

THE STUBBORN LIFE OF OBJECTS

YUKA OYAMA

Opening **FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016, 5 PM - 8 PM**
Exhibition Period **SATURDAY, APRIL 16 - 23, 2016, DAILY 12 PM - 6 PM**
Venue **THE RECEPTION GALLERY AND AUDITORIUM**
KUNSTHØGSKOLEN I OSLO, FOSSVEIEN 24, 0551 OSLO

FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016, 6.30 PM Performance
SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2016, 4 PM Performance
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2016, 5 PM Artist Talk

In the concluding exhibition of her artistic research fellowship at Oslo National Academy of the Arts, Yuka Oyama explores the intertwined relationship between objects and subjects, between people and things. Her research is centred in the field of contemporary jewellery and craft, from which she focusses on the wearer, the human body, its movements and how they relate to objects.

In the course of her fellowship Oyama developed multimedia installations, as well as wear able sculptures and films. Considering jewelry more than just a decorative moment, the artist takes up the cardinal question in her works: what does jewellery do to a person and what does a person do to jewellery?

With *The Stubborn Life of Objects* Oyama pushes this question even further as she lets the distinction between the object and the subject dissolve. What happens when things grow beyond their practicality and function? Which of their unconventional properties come into play? Things become alive in our minds, start demanding changed conditions, cause inconveniences, and make us behave differently. In the exhibition the objects not only act for themselves, they are also meant to visualize and document the conditions of the time we are living in.

The artist's vision of contemporary life as full of strangely mechanical interhuman relations and futuristic human-object rituals is dark and dystopian, yet her staged DIY exorcism and psychodramas with Karate colleagues, a group of young adults in search of their occupation, alternative seniors, and cosy collectors also includes a distinctive dose of slapstick humour.

Yuka Oyama's first solo presentation in Norway took place in August 2015 when she showed her *Encapsulation Suits* at Oslo Kunstforening. *The Stubborn Life of Objects* now offers an overview of her research activities and strategies of the last years and combines selected research materials, sketches, puppet models, documentations of public interventions, and photographs with various texts and visual sources. In parallel, a selection of film works produced during the fellowship period will be screened in the Auditorium.

YUKA OYAMA

Yuka Oyama was born in Tokyo in 1974 and grew up in Malaysia, Japan, and Indonesia. She studied Contemporary Jewellery at the Rhode Island School of Design, where she received her BFA. Afterwards she was apprenticed with the traditional German goldsmith Heinz Siebauer in Munich, and then resumed her education at the Munich Academy of Fine Arts under the tuition of Otto Künzli (Art Jewelry) and Asta Gröting (Sculpture). Since 2012 Yuka Oyama has been a research fellow at the Art and Craft department of Oslo National Academy of the Arts.

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS:

- 2015 *Encapsulation Suits*, Oslo Kunstforening, Oslo
2013 *Faces to Hide*, SPACES Gallery, Cleveland, Ohio
2012 *Moderne Märchen im Berliner Untergrund. U10 – Von hier aus ins Imaginäre und wieder zurück* (with Axel Ruoff), staff room of U2 platform at Potsdamer Platz, Berlin
2006 *ASQ*, OONA Gallery, Berlin

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS:

- 2016 *(IM)print*, Gallery UpStream!, Munich
After Wearing: A History of Gestures, Actions and Jewelry, Pratt Manhattan Gallery, New York
- 2011 *Metadomestic*, Oberösterreichische Landesgalerie, Linz (Austria)
EMBRACED, Gustavsbergs Konsthall, Gustavsberg (Sweden)
- 2010 *Media Facades Festival Europe 2010*, BERLIN: Collegium Hungaricum Berlin, U6 Friedrichstrasse, Nightscreen Gasometer; BRUSSELS: Flagey Screen, iMAL Facade; BUDAPEST: Palace of Arts, KIBU Figs Facade, Lánchíd 19 Design Hotel; HELSINKI: City Wall / Lasipalatsi Square, Gallery Alkovi, City Tourist Office; LINZ: Ars Electronica Center, Tabakfabrik; LIVERPOOL: FACT Facades; BBC Big Screen; MADRID: Medialab-Prado Facade
Derridas Katze – que donc je suis (a suivre), Kunstraum Kreuzberg, Berlin
- 2009 *LINGAM*, Konstfack, Stockholm; Museum Cathrijneconvent, Utrecht; WCC, Mons, Belgium
Splendid Isolation – Goldrausch 2009, Kunstraum Kreuzberg, Berlin
- 2008 *ARTITUDE 2008*, Kunstbanken Hedmark Kunstsenter, Hamar (Norway)
Medien Facades Festival 2008, Gasometer, Berlin
Des Wahnsinns fette Beute, Pinakothek der Moderne, Munich
- 2007 *Sydney Design Week*, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney
Art After the Dark, National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne
INK (Im Neuen Kontext), St. Johannes Evangelist Church, Asia Pacific Week, Berlin
- 2006 *Autumn Show*, Charlottenborg Fonden, Copenhagen
Artist Migration Berlin, Heidelberger Kunstverein, Heidelberg
- 2005 *Über Schönheit*, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
Not Even the Moon is Autonomous, Lothringer 13, Munich
Räume und Schatten, Haus der Kulturen der Welt, Berlin
- 2004 *Brillant(e)*, Kunst Meran im Haus der Sparkasse, Meran
Schmuck Quickies, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, Middlesbrough
- 2003 *Daikanyama Art Fair*, Art Front Gallery, Tokyo
Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennial 2003, Niigata, Japan
Now and forever – Beständigkeit und Moden in der Kunst, Luitpold Lounge, Munich

ACCOMPANYING PROGRAM

PERFORMANCES AT THE KHIO MAIN ENTRANCE

Friday, April 15, 2016, 6.30 pm (in conjunction with the exhibition opening)

Saturday, April 16, 2016, 4 pm

A performance by four actors will feature Yuka Oyama's sculptures

VIDEO SCREENINGS AT THE AUDITORIUM

April 16 – 24, 2016, daily 2 pm – 5 pm

The following films will be shown: *Encapsulation Suits Part 1 and 2*, *Cleaning Samurai*, *Helmet – River*, *Modern Ballet Duo and Trio* and *Stubborn Objects Psychodrama*

ARTIST TALK AT THE AUDITORIUM

Wednesday, April 20, 2016, 5 pm

A conversation between Yuka Oyama and Jørn Mortensen, Rector of Oslo National Academy of the Arts

OSLO OPEN – OPEN STUDIO / ÅPENT ATELIER

April 16 – 17, 2016, 12 pm – 6 pm

In addition to Yuka Oyama's exhibition, the artist's research fellows Tina Jonsbu, Katrine Køster Holst, Merete Røstad, and Franz Schmidt invite visitors to their studios.

Venue: Please follow the signs from the entrance gate at KHiO (Fossveien 24, 0551 Oslo)

LINKS

www.yukaoyama.com

www.khio.no

www.osloopen.no

PRESS CONTACT

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ART AND CRAFT