

I LOVE ART 18

Perfect Camouflage

I want to be ART



Andy Warhol. Joseph Beuys in Memoriam. 1986
Silk screen

Exhibition Term:

February 4 (Sun.) - **May 6** (Mon., national holiday), 2024

Closed on Mondays (except February 12, April 29, May 6)

Opening Hours: 11:00 - 19:00

Admission Fee: Adults 1,200 yen / Pair discount 2,000 yen / Students (high school to 25 years), Seniors (70 years and over), Visitors with disabilities, their caregiver (up to 1) with ID 1,000 yen / Children (elementary to junior high) 500 yen

Organization / Venue:

WATARI-UM, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art

3-7-6, Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0001 Tel:03-3402-3001 Fax:03-3405-7714

Email: official@watarium.co.jp <http://www.watarium.co.jp>

Cooperation: OTA FINE ARTS / Taka Ishii Gallery / Tomio Koyama Gallery / Ishikawa NISHIDA KITARO Museum of Philosophy

Chapter 1

Camouflage into Everyday Life

Andy Warhol

Man Ray

Hiraki Sawa (guest)

Chapter 2

Camouflage into Nature

Lois Weinberger

Gary Hill

Rika Noguchi (guest)

Chapter 3

Camouflage into Memory

Christian Boltansky

Joseph Beuys

Hiroshi Sugito (guest)

Chapter 4

Camouflage into Space

Donald Judd

Max Bill

Nam June Paik

Lin Tian Miao

Keith Haring



I want to be ART

Art may be about perfect camouflage.

In the exhibition Perfect Camouflage, 11 artists from the WATARI-UM collection including Andy Warhol, and guest artists Hiraki Sawa, Rika Noguchi, and Hiroshi Sugito, will exhibit approximately 80 works. The exhibition is divided into four chapters: Camouflage into Everyday Life, Camouflage into Nature, Camouflage into Memory, and Camouflage into Space.

"The reason I'm painting this way is that I want to be a machine."

Andy Warhol

From the interview in ARTnews in November 1963. Since 1960, Warhol used to create lots of silkscreen works. Using the same plate, he created unique images by changing colors, intentionally shifting the prints, and making the ink run off.

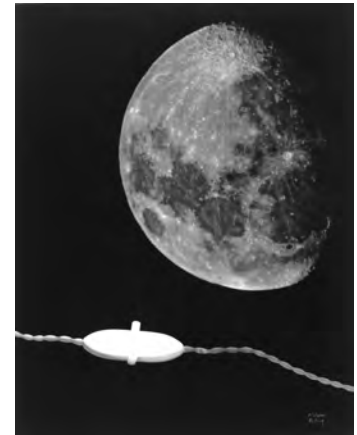
"What is beyond plants is at one with them"

Lois Weinberger

This is the title of his work exhibited at Documenta X in 1997.

Weinberger removed herbicide and planted ruderal plants on the old track of Kassel central station to transform it into a garden. He likened the plants taking roots in German soil to immigrants.

Camouflage is the act of hiding one's presence and blending into one's surroundings. The situation around us gives birth to us, and then another situation is created. History is repetition of this. Camouflage is a survival instinct. When we are drowned by so many things, objects and minds, on the streets, in nature, all day long, all over the world, we camouflage ourselves into our everyday lives to hide.



Man Ray, Earth, 1931 Rayograph

What you camouflage yourself in is up to you.

Chapter 1

Camouflage into Everyday Life



Hiraki Sawa, "flown," exhibition view, 2022
© Hiraki Sawa. Courtesy Parafin, London. Ota Fine Arts, Tokyo. Photo: Peter Mallet.

Hiraki Sawa 1977- Japan

Creates dreamy film works by introducing images that supposed to exist in everyday space, such as a large number of airplanes flying inside a room. In recent years, he has expanded his production to include installations that combine film and music.



Andy Warhol, Self-Portrait, 1986
Silk screen, corage

Man Ray 1890-1976 U.S.

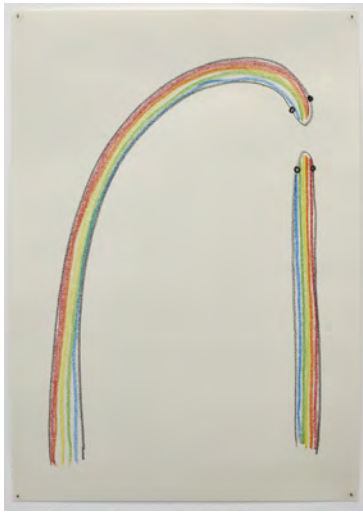
Played an active role in various realms such as painting, object, photography, and film as the leading figure of Dada, Surrealism, and Avant-garde art movement in the 1910s. He also invented photographic expressions such as solarization and shooting without cameras using rayograph by placing objects on printing paper, and established photography as a new artistic expression.

Andy Warhol 1928-1987 U.S.

Began creating Pop Art works while working as a commercial illustrator in the 1950s. He gained overwhelming popularity for his works depicting icons of popular culture such as Marilyn Monroe and soup cans. Since the 1970s he has become a social figure due to his popularity and scandals.

