

The whole island is a museum!

Opening of the Setouchi Triennale 2022, a contemporary art festival taking place all around Naoshima and many other islands in Kagawa Prefecture (Japan)

The Setouchi Triennale 2022, a contemporary art festival taking place on 12 islands, including Naoshima Island, in Kagawa Prefecture, Japan, is scheduled to take place from April 14th, 2022 to November 6th, 2022. The island of Naoshima is known worldwide as “a sanctuary for contemporary art” and was selected as one of the 52 Places to Go by The NY Times thanks to the works of the architect ANDO Tadao and the artist KUSAMA Yayoi.

This will be the fifth edition of Japan’s leading art festival, which has been held in a triennial format since its inception in 2010, attracting around 1 million visitors each time.

Just as the previous Triennale, the festival will be held in three sessions (105 days in total): spring (April 14th – May 18th), summer (August 5th – September 4th), and fall (September 29th – November 6th). The festival’s venue will spread over a total of 14 areas in Kagawa Prefecture, including twelve islands in the Seto Inland Sea, such as Naoshima, Teshima, Megijima, Ogijima, and Shodoshima, as well as the area surrounding Takamatsu Port.

A total of 214 works of art by 184 artists (such as ANDO Tadao, KUSAMA Yayoi, and Leandro Erlich) from 33 countries and regions are scheduled to participate.

According to the festival’s executive committee, “since its inception, the Setouchi Triennale has been held under the theme of ‘restoring the sea’. With the aim to revitalize these island communities, which have grown in harmony and constant dialogue with nature, this festival seeks to transform this region into ‘a sea of hope’ for the whole world” .

FUKUTAKE Soichiro, the general producer of the festival, firmly believes that “at a time when we are confronted with major social issues, it is important and necessary to rethink deeply about what true wealth, true happiness, and a truly sustainable society are. We can achieve this by immersing ourselves in nature and facing contemporary art and the strong statements it shares with us” .

KITAGAWA Fram, the general director of the festival, shared his vision of the festival and its role: “art can provide us with many insights into the current state of our civilization and society through the multi-layered and diverse expressions of artists

who remain true to the natural order” . “I hope that this art festival will firmly take root on this region, and connect us through our eyes and souls to the rest of the world” .

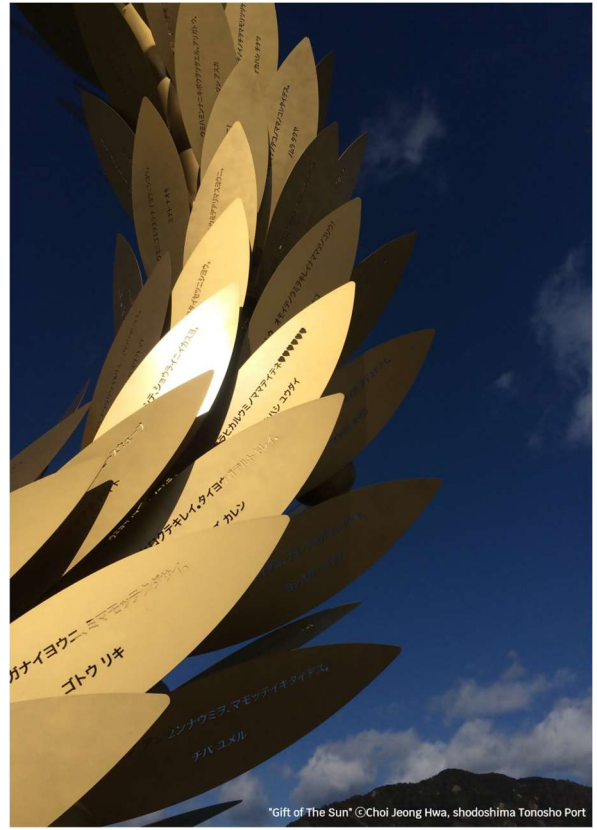
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[Contact]

International Tourism Promotion Office,
KAGAWA Prefectural Government
E-mail:se8307@pref.kagawa.lg.jp



"Walking Ark" ©Keisuke Yamaguchi, 2013 Ogi Fishing Port area



"Gift of The Sun" ©Choi Jeong Hwa, Shodoshima Tonosho Port

