



ABOUT

Let's look at National Treasures with a modern perspective and make our own discoveries, just as Archimedes did when he shouted out "Eureka!" when he discovered buoyancy.

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Tokyo National Museum, Virtual Tohaku presents the Virtual Exhibition “Have a Eureka Moment with National Treasures of Japan.”

National Treasures were crafted in centuries past and handed down through the ages. There is no right way to appreciate these works, so we are free to enjoy them how we like, from our own points of view. People say that when Archimedes discovered buoyancy, he shouted “Eureka!” We hope that viewing these National Treasures and making discoveries about them will inspire your own “eureka” moment.

CONTENTS

This exhibition has three parts: “getting to know” National Treasures, “becoming immersed” in them, and “connecting” with them. Visit each gallery for multi-faceted views on all 89 National Treasures at the Tokyo National Museum (TNM).

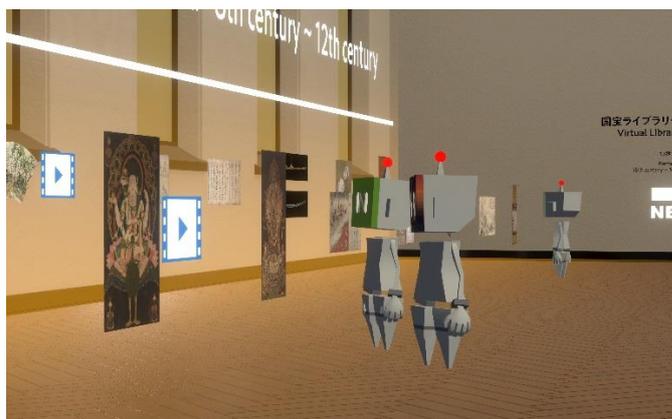
Part 1

Getting to Know National Treasures

What are the 89 National Treasures, anyway?

This virtual library is an easy way for even beginners to understand the features of Japanese art.

In this gallery, you can view all 89 National Treasures in the Tokyo National Museum collection. To give you new perspectives, these works are arranged under the keywords “Japanese poetry,” “season,” “material,” and “color.” 3D footage highlighting the charms of the National Treasures is also available. A way of enjoying the works that cannot be experienced simply by viewing their physical forms awaits you!



Part 2

Getting Immersed in National Treasures

What sort of world view do the National Treasures have?

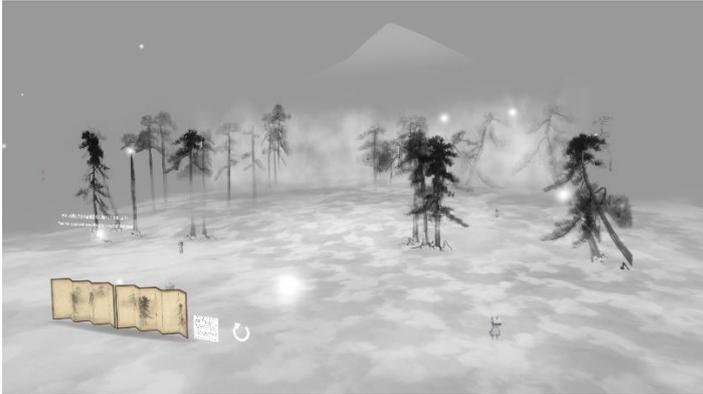
Immerse yourself in the world of artwork in this virtual exhibition space.

In this gallery, we explore the artist’s thoughts and recreate scenes from one of his artworks in the virtual space of the metaverse.

Use your avatar to move around freely, immersing yourself in the sights and sounds of this artwork.

