

Finding a sense of self amid European culture



MAKI UMEHARA, 5 JULY 2023, DAIWA FOUNDATION JAPAN HOUSE

What [nüans] left behind

2006/2007 Artist run space [nüans]

2006-2016 [nüans] : Anna Heidenhain, Elmar Hermann, Maki Umehara

2016- NUANS: Anna Heidenhain, Elmar Hermann, Hugo Schneider

- **The archival book**

Jūnen: Collaboration and Archiving (Umehara, 2023)

- **Art projects**

Place for self-education (nüans)

Network through the internet / electronic device (V. Flusser)

- **Finding a sense of self amid European culture**

External perspective as a Japanese person and
extrasensory perception

Artist works as the smallest collective unit.
But why?

Generating potential by [nüans]

- Focusing on avoiding the clashes of binary oppositions such as:

Majority (native, German) / minority (foreigner)

Generating potential by [nüans]

Possibilities to work

- With artists from various countries
- In Western and non-Western
- On producing books in German, English and other languages
- At a place for learning

- **The archival book**

Jūnen: Collaboration and Archiving (Umehara, 2023)

Anna Heidenhain (DE), Elmar Hermann (DE), Alexander Basile (DE), Hugo Holger Schneider (DE), Rita McBride (US), Satoshi Okamoto (sub-tle.) (JP), David-Marlo Conrads (DE), Elke Kania (DE), Karolina Thorwarth (DE), Michael Maurissens (BE), Bambi (CH), Andy Šlemenda (US), Antje Feger (DE) & Benjamin F. Stumpf (DE), David Bernstein (Diaspora), Carlotta Werner (DE), Christian Wieser (IT), Claudia Barth (CH), Glen Rubsamen (US) , Hiroyuki Masuyama (JP), Hoshiko Yamane (JP), Hüseyin Karakaya (DE/TR) , Janosch Pugnaghi (DE), the ART Foundation, Maiko Sugano (JP), Matthis Bacht (DE), Miki Hoei (JP) , Naoki Matsushita (JP), Olof Jönsson (SE), Yoshimi Kanbayashi (JP), Maki Umehara (JP)

Who is the protagonist Hayy?

- The original A Self-Taught Philosopher by Ibun Tufayl
- The story of Hayy by nüans
- Multiple consciousness
through creation of art



Jūnen: Collaboration and Archiving

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Note to English Edition

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The Background

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Archive of Artistic Creativity – Sharing Our Enjoyment with Others in the Future

Reference Material









Plot

Story Author	A Self-Taught Philosopher Ibn Tufayl	HAYY nūans
Birth: Two Different Beginnings	A: Born unwanted; arrival on an island B: Soul inhabited in clay	A: Born unwanted; arrival on an island B: Soul inhabited in clay
Improvement	Mother is an antelope; autodidact Hayy learned how to use tools and fire	Mother is avatar; autodidact Hayy learns to use skateboard
The Death of the Mother Discovery	Fundamental biology	Spiritual world Spirit
Mystical Existence	Philosophical mystical thoughts. Acquirement of knowledge, perception, technique	Movement
Encounter with Others	The wise man's theory on religion through language was equal to Hayy's perception without language	Seven thousand years later: Specialist Spirit's Hayy Body's Hayy Omniscience
End	Notices the divide between himself and the community; goes back to his island	Understanding of collaboration

Practices - personality formation

Exhibition Location	Sicily, Italy	Istanbul, Turkey	Tokyo, Japan	Düsseldorf, Germany, and surrounding area	Düsseldorf, Germany		Berlin, Germany
Stage Date	Guardiola Contemporanea August 2013	asansörsüz September 2013	"The Dog House", Konnoh Hachimangu Shrine October 2013	Nature reserves Iserlohn, Elmpt, studio February 2014	Düsseldorf Quadriennale May 2014	Künstlerverein Malkasten, Düsseldorf June 2014	Vice Versa Distribution (Revolver Publishing) June 2014
Topic	Monologue of "Omniscience" Dialogue with Hayy	Special "island" within the metropolis	Language and music which convey death and rebirth	Birth of Hayy Hayy's development Death of Hayy's mother Spirit	Sustainable development of Archive and location of the festival		
Activities Events	Work Shoot Event	Work Exhibition Performance	Shoot Event Screening	Shoot	HAYY preview Symposium Performance Video and artist's book	Work Video and artist's book Exhibition Event Premiere screening Performance Book launch	Work Exhibition Symposium
Practice of the Artist Collective	Part 1: Created a platform, transforming it into abstract value	Part 2: Created Hayy's living and working space	Part 3: Shooting of the scene of souls	Part 4: Shooting of the scene in nature	Part 5: Preview event for the presentation at the theatre; artist's book and video	Part 6: Performance outside and inside of the theatre hall	Part 7: Each member of nüans expressed their different opinions in public
Archive	Record of dialogue and video montage	Record of the artists' daily life	Record of the Japanese traditional space and the artwork by Kosuth	Record of the sympathy between nature and animals	Edit of the video and the artist's book	Presentation	Ordered record of the working process

Group work

- Re-ordering relationships in the environment from which artists, curators and art emerge
- Difference —
To avoid becoming a foreigner working in the society, without own roots / culture
- Dealing with specific space, time and culture

People can return once again to the origin that they had humanity through subservience for others, along with publishing (V. Flusser)

Finding a sense of self amid European culture

- A psychic circulator to eject people's emotions into the society, in order to recover their fine sensibility (Balinese ritual ceremony and art projects)

Finding a sense of self amid European culture

- External perspective as a Japanese person

Finding a sense of self amid European culture

- Extrasensory perception

Thank you very much