Chapter 2

Camouflage into Nature



Noguchi Rika
Rainbows are Alive, 2023
© Noguchi Rika /
Courtesy of Taka Ishii Gallery
Charcoal and pastel on paper



Gary Hill
CORE SERIES "Leaves",
1991
Single channel,
2 monitors

Noguchi Rika 1971- Japan

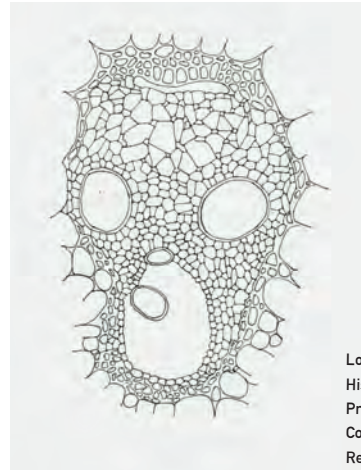
A unique perspective that moves between the microscopic and the macroscopic. Her choice of subjects touches on the mysteries of human nature. Known both in Japan and abroad for her transparent colors and poetic photographic works, she is not limited to the world of photography, but participates in a number of international exhibitions of contemporary art.

Gary Hill 1951- U.S.

He came into the limelight at Documenta 9 in 1992 and has been overwhelmingly supported as an important video artist after Nam June Paik. His work is sharply rendered with dreamlike, ephemeral and ambiguous images.

Lois Weinberger 1947-2020 Austria

Began working with natural and man-made spaces in the 1970s. In 1988, he began a garden project in which he planted ruderal plants grown in his garden in Vienna. He has been influential in the discussion of nature and art since the 1990s.



Lois Weinberger
Histological Section, 2000
Print on mesh tarpaulin
Cooperation:
Reborn-Art Festival Executive Committee

Chapter 3

Camouflage into Memory



Christian Boltansky,
Monument (Odessa), 1988-89
Mixed media



Joseph Beuys, Felt suit, 1970
Felt, edition 100, signed



Hiroshi Sugito, cobbler potatoes, 2023 © Tomio Koyama Gallery
FRP resin, plaster, masking tape, LED light, clothespin and others

Christian Boltansky 1944-2021 France

Began presenting works using photography and light bulbs or light since the late 1970s. Since 1984, he began the Monument series, which is reminiscent of altars. The figures in the photographs are Jewish children persecuted by the Nazis.

Joseph Beuys 1921-1986 Germany

He arrived at the concept of "social sculpture," which extended the concepts of sculpture and art to education and social change, and engaged in political activities aimed at building a normal relationship between society and art. He was one of the founders of the Green Party.

Hiroshi Sugito 1970- Japan

He likes to paint simple motifs such as small houses, the sky, and boats, and his works are characterized by delicately and rhythmically arranged colors and shapes. In recent years, he has been going beyond the framework of painting to create new exhibition spaces where architecture and his works interact with each other.

Camouflage into Space



Nam June Paik, French Clock, 1993
French antique clock, metal bar, 1 video camera, 1 three-legged stool, wood panel, 3 monitors



Lin Tian Miao, Bound Unbound (part), 1997
Thread, mirror, knife, pot

Nam June Paik 1932-2006 Korea / U.S.
Joined Fluxus in the early 1960s. He moved to New York in 1964 and created media art using video images and electronic music. The collaboration of technology and Eastern Thought is seen in his works.

Lin Tian Miao 1962- China
Moved to New York in 1988, and since then has based her activity in Beijing and New York. She has held solo exhibitions such as "Open Studio. Baofang Hutong 12#" (Beijing 1995). She has been appealing various issues contemporary China carries which is difficult to convey through words.

Becoming an object Nishida Kitaro

Nishida Kitaro: "I think science has to get to the essence of objects. ...I think the more it can leave the human being and become an object itself, the better. ...To leave means to leave one's own subjectivity. It's not about leaving science. ..."

D. T. Suzuki: "In the Western way, to leave means to separate. It is not entering into an object. To enter is the Eastern way."

Nishida Kitaro: "I don't think there is such a way of thinking in the West; to become an object."

February 28, 1941 From the audio recording of the conversation between Nishida Kitaro, D. T. Suzuki and Yamamoto Ryokichi

Collection: Ishikawa NISHIDA KITARO Museum of Philosophy

The audio recording of the conversation between Nishida Kitaro, D. T. Suzuki and Yamamoto Ryokichi (collection: Ishikawa NISHIDA KITARO Museum of Philosophy) will be played in the exhibition space.



Donald Judd, Untitled, 1977 Stainless steel and blue plexiglass



Max Bill, Endless Ribbon for Three Position, 1974-1975
gilt brass



Keith Haring, Untitled (part), 1983 Spray paint on wallpaper

Donald Judd 1928-1994 U.S.
He called his works neither paintings nor sculptures, but "specific objects". He exhibited his works in a number of exhibitions around the world and also participated as an art critic.

Max Bill 1908-1994 Switzerland
He was active in the fields of architecture, painting, sculpture, writing, education, and politics. He was Acknowledged as one of the "last Bauhaus masters" and his logic moulding was based on the idea of mathematic concepts.

Keith Haring 1958-1990 U.S.
Appeared from East Village in the beginning of the 1980s, and immediately became a pioneer of graffiti art known internationally. He brought art outside of galleries and museums through production on subways and in the streets.