



PRESS RELEASE

New temporary exhibition

Relay to Tokyo- Inheriting and Gathering

Opening 15/07/2020

The Japan Foundation and the Byzantine and Christian Museum present the exhibition of contemporary Japanese art “**Relay to Tokyo - Inheriting and Gathering**”.

This temporary exhibition at the Byzantine and Christian Museum highlights and celebrates the work of five Japanese artists (Yu Araki, Kei Imazu, Nobuaki Takekawa, Paramodel Hayashi Yashuhiko, Naoki Honjo) and one architect (Kengo Kuma), who represent the vanguard of their fields in Japanese contemporary art production. These works of art, drawn from the fields of painting, photography, video, installation, explore two fundamental axes: the leading event of the Olympic Games and the host city of Tokyo interwoven with the meanings of “Inheriting” and “Gathering”.

In the artworks on display we discern various forms of inheritance or continuation, for example in creations that incorporate cultural products and techniques old and new, creations that take up the succession of historical and cultural heritage as their subject matter, and creations that repeatedly explore personal themes. At the same time, these works share certain features, such as the repetition of actions, and the connecting, linking, and gathering of elements.

It was because of the Olympic Flame Handover Ceremony to be held in Tokyo in March 2020 that the current exhibition was planned. After Greek museums nationwide reopen, the Byzantine and Christian Museum inaugurates the new temporary exhibition “**Relay to Tokyo - Inheriting and Gathering**” aiming to familiarize the Greek public with contemporary Japanese art and to enhance cultural exchanges between Greece and Japan.

The exhibition will run for two months.

Opening hours: Wednesday to Monday, 08:00-20:00, Tuesday: 13:00-20:00
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PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS OF THE EXHIBITION

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Kei IMAZU, “Repatriation”, oil on canvas, 2015, Takahashi RYUTARO Collection



Naoki HONJO, “Shinjuku, Minato, Nakano, Setagaya, Chuo and Koto Cities in Tokyo”, ink-jet print, 2009 / 2008 / 2009 / 2008 / 2010 / 2008



Nobuaki TAKEKAWA, “Cat Olympics: Opening Ceremony” / “Posters of the Cat Olympics”, wood – ceramic / mixed technique, 2019



View of the periodical exhibition where in the foreground is the work "Cat Olympics: Opening Ceremony " by Nobuaki TAKEKAWA (2019), on the wall the work "Repatriation" by Kei IMAZU (2015) and in the background the work "Temple of the Templet" by Yu Araki (2016), a video installation with direct reference to the Parthenon