exhibition, Ariake will be collaborating with the Danish lighting brand LE KLINT.



Création Baumann / Talking about Curtains • Miki Sato

Last year, Création Baumann released curtains designed by fabric designer Miki Sato to much fanfare. The Swiss textile enterprise will reveal more of Miki Sato's designs this year with yet more curtains. Dyeing another layer of lace with a colorful reflection of light. Casting shadows to multiply patterns. Raising whispers in a breeze. These are just a few ways the products express the appeal of softly shifting textiles.



A wide range of art exhibitions from unique galleries to large-scale work.

Kohei Nawa at GINZA SIX

「Metamorphosis Garden」

Metamorphosis Garden is an installation with the theme of life, matter, and a world in which ambiguous entities coexist on the boundary between the two. Expressing the emergence of a new narrative out of chaos, it is a development from the Biota (Fauna/Flora) installation (2013) on Inujima island in the Seto Inland Sea.

Piramide / PERROTIN TOKYO

Solo exhibition of French artist JR

Located on the ground floor of Piramide, PERROTIN Tokyo will hold a solo exhibition of French artist JR. Widely known for a method called “pasting” where he wheatpastes photographs onto buildings and other urban surfaces, JR works at the intersection of photography, street art, filmmaking, and social engagement.



Courtyard HIROO

Selection 2021: Look Forward!

The selection of works of the artists from A-TOM CEO, Shigeru Aoi's collection, as well as past participants of cultural activities of A-TOM will be exhibited, that give us courage and strength to drive our excitement about the future.

complex665 / ShugoArts

The two-person exhibition by Yasumasa Morimura and Ritsue Mishima “Where I Am Standing”

Tomio Koyama Gallery, ShugoArts, and Taka Ishii Gallery, which are internationally acclaimed contemporary art galleries that have participated in many of the world's most prestigious art fairs, have opened their galleries in complex 665. ShugoArts, founded by Shugo Satani, selects artists with local roots and a mindset that transcends time and national borders and disseminates their activities from Tokyo.



In addition, six **BLUE BOTTLE COFFEE** cafes become the official cafes this year, and **VanMoof** returns as the official e-bike again this year, so there will be plenty of official content to enjoy in between viewing design art.

Also, we continue presenting videos and live reports that were very well received last year.

By taking all possible measures to prevent infectious diseases at each venue, and as a multi-venue type event, **DESIGNART TOKYO** will liven up the city of Tokyo in autumn.

INNER SPACE

by Design Pier and Merci Magazine

at Seibu Shibuya

*Photo courtesy of Design Pier and Merci Magazine
Layout Design by Dasom Park*

From Design Pier

It was exactly two years ago that I curated the main exhibition called « 1% for art » of Designart Tokyo. It was an amazing professional and personal experience.

Then, 2020 came along with its frustrating international restrictions and slowly we have, constrained by circumstances, learned to master organising shows remotely without the stimulating presence of the designers.

This year is our second edition where international exhibitors can't attend their own show in person and can't add their final touch to their installations. However, the resilience of the creators and the dedication of DESIGNART's organizer's allow us to continue to bring exciting new works to Tokyo.

Design Pier will be in Tokyo once again to celebrate the 2021 edition of the festival thanks to our valued partner Designart Tokyo and the collaboration with Peggy Lui, editor in chief of Merci Magazine. We co-curated the exhibition called 'inner Space' with. It will take place at the art gallery of SEIBU Shibuya / Art Meets Life .

So if you are in Tokyo please come to discover our new selection!

Happy Designart Festival!

ILOSVAI ZSOFIA

From Merci Magazine

Merci Magazine has been a media partner with Designart Tokyo and a collaboration partner with Design Pier since 2019. In the same year, merci media curated a program named the Sky Design Awards. The Sky Design Awards recognizes excellence in architecture, interior design, visual design, and product design for companies and individuals, exemplifying design excellence for projects delivering meaningful social impact. We are moving into the event's third year with the same goal to promote design and art with Design Pier and Designart Tokyo. I am very grateful for the opportunity to co-host the program "Inner Space" at the invitation of Design Pier".