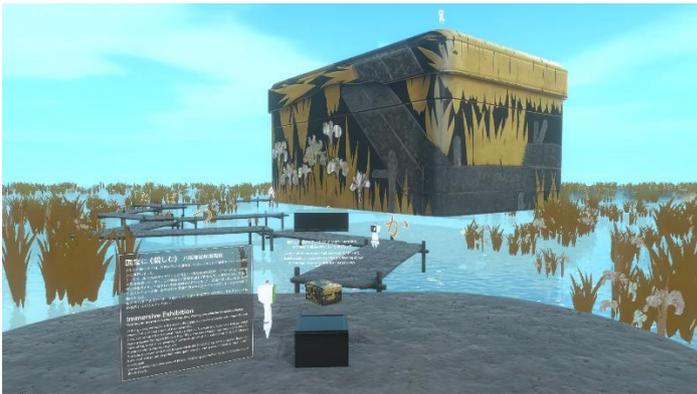
01 *Pine Forest*

In the virtual exhibition room based on the National Treasure that is the *Pine Forest*, we see the pine forest as painted by Hasegawa Tōhaku in a 3D space. Hasegawa Tōhaku uses only monochrome ink, but succeeds in creating a sense of depth. Experience the wonders of the varying arrangements of the pine trees by moving a part of them in three-dimensional space!



02 Writing Box with the Yatsuhashi Bridge

In the virtual exhibition room based on the National Treasure that is the *Writing Box with the Yatsuhashi Bridge*, we see the Yatsuhashi Bridge in Mikawa Province as appears in *The Tales of Ise*. Immerse yourself in the world of Ogata Kōrin by gathering letters around the three-dimensional space, complete the waka poem composed by the main character from *The Tales of Ise*, and enter inside the inkstone box!



Part 3

Connecting with National Treasures

What if contemporary artists attempted to reinterpret National Treasures?

This futuristic exhibition room is decorated with art honoring the National Treasures.

In this gallery, contemporary artists exhibit works that reinterpret and pay homage to the National Treasures in the Tokyo National Museum collection. The world view held by National Treasures is connected to the present and to the future through artists. These works are available to visitors as NFT art! Feel your own connection with National Treasures.

*What is an NFT?

An NFT is a token issued on a blockchain which proves uniqueness and cannot be replaced.

ARTIST

Kazuki Takakura

1987 born in Yamanashi

2010 graduated MA from Tokyo Zokei University, graduate school of Fine Arts

Using technologies such as 3DCG, pixel animation, 3D printing, VR, and NFT, he creates works with the theme of rewriting the rules of contemporary art based on oriental thought and pursuing new value for digital data. Currently, he is mainly producing works based on the concept of Japanese Buddhism. He teaches animation at Kyoto University of the Arts. The NFT series "BUDDHA VERSE" is being developed at opensea.

<https://takakurakazuki.com/>



Photo : hanako kimura



Collection : Virtual Tohaku NFT_INFINITY NEO HANIWA / Title : INFINITY NEO HANIWA

Hal Osawa

1997 born in Tokyo

2020 graduated from Tama Art University, Faculty of Art and Design, Oil Painting Course

2022 graduated MA from Kyoto University of the Arts, graduate school of Fine and Applied Arts Field

[Solo-Exhibition]

2022 ERROR, Medel Gallery Shu, Tokyo

Mtk+ vol.10 Haru Osawa, MtK Contemporary Art, Kyoto

[Group-Exhibition]

2017 Letters and Figures, Chuo Line Gallery, Tokyo

2020 HOP 2020, Galerie Aube, Kyoto

2021 In between, SkiiMa Gallery, Tokyo

SHIBUYA STYLE vol.15, SEIBU Shibuya Art Gallery, Tokyo

2022 Started, ARTDYNE, Tokyo

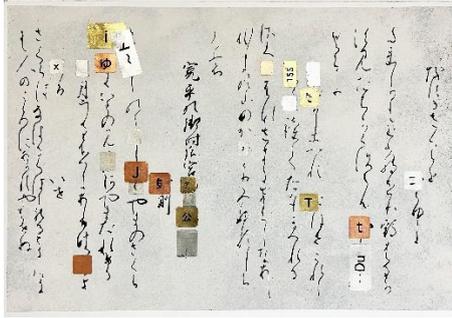
KUA ANNUAL 2022 "in Cm | Ghost, Labyrinth and Multiverse", Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum

NIJIGEN-HA, Daikanyama Hill Side Forum, Tokyo

<https://www.instagram.com/oswhr/>



Photo: OKADA Yurina



Collection : Virtual Tohaku NFT_Induction / Title : Induction #1

Rei Nakanishi

1994 Born in Mie Prefecture

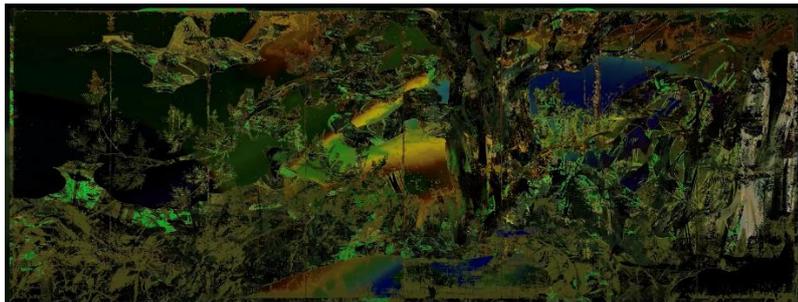
Rei Nakanishi moved to the United States in 2016 to work in New York City as an assistant to Meguru Yamaguchi. He returned to Japan in 2019 and joined GOLD WOOD ART WORKS. Currently based in Shizuoka, Nakanishi continues to exhibit and present his work in Japan and abroad.

His approach combines conventional painting techniques with printing. In his most recent works, he explores the essence of expression through production, questioning its shifting value, and employs recent technologies such as 3D modeling, AI, NFT, as well as graphics to realize his vision.

<https://reinakanishi.com/>



Photo : ©2022 Rei Nakanishi



Collection : Virtual Tohaku NFT_Cypress Trees 2023 / Title : Cypress Trees 2023

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©2023 Rei Nakanishi ©2023 GOLD WOOD ART WORKS

Hal Matsuda

1998 born in Iwaki

2021 graduated from University of Tsukuba, School of Art and Design, Printmaking division

2022 studying MA at Kyoto University of the Arts, graduate school of Global seminar

Selected to 5th Creator's Scholarship by KUMA foundation

[Award]

100_10 Exhibition between the arts Sponsor Award

WATOWA ART AWARD 2021 Honorable Mention (by Tomoko Ashikawa, Shigeru Aoi, Maho Kubota, Takahiro Komatsu)

[Exhibition]

2021 VIRTUAL ABSTRACTION, Bar & Gallery COCOTO, Kyoto

Collectors' Collective Vol.5, biscuit gallery, Tokyo

100_10 Exhibition 2021, Shinwa Art Museum, Tokyo

WATOWA ART AWARD 2021 finalist exhibition

2022 KUA ANNUAL 2022, Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum

alter in form, at ARTISTS' FAIR KYOTO 2022

KUMA EXHIBITION 2022, ANB Tokyo

1998, Gallery Room A, Tokyo

manners/variable sun of diffusion length/conversion, Mitsukoshi Contemporary Gallery, Tokyo

https://www.instagram.com/hal_matsuda/



Photo: Shiori Kikuchi



Collection : Virtual Tohaku NFT_Pine forest in fog / Title : Pine forest in fog, Pine tree sculptures

Special participation

Students of Tokyo University of the Arts who are learning about NFTs under contemporary artist Sputniko! and NFT artist Emi Kusano!

Artist team: Aya Miura, Lisa Wakasaya, Tamami Yasue and Hazuki Takai
(the class of “The Future Creative with NFT/Web3” at Department of Design, Tokyo University of the Arts)

Students collective from the class of "The Future Creative with NFT/Web3" at Department of Design, Tokyo University of the Arts.

They made NFT artworks inspired from *Haniwa* (terra-cotta tomb figurine) in Tokyo National Museum to improve its recognition for a broad audience.



Image : Lisa Wakasaya



Photo: MAMI ARAI



©Fictionera



Collection : Virtual Tohaku NFT_Haniwa de card

Title : Shiny people

SPECIAL

Full of relevant projects you can only experience within a virtual exhibition!

i. “Respect Art” NFT for Sale

We will be selling NFTs of the “Respect Art,” works that reinterpret and pay homage to the National Treasures in the Tokyo National Museum collection, as be displayed in Part 3 "Connecting with National Treasures"! The proceeds will be used by the Museum to conserve National Treasures for future generations. Become a part of this venture by owning your very own NFT.

Sales Period: From Friday, March 3, 2023

Sale Location: OpenSea

<https://virtualtohaku.jp/eurekatohaku1089/nft>

And, as a special offer to buyers, we will host a virtual meet-and-greet with the artist!

Networking Event (for NFT buyers)

As a special offer to all who purchase NFT art, we will be hosting a virtual meet-and-greet with the artist.

Date: Friday, March 17, 2023

Location: Online (participants will be notified individually)

*This networking event will only be held in Japanese.

*This networking event is a virtual event held in Cluster.

*Please note that NFT art produced by Kazuki Takakura and Hal Matsuda is not eligible.

*We will use Discord and Cluster. Account registration and installation of the apps will be necessary for participation.

*Participation in the event will be granted to those who purchase an eligible NFT and issue the event ticket from Cluster. **(One ticket for each NFT, issued to whoever registers first.)**

Participation is granted to those who issue the event ticket from Cluster first, regardless of who purchases the NFT first. Please make sure to complete the necessary steps beforehand.

***Those who have purchased an eligible NFT can go to “unlockable content” from the NFT info page.** (Includes steps on how to issue the ticket.)

*If you resell or transfer the eligible NFT before completing these steps and the buyer/recipient completes these steps before you, you may not be able to participate in this event. If you are not the original owner and a previous owner had completed these steps, you will not be able to participate in the event.

*Please complete these steps by **4:00 PM JST, March 16th, 2023.**



ii. Commemorative NFT Gift for Visitors

A limited number of 1,089 free commemorative NFTs will be available to visitors in each of the three exhibition rooms at Virtual Tohaku! Visit all three exhibition rooms to complete the set! (NFTs can be obtained from the signs posted in each exhibition room)

*Note: NFTs will be distributed on a first come, first served basis while supplies last.

How to Obtain Your Free Commemorative NFT Gift

1. Tap the NFT sign in Cluster
 2. Log in to NFT Studio and tap the "Get free NFT" button
- *Please ensure you are using the Polygon network
3. After 5-10 minutes, you should see your gift in "My items"



iii. Talk Event

We will hold a public presentation event with the participating artists from Part 3 "Connecting with National Treasures"!

* "Respect Art" is a reinterpretation of the National Treasures in the Tokyo National Museum collection. You can view it in the Part 3 "Connecting with National Treasures" exhibition room.

Date : Monday, March 6, 2023 18:30 (open 18:00) ~20:30

Speaker : Kazuki Takakura, Hal Matsuda, Hal Osawa, Rei Nakanishi and Aya Miura (the class of "The Future Creative with NFT/Web3" at Department of Design, Tokyo University of the Arts)

Location: Virtual Tohaku

Fee : Free

***This event has ended.**



iv. Open call for the My Homage Art Contest

Why not make your own “Respect Art” for National Treasures?

“Get more people to be familiar with Japan’s National Treasures!” This contest, which is open to the public, was born from this sentiment. Please send in your <My Homage Art> of your own interpretation and expression of a National Treasure. Art works selected during the contest will be put on display on this website as an official award-winning piece of the Virtual Exhibition “Have a Eureka Moment with National Treasures of Japan.”

Application period: February 1 (Wed.) – February 28 (Tue.) 2023

***Acceptance has been closed.**



LINK

- “Have a Eureka Moment with National Treasures of Japan” venue (Fee : Free)

(Virtual Tohaku Exhibition Room)

<https://cluster.mu/w/9d0a81b9-f6dd-4bc5-b8dc-801ab1e82d71>

- “Respect Art” NFT Sales Page

<https://virtualtohaku.jp/eurekatohaku1089/nft>