

Shimabuku

NOTO

2013

Installation including 6 works

Shimabuku was invited for a project under the roof of the “Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programm” which offers young people from Kanazawa and other regions opportunities to work together with artists. Shimabuku chose Noto, a peninsula in Japan, to discover with invited collaborators the special living conditions of the Noto people, their production forms, tools and daily habits.

Shimabuku created an installation titled NOTO - a space with different artworks (2 videos, a slide projection, photographs & an installation with unique objects). The video works had been projected on simple wooden walls on whose backside the slide projection was presented alongside several objects. The installation visualized the subject of frontside and backside, which also appears in Shimabuku's text works.

On the museum's website you can find more information about the whole project:
www.kanazawa21.jp

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Things Seen on Noto

1 Children Playing at the Sea

Noto children frolicking by the sea, tossing stones out into the sea and baring their behinds to the sea in provocation. This video, taken with a Super 8mm film camera produced over 30 years ago, conveys us to the sea in our distant memories or maybe the sea we sometimes see in a dream.

2 City in the Sea

I was amazed when I first saw salt crystals. They looked just like a pyramid or ancient ruins. I wanted to photograph the crystals and make them larger so I could look at them. Then one day, it struck me. Our ancestors long ago also looked at salt crystals and felt amazement at the beauty of their forms. In those days, when there were no photographs, they wanted to make the crystals larger in three dimensions, just as they were, and then stand on top of them and make buildings like them, don't you think? Salt crystals were the blue print for pyramids and ancient ruins, I think. Salt crystals do not resemble pyramids; pyramids resemble salt crystals.

3 Sea and Flowers

One day, I saw a red flower floating on the waves at the Noto coast. Was this flower drifting away from Noto to some far place? I wondered. And I thought of the day when these flowers, long ago, drifted here from the continent across the sea. Where will they go, the flowers I cast into the sea? Will they eventually arrive somewhere?

4 Fish Spin-drying Device

This fish spin-drying device is incredibly cool. Someone made it himself using bicycle wheels. In Noto, many people just make something if they need it, instead of buying it, and I think this is pretty cool. The idea of spinning fish to make them dry quickly makes a lot of sense in Noto, where it often rains. This speed-drying method is also good if you want to dry sardines or squid without gutting them. The fish-drying device looks good on video, too. I would like to show this to Duchamp or Man Ray in heaven. They would be amazed. I wish I had an actual one, myself.

5 Noto Portrait

One is surprised at how few people one sees in Noto. Yet, there are hoses nearly everywhere in houses, towns, and villages, and each hose really shows its owner's character. The hoses also tell us that a lot of people live here. For me, photographs with no people in them can be photographs of people.

6 Back Side of a Wall, a Watermelon, and Other Things

Everything has a front and back side. I am particularly interested in the back sides of things. Even when viewing artworks at art museums, I peak into the crevice behind the canvas or photograph, trying to see the back. As such, there was a lot I could learn in seeing how they use the back sides of walls in Noto. The back side of a wall can sometimes become its front side. The plumpness of the watermelons and vegetables in Noto also captured my attention.



Installation view of *Noto* at 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan, 2013



Children Playing at the Sea

2013

Super 8 Film transferred to digital data (1 min. 17 sec., color, no sound)

Edition 5 + 2 a.p. (No. 3/5)



Sea and Flowers

2013

Super 8 Film transferred to digital data (2 min. 19 sec., color, no sound)

Edition 5 + 2 a.p. (No. 3/5)

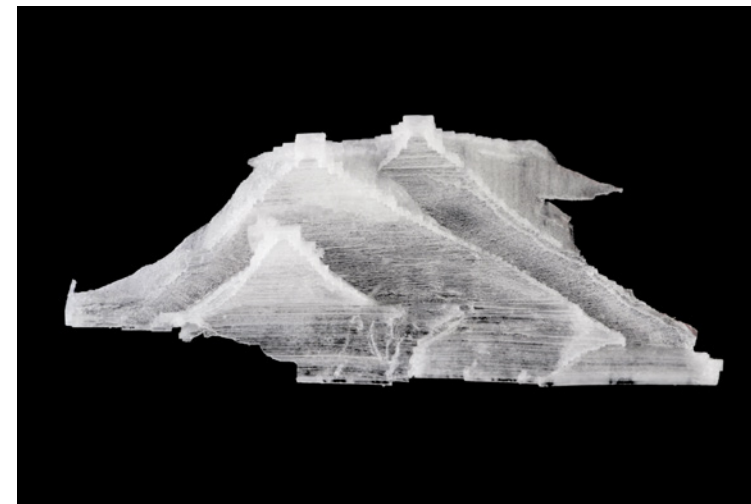


City in the Sea

2013

Projection: 48 digital photographs (5 min. 36 sec., color, no sound)

Edition 5 + 2 a.p.



City in the Sea

2013

Projection: 48 digital photographs (5 min. 36 sec., color, no sound)

Edition 5 + 2 a.p.



Fish Spin-drying Device

2013

HD video transferred to digital data (1 min. 56 sec., color, sound)

Edition 5 + 2 a.p. (No. 3/5)



Noto Portrait
2013
35mm Dia Slide Projection (40 images, color)
Edition 5 + 2 a.p. (No. 3/5)

Back Side of a Wall, a Watermelon, and Other Things
2013
35mm Dia Slide Projection (20 images, color)
Edition 5 + 2 a.p. (No. 3/5)



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+ Some Objects along with “Noto Portrait” and “Back Side of a Wall, a Watermelon and Other Things”
Straw Broom, Stone with Shell, Vinyl Hose
Unique