

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

wendelien van oldenborgh
Dance Floor as Study Room - したたかにたゆたう

November 30 (Sat), 2024 – March 15 (Sat), 2025
Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Studio A

Leading Dutch artist wendelien van oldenborgh presents her newest work!

The Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] presents a solo exhibition by wendelien van oldenborgh, a leading Dutch artist, in which she unveils her latest work.

In her film installation pieces, van oldenborgh has been dealing with matters related to racism, gender issues, aspects of history, and power structures based on ideas of dominance, as represented by colonialism. In recent years, she has conducted research on female artists from Japan, Indonesia, and the Netherlands, including the actress and movie director Kinuyo Tanaka (1909-1977) and the writer Fumiko Hayashi (1903-1951), both of whom are from Yamaguchi Prefecture.

In this exhibition, three previous works and a new film installation focussing on those artists will be shown together along with a specially conceived architecture which includes a elevated dance floor which will be activated during the exhibition, embodying diversity in culture and society.

The exhibition questions the moral standards in contemporary society by shedding light on colonial, patriarchal, and other dominant attitudes, as well as discrimination, social conflicts, and personal struggles they cause. We are looking forward to your visit and participation.



Production still of "Dance Floor as Study Room - A Prelude" (2024)
Courtesy of Artist

For any inquiries for an interview or press photos, please contact us at the following address.

INQUIRIES

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Collaboration between internationally renowned artists and YCAM



wendelien van oldenborgh "Dance Floor as Study Room" (2024)
Photo : Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsyum!)

Since its opening, YCAM has focused its activities on exploring new forms of expression through the application of media technology. It has produced and presented a wide variety of installations with leading artists such as Seiko Mikami, Exonemo, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Carsten Nicolai, and Fujiko Nakaya.

In this exhibition, we are pleased to present a new work by wendelien van oldenborgh, a Dutch artist based in Berlin. van oldenborgh has recently held a solo exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (2022) and represented the Dutch Pavilion at the Venice Biennale in 2017, and has been one of the leading artists in Dutch contemporary art for over 20 years, presenting film works and installations at numerous international exhibitions.

The people in van oldenborgh's works, including cast and crew, confront cultural, historical, and political social issues together through filmmaking. The dialogues recorded on the film set are honest and unprepared, which helps to set the diverse perspectives and differences that arise and intersect in the process of communication that are captured in the work. Her previous works include "Bete and Deise" (2012), which depicts an encounter between two female artists (an actress and a singer) regarding the female experience and position in Brazil's public sphere, and "of girls" (2022), which explores the ideals of socialism and the emancipation of women. This exhibition will feature new works connected to these works.

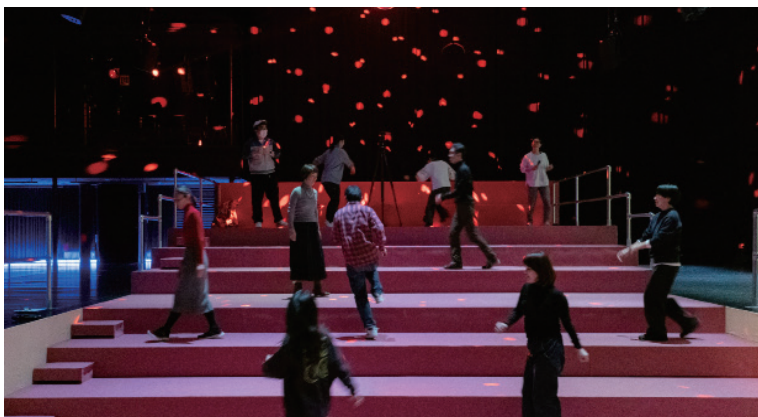
■ wendelien van oldenborgh

Born in 1962 in Rotterdam, currently lives and works in Berlin. Van Oldenborgh develops works whereby the cinematic format is used as a methodology for production and as the basic language for various forms of presentation, collaborating with participants in different scenarios, to co-produce the script. Her recent solo exhibitions include *unset on-set* at Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (2022), *work, work, work (work)* at Muzeum Sztuki in Łódź (Poland, 2021), *tono lengua boca* at Fabra i Coats (Barcelona 2020) and *CA2M Centro de Arte Dos de Mayo* (Madrid, 2019-2021), and *Cinema Olanda* at the 57th Venice Biennale Dutch Pavilion (Venice, 2017). She has also exhibited in numerous international group shows, including *Sonsbeek 20->24* (Arnhem, 2021), *Chicago Architecture Biennial* (Chicago, 2019), *bauhaus imaginista* at the House of World Cultures (Berlin, 2019), *Singapore Biennial* (Singapore, 2019), *Aichi Triennial* (Aichi, 2016), and *Kyiv Biennial* (Ukraine, 2015).



Photo: Jakub Danilewicz
Courtesy of Artist

A diverse program revolving around a dance floor and a study room as key elements



wendelien van oldenborgh "Dance Floor as Study Room" (2024)
Photo : Shintaro Yamanaka (Qsyum!)

The Japanese title of this exhibition, "Shitataka ni tayutau," refers to a state of freedom that is rooted in free and unclassified will and possible ways of facing oppression by others without resorting to violence. On display are a total of four works, including a new creation in which the artist utilises the medium of film to address issues related to gender and power, both in a time of war and colonial dominance, as well as in the current times.

The new work "Dance Floor as Study Room - A Prelude", which is introduced at this exhibition, is conceived as the beginning of a feature-length film by van oldenborgh, which is planned to be released in 2026. Inspired by the existence of queer-inclusive rave parties organized by WAIFU and SLICK, van oldenborgh then used two locations where the party took place - Aoyama Hachi, a club in Shibuya, Tokyo, and the other is Kinone Pension, a house of a memento from the Sanrizuka Struggles, as the central location for the film. Throughout the film, the casts exchange personal stories and insights on several historical figures and events, each scene bringing differing but overlapping issues. The setup includes a "dance floor" that was inspired by queer party culture, connecting to the exhibition's general theme. The physical experience that unfolds through this architecture embodies that.

Various other events designed to enhance the visitor's experience are also on the program, such as talk sessions and interactive events with invited scholars, artists, and other specialists from different fields, as well as reading sessions and other related programs. The terms "dance floor" and "study room" in the title hint at the idea behind the diverse program points, which were put together for visitors to observe and experience the exhibition's overall theme physically and intellectually.

wendelien van oldenborgh

Dance Floor as Study Room - A Prelude

2024, Two-channel film installation with dance floor,
34min. and 6min.

Appearances and dialogues by aliwen, Andromeda,
Chelsea Szendi Schieder, Hanna Hirakawa, Kanae
Tanikawa, Midori Morