

## MEGUMI MATSUBARA | BIOGRAPHY

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1977 Born in Tokyo, Japan

### EDUCATION

- 2004 Master of Architecture, The Bartlett School of Architecture, London, United Kingdom
- 2003 Master of Arts, Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Studies, The University of Tokyo, Japan
- 2001 Bachelor of Architecture, School of Architecture, The University of Tokyo, Japan
- 2000 Curatorial Internship, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo & Bridgestone Museum Tokyo, Japan

### SOLO PROJECTS & COMMISSIONS IN PUBLIC SPACE

- 2011 *House of 33 Years* [architecture design of a residence, ongoing], Nara, Japan\*
- Air Library* [installation intervening the entrance hall of Dentsu Inc.], Tokyo, Japan\*
- Stra #2* [installation & performance at a news stand in front of Kenya National Archive], Nairobi, Kenya
- Stra #1* [installation on one-and-only billboard in Kibera slum], Nairobi, Kenya
- 2010 *Windscape* [installation to cover a building façade in moving fabric], Mini Japan commission, DesignTide Extension, Tokyo, Japan\*
- 2009 *With/without me* [wood/snow architecture installed between interior/exterior of Aomori Museum of Art], "Love Love Show" site-specific work, Aomori, Japan
- Whereabouts* [architectural intervention to the interior of the Museo Nazionale Leonardo da Vinci], "Emporium" site-specific work, Milano, Italy
- 2008 *Absent Cafe* [installation to cover Marunouchi Cafe with mirror sheets], Marunouchi Artweeks commission, Tokyo, Japan\*

### SOLO SHOWS (shows in galleries & museums, scenography)

- 2010 *Retrospective: i.e., radlab*, Kyoto, Japan\*
- 2009 *Published*, Art Center Ongoing, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008 *Boojum*, Diesel Denim Gallery Aoyama, Tokyo, Japan
- Absent City*, Gallery within assistant, Tokyo, Japan
- Translucent Passage*, Galerie des Galeries Galeries Lafayette, Paris, France\* [scenography for Mellow Fever, Asian contemporary art group show]
- 2007 *Woven Marionette*, National Stadium Gymnasium, Tokyo, Japan\* [scenography for DesignTide Tokyo group show]
- Rock Garden*, Aria Savona, Milano, Italy\* [scenography for Mexican-Swedish furniture brand]
- 2006 *Totoro House*, Covent Garden Film Studios, London, UK\* [scenography for Mexican-Swedish furniture brand]

### SELECTED GROUP SHOWS & PROJECTS

- 2012 (upcoming) *Surrender: The 4<sup>th</sup> Marrakech Biennale*, Theatre Royal, Marrakech, Morocco
- (upcoming) *Wonderland 10110: AR3 bro + assistant*, 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan\*
- 2011 *This is not Jay-z&Beyonce's Apartment*, Gallery within assistant, Tokyo, Japan
- Aoba Art*, Utsukushigaoka Town, Yokohama, Japan
- Arakawa Africa*, Gallery OguMag, Tokyo, Japan
- Pacific*, Scion Installation L.A., Los Angeles, United States
- Girlfriends Forever!*, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010 *Rikuri: Glistening Lights*, Sedona, Tokyo, Japan\*
- SD Review winning architecture projects exhibition*, Hillside Terrace Tokyo & Osaka University of Arts, Japan\*
- Point: Korea-Japan exchanging artists & critics*, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, Japan
- 2009 *Love Love Show*, Aomori Museum of Art, Aomori, Japan\*
- Emporium*, Museo Nazionale della Scienza e della Tecnologia Leonardo da Vinci, Milano, Italy
- Seoul Film Festival*, EWHA University, Seoul, Korea
- 2008 *Point: Korea-Japan exchanging artists & critics*, Gallery Loop, Seoul, Korea
- Mellow Fever*, Galerie des Galeries, Galeries Lafayette, Paris, France
- Post Coitum*, MHT Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2007 *Le Corbusier*, Workshop & Installation, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan
- Lab\*Motion*, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan\*
- 2006 *Slow/Motion*, Workshop & Installation, Akiyoshidai International Art Village, Yamaguchi, Japan\*
- 2005 *Tremors were Forever*, Caniche Courage, Tokyo, Japan\*
- 2003 *Tanabata.org*, Sendai Mediatheque, Sendai, Japan\*
- 2001 *Sukima Project*, Command N, Tokyo, Japan

## SELECTED WORKSHOPS

- 2011** *OrNamenTTokyo*, Urban analysis/workshop/discussion, Guest tutoring, Tokyo, Japan\*  
*UIA – The 24<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Architecture*, Guest tutoring for international students, Tokyo, Japan\*
- 2010** *Gradioffiti*, urban intervention, Tokyo, Japan\*  
*Symmetric Arrangement of Time and Space*, Aomori Contemporary Art Center, Aomori, Japan\*  
*Release*, Aomori Museum of Art, Aomori, Japan\*
- 2009** *Shadow Theatre*, Little Saints Orphanage, Lagos, Nigeria  
*Pick*, Aomori Museum of Art, Aomori, Japan\*  
*On-site Lab: Art and Environment*, workshop with London Arts College, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008** *My Imaginary Lagos*, workshop with children, Nonohana no Ie, Kisarazu, Japan  
*Picturebook & Architecture*, workshop with art & architecture students, Architectural Institution, Tokyo, Japan\*
- 2007** *Tremors were Forever: Remember Le Corbusier*, workshop with children, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, Japan\*  
*Patterns of Alliance*, Tokyo Wonder Site, Tokyo, Japan\*

## RECENT PERFORMANCES

- 2011** *Sociological Lunch DJ*, CAMP 5th Anniversary, Bul-lets, Tokyo, Japan
- 2009** *Keep The Streets Empty For Me for Fever Ray*, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*A White Line*, Shibuya crossing, Tokyo, Japan  
*Distracted Tea Party*, Art Center Ongoing, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008** *Opiate* [music performance with ILPO], Gallery Vallery, Barcelona, Spain  
*Green Winter* [music performance with ILPO], Studio K rooftop, Tokyo, Japan

## AWARDS, GRANTS & RESIDENCIES

- 2011** Dar Al-Ma'mûm [artist residency in Marrakech, Morocco]
- 2010** Nairobi Art Project Grant, supported by The Japan Foundation [artist residency in Nairobi, Kenya]  
SD Review Prize\* [architecture project prize for House of 33 Years]
- 2009** The Japan Foundation Grant [research, workshop & lecture trip to Lagos, Nigeria]  
The Nomura Cultural Foundation Grant [artist residency to develop site-specific work in Milano, Italy]
- 2004** Commendation, The Bartlett School of Architecture Final Show  
Web Creation Award, Web Advertising Bureau [awarded for the psychological mapping project]  
Macromedia Prize, Canon Digital Creators' Contest\* [awarded for the psychological mapping project]
- 2003** British Council Japan Association Grant [study grant in UK]
- 2002-03** IPA Exploratory Software Project Grant [project grant to develop a psychological map, two-year winner]

## RECENT PUBLIC TALK

- 2011** Radio public recording, "World Report for Tokyo Art Research Lab", 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan  
Artist presentation "Nairobi projects", 3331 Arts Chiyoda (Tokyo) & Kyoto Art Centre (Kyoto), Japan  
Artist presentation "Recent work: Megumi Matsubara", Kuona Trust, Nairobi, Kenya  
Symposium panelist, "Let's talk with Arata Isozaki - Shiro Kuramata & Ettore Sottsass", Midtown, Tokyo, Japan
- 2010** Lecturer, "Anagram and Architecture", Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan  
Main speaker, 6 dialogues at "Saturday Conversation Pieces", radlab, Kyoto, Japan  
Panelist at the opening of "Untitled", Yuki Kimura solo exhibition, Izu Photo Museum, Shizuoka, Japan  
Lecturer, "Too many A's: stories of another side of Africa", Nanyodo architecture bookstore, Tokyo, Japan  
Guest presenter, Australia-Japan Media Art Meeting, Osaka Electro-Communication University, Japan  
Symposium panelist, "Flair Pool on April Fool", Nanyodo architecture bookstore, Tokyo, Japan  
Featured guest speaker, Crossover Jam, public radio J-Wave, Japan  
Guest critic, GSAPP, Columbia University, USA  
Symposium panelist, Korea-Japan exchanging artists & critics, Kyoto Art Centre, Japan
- 2009** Lecturer, "Creative Education & Workshop", Art & Design Conference PK Night, Terra Kulture, Lagos, Nigeria  
Speaker, Public/Image Shuffle Talk, Tokyo, Japan  
Symposium panelist, "ASAE09", Lund University, Lund, Sweden
- 2008** Speaker, APMT4 (Art & Design International Conference), Versalle Kudan, Tokyo, Japan  
Speaker, CAMP, Otto Meinzeim Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2007** Guest critic, The Bartlett School of Architecture, London, UK

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY (Essays solely reviewing the artist's work)

- 2012** -BOOK, '00s 11 Methods, Rikuyosha, Megumi Matsubara & Hiroi Ariyama, "Space, I", coauthor, P17-36, Jan 2012
- 2011** -BOOK, Absolute Guide to Contemporary Japanese Artists, Bijutsu Shuppan, Yuko Hasegawa, "Advanced - for

2010s", portrayed, P110, Nov 2011

-**ARTICLE ONLINE**, Conversation with Otieno Kota, introduction by Marina Cashdan, "STRA: Stories for One Another", Another Africa, Jul 2011

-**ARTICLE**, Shohei Kawasaki, "Artist File" portrayed, Tsubasa no Ohkoku ANA Magazine, Jul 2011

-**CATALOGUE**, Conversation with Teppei Kaneuji, moderated by Naoki Matsuyama, Pacific, Exhibition catalogue, May 2011

**2010** -**ARTICLE**, Clara Galeazzi, "Emporium: A New Common Sense of Space", Yishu Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art, Volume 9 Number 2, Mar/Apr 2010, Group exhibition review

-**ARTICLE ONLINE**, Teiko Hinuma, "Artscape in Aomori", Artscape online review, work reviewed, Jan 2010

-**CATALOGUE**, Kim Mijin, "Holistic Approach Reveals the Mechanisms of a World Hidden Within", Point: Korea-Japan exchanging artists & critics Exhibition catalogue, Jan 2010

**2009** -**ARTICLE**, Beatrice Leanza, "Going there, Coming back: Playing Hide-and-Seek with Architecture Studio Assistant", Case Da Abitare China, Talent Show, Jul 2009

-**ARTICLE ONLINE**, Naoki Matsuyama, "To Share Realities", Tokyo Art Beat online review, Solo exhibition review, Sep 2009

-**ARTICLE**, Hong Ye, Art and Design Magazine Beijing #109, Jan 2009, "Asian Avant-garde: Megumi Matsubara"

**2008** -**ARTICLE**, New York Magazine, Dec 2008, "Public Art proposal in Manhattan", work featured

-**ARTICLE**, Pen Magazine art issue, Dec 2008, portrayed

-**ARTICLE**, Hiroyuki Yokota, Nikkei Architecture, Sep 2008, "People File #036 Megumi Matsubara" portrayed

-**CATALOGUE**, Fumihiko Sumitomo, Essay, Point: Korea-Japan exchanging artists & critics Exhibition catalogue, Aug 2008

-**CATALOGUE**, Cameron McKean, "Absent City: The occupied and the occupant", Essay, Absent City Exhibition catalogue/English, Aug 2008

-**CATALOGUE**, Yoshikazu Nango, "Absent City", Essay, Absent City Exhibition catalogue/Japanese, Jun 2008

-**ARTICLE**, Beatrice Leanza, "Mellow Fever: Some Notes on the Rhetoric of the Asian Image and the Temporality of Realism", Yishu Journal of Contemporary Chinese Art, Volume 7 Number 4, Jul 2008, Group exhibition review

-**ARTICLE ONLINE**, James Way, "Designing the Hidden, Hiding the Obvious", Tokyo Art Beat online review, Solo exhibition review, Aug 2008

-**ARTICLE**, Numero Tokyo, May 2008, Absent Cafe featured

-**ARTICLE**, Jil Wu, Vogue Taiwan, Mar 2008, work featured

**2007** -**BOOK**, When Space Meets Art/Art Meets Space, Victionary, Sep 2007, P024-027

-**ARTICLE**, Sonoka Yasuda, Harpers Bazaar Japan, No.080, May 2007, Tokyo New Power People Megumi Matsubara & Hiroi Ariyama

-**ARTICLE**, etapes, Dec 2006, France, Totoro House featured

-**ARTICLE**, Yayoi Kojima, Tokyo Shimbun Newspaper, Sep 8, 2007, Tremors were Forever: Remember LC

-**ARTICLE**, Eureka - Poetry & Criticism, May 2007, Tremors were Forever: Remember Le Corbusier

**2006** -**ARTICLE**, Tokion Japan, Volume 55, Jan 2007, Megumi Matsubara work/lifestyle portrayed

-**BOOK**, end extend by Loris Greaud, Editions Hyx, Jan 2006, France, Psychedelic Mantis House by Megumi Matsubara for Loris Greaud, P173-172

## PROFILE

Megumi Matsubara works individually as an artist and collectively as an architect through Assistant, an international & interdisciplinary design practice that she co-founded with Hiroi Ariyama in 2002. Based on an architectural approach and inspired by urban environments, she composes spatial narratives combining the use of diverse media such as installation, performance, sound and texts. Through constantly rearranging the existing environments, her works challenge the balance between presence/absence.

*Projects credited as Assistant studio are marked with \* in the lists.*