If inner space is about maximizing the user's everyday life experience, while at the same time combining functionality with uniqueness and emotion, we can take it a step further and understand that "inner space" is a reflection of the way we think and feel.

This exhibition invites three designers who worked for the Seibu Department Store when creativity was nurtured during Japan's period of economic growth in the 1970s and 1980s, by the fantastic zeitgeist Seiji Tsutsumi, the founder of Seibu Department Store.

Today, they are still active and play an important role in Japanese design. We are going explore possibilities from these three legends to learn how they respond to the significant changes of the times inspired by "New Discoveries." The core of our inner space is to be grateful and respectful and to retain the original intention of how we want to be.

PEGGY LUI



Tuulia Penttilä

Tuulia Penttilä is a Finnish designer and cabinetmaker. Her design is characterized by minimalist expression and carefully thought-out details. She prefers local woods and natural materials in her studio collection. Ecological thinking, functionality and in-depth knowledge of materials guide her design. Her works have been presented in several international exhibitions, biennales and museums in Europe and Japan. She has worked as a freelance designer and cabinetmaker in Fiskars, Finland since 1999.

ROUND baskets

Tuulia Penttilä has designed timeless and unique basket with playful leather strap. Round basket is versatile and suits well for a modern home. Due to its lightness, it travels with you on daily errands and takes the place in street fashion as well. The production of the collection combines natural materials, modern technology and traditional craftsmanship. The main material of the baskets is thin birch plywood and assembly is made without glue, by hand sewing. The Round basket is a modern interpretation of the traditional Finnish splint basket.





BRAJAK VITBERG

Miami Lamp

Brajak Vitberg is an art and design studio founded by two architects, Petra and Robert, from Ljubljana, Slovenia in 2019.

The focus of the studio is the conceptual search of eternity through materials with a multidisciplinary approach through fashion, art, people and the inspiration of the moment.

They strive to design craft elements and make them timeless through experimental designing process.

The studio creates a range of products from handmade and limited small series to one piece unique products, inspired by materials and forms that create incomplete perfection. The language used in the design is stratified and eclectic, but at the same time it combines a poetic vision and raw design.



SINI MAJURI

Creator of Scandinavian Cool

Glass artist Sini Majuri works in Finland. She combines 3D-design with old glass blowing techniques. Her works have been exhibited in the USA, Japan, China, Europe and Canada. She has also been awarded with Golden Design Award from A'Design Award, Italy.

Sini Majuri creates interior design objects, custom made light sculptures for modern interiors, mountainous glass landscapes and contemporary narratives on glass. Many of her works are surrealistic stories captured inside blown glass.



Maria Joanna Juchnowska

Artist, designer, curator, founder, and owner of Mari JJ Design brand, launched in 2010, in Stockholm Sweden, now based in Oslo Norway.

Cooperating with luxurious brands and companies in Europe, Asia, and the USA including Meissen GmbH in Germany, Franz Collection Ltd. in China, and Taiwan. Participated in international exhibitions, fairs, and competitions: Ventura Dubai, Wanted Design in New York, Ambiente Fair in Frankfurt, Talente International Craft Fair in Munich, Der Berliner Salon Vogue Salon with Meissen GmbH, International Jingdezhen Porcelain Fair with Franz Collection in China, British Ceramics Biennial in the United Kingdom, Munich Creative Business Week and many others.



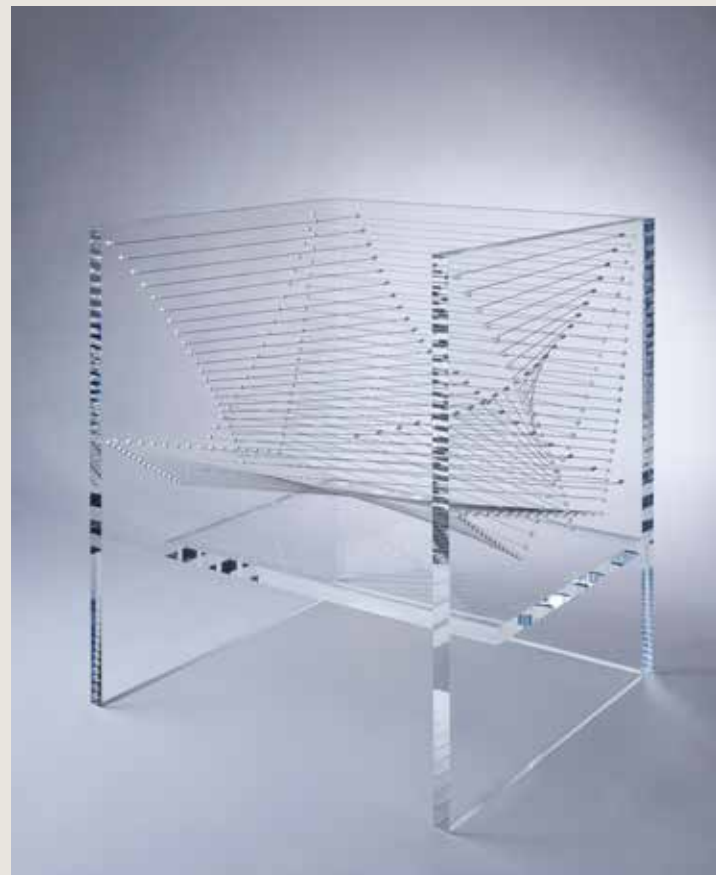


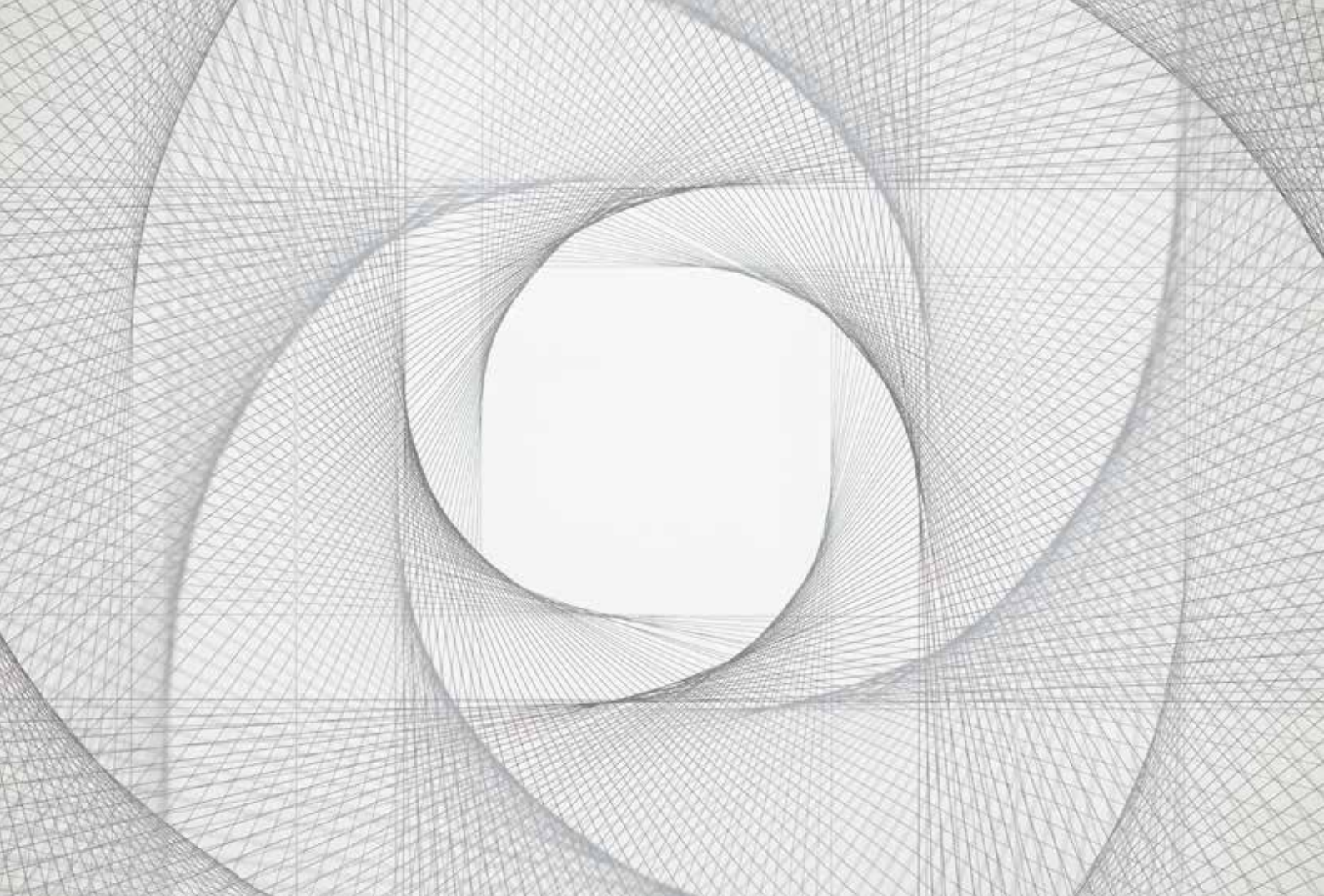
ONIKI DESIGN STUDIO / Koichiro ONIKI

Born in Tokyo in 1977. Graduated from Waseda University with a degree in Architecture and entered Nikken Sekkei in the same year. Later moved to design studio nendo, and worked on projects around the world as spatial design chief director for 10 years.

CORD / CODE CHAIR

The chair made of acrylic and stainless-steel wire. The six curved surfaces created by horizontally stretched wires across U-shaped acrylic compose the seat and backrest of the chair. The curved surfaces created by a total of 124 wires are arranged to curve against the body, softly wrapping the person sitting. A CODE is given to the CORDs to create a design where the tension of the straight line and soft curve coexist. In addition, the overlapping curved wires are visible from the side and back of the chair with a clear acrylic base, giving it a sense of lightness as if the person sitting is floating.





ODS CORD / CODE

INTERVIEW 2021

Photo courtesy of Merci Magazine / Layout Design by Dasom Park

1. Could you tell us more in-depth about your winning project - CORD/CODE?

The exhibition "CORD/CODE" was held at "THE GINZA SPACE" gallery in Ginza 5-chome from mid-September to the end of October 2019. We designed the interior of THE GINZA SPACE, a gallery that opened in 2018, located in the basement of the flagship shop of THE GINZA COSMETICS, Shiseido Group's most advanced skincare brand. THE GINZA COSMETICS GINZA is a complex of shops where you can experience the appeal of THE GINZA COSMETICS in a variety of ways: the main shop on the ground floor, a membership floor on the first floor, and a gallery on the basement floor. The gallery in the basement changes every couple of months and is mainly used for exhibitions by artists that THE GINZA identifies/compatible with.

As it had been almost a year since the opening of THE GINZA COSMETICS, we were asked if it was possible to do something to introduce the overall design of the facility. As I designed the gallery myself, I wanted to make the most of the space and express the charm of the THE GINZA brand, hence the exhibition CORD/CODE.

The gallery has a two-storey atrium over half of its area, with rounded corners and mirrored panels floating within the walls and ceiling, creating a sense of space that extends upwards. The idea for this installation came about when I started to think about how I could emphasize this spread.



The title of the exhibition "CORD/CODE" refers to the idea of giving a code to a cord. It consists of layers made of string stretched horizontally [parallel to the floor] and stacked vertically. One layer is made up of 8 strings stretched to form a square grid, which is then rotated by 2 degrees around the centre of the exhibition room, rising 45mm to form 46 layers. At 46 layers, it is rotated by exactly 90 degrees, so that two circles appear in the [ground] plan. The topmost string is stretched just short of the mirror on the ceiling, which means that there are 92 consecutive layers, including the one reflected in the mirror. These straight strings are arranged according to a very simple rule, but when you look up at them from below, it gives a completely different impression.

Its a series of curved surfaces that appear to be stretched out in a coordinated fashion folded on top of each other and depending on where they are viewed from the appearance changes. THE GINZA COSMETICS products are as simple as their packaging suggests.

When you use the products you will also feel their pleasant texture and soothing scent. I believe that we were able to create a space where this "simplicity" and "comfort" could coexist.

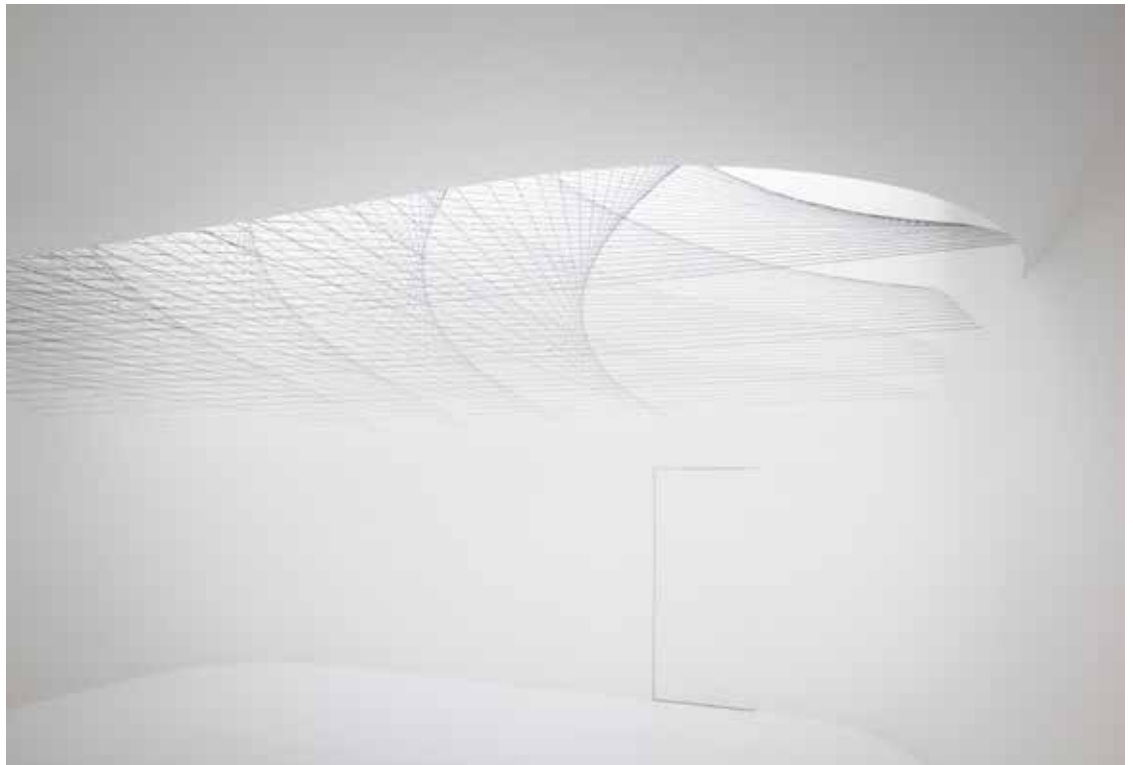
Visitors to the exhibition commented that it was 'as if they were looking at the waves from inside the ocean', or 'that it was like visualizing the wind.' In fact, there are many hidden regularities in natural world that surrounds us. The most famous example is the Fibonacci sequence, which can be seen in the spirals of shells. These hidden regularities may be one of the reasons we feel the beauty in nature. Through this project, I felt that people



are attracted by the power of nature, which even if it starts out small but grows on the basis of certain regularities and makes us imagine infinite expansion.

The exhibition also unveiled an original chair named "CORD/CODE CHAIR" together with the spatial installation. It emerged from the idea I had during the designing stage of the installation, when I was wondering how nice it would be to sit in this curved

surface. And like the installation, it is made by giving/imposing regularities to the strings. The seat and backrest are made up of 124 stainless steel wires stretched horizontally between 25 mm thick acrylic pieces in a ㄩ (open square) shape. The overlapping wires create a curved surface, which conforms to the shape of the body and softly envelops the seated person. By using transparent acrylic as a base, we aimed to create a chair that feels light, so the person sitting in it feels like they are floating.



2. Would you able to share with us your design style and design philosophy?

At ODS we are currently doing a lot of interior design for shops, but the design of a shop is strongly influenced by how they want to portray the brand image, the services it offers, and the location and its environment, so it is necessary to create a different concept each time and express it in the space. For this reason, our approach to design differs from project to project, but there are a few things that are important to us.

The first of these is that I want to keep creating things that appeal to people's minds and emotions. I believe that the essence of design is to enrich people's minds, so I want to make people feel surprised and moved by what I have created. What interests us and what we find beautiful varies from person to person. Gender, age, nationality or personalities are all factors. However, I also believe that there is a common design that moves everyone. We want to explore the beauty and emotion that people instinctively feel, without being influenced by fashion or style.

Secondly, we want it to be something that will remain timeless. Unlike architecture, or art kept in museums, shop interiors have a short existence: ten years at the most. This is because of the social role that shop interiors are expected to play so I don't expect my work to remain in physical form forever. However, we want to create something that will remain somewhere in the record or memory even if it is physically gone. The history of shop interiors in Japan is still quite short and there is still very little accumulated from the past. If culture is what enriches people's minds, then interior design certainly is a part of culture. Culture is something that accumulates over time and I hope that my work will remain as one of those layers. I feel that the SKY DESIGN AWARDS and other design awards like it are a record of the times and have a great significance for the future. Therefore I am very happy to have received this award amongst this.

3. About the other projects with HERMES GION-MISE, THE GINZA COSMETICS / WINDOW DISPLAY 2 or even with the ROHTO QA SALON, we found your design is likely to use the line perspective on your projects, would you tell us more?

I don't really design with line (one-point) perspective in mind. However, I do have projects where a sense of depth and symmetry are important. I don't like things to be too cluttered, so I really want to organize the elements as I design. I feel that one way of organizing this is through the symmetrical composition. For example, in Artglorieux, the walls are set up at an angle so that the space becomes narrower as you go deeper into the store.

As for the depth, it's important for a store to have something that makes people want to go inside. For example, in Artglorieux, the walls are set up at an angle so that the space becomes narrower towards the back, and in the ground floor shop of THE GINZA COSMETICS, the fixtures are arranged in layers to create a sense of depth. So a space is created where people are naturally led to the back.

4. During the global pandemic, any changes or challenges to your design projects?

During the first declaration of the state of emergency, several projects were postponed or cancelled due to the timing of the closure of department stores and shopping centers. Since then, there has been some recovery, but not to the same extent as before. If people aren't able to move, there is no point in having a physical shop, and I think this will continue for some time to come.

I am now interested in how the values of the world will change after the Corona disaster is over. People's values are based on a combination of their experiences, so there is no going back to the way things were before the Corona pandemic, and since it had such a huge impact all over the world at the same time, I think it has the potential to change

things more dramatically than ever before.

Through the Corona pandemic we have been reminded of the convenience of technology. Internet conferencing allows you to meet with people from far away, and online shopping allows you to buy things quickly. However, many people may feel constrained by this over-reliance on technology. I felt like I was just repeatedly turning on and off, doing one objective after another in the shortest possible time with the help of technology.

I believe that from now on, taking the "long way" will be one of the most enriching things we can do. Even if we know the quickest way to do something, we may not be afraid to take the time and effort to enjoy the process from now on.



5. What are you looking forward to in 2021?

We are very much looking forward to the collaboration with HYM. Many of us have rediscovered the richness that is all around us thanks to the Corona pandemic, whether it's reading a book at home or cooking something a little more elaborate than usual! I've had limited exposure to records, but I think that vinyl could

be one of the things to enrich the world after the Corona pandemic ends and beyond. Nowadays, you can listen to your favorite songs at the touch of a button on your Smartphone, but taking the time to listen to them on vinyl is an attractive 'long way'. We are delighted to be part of this project at this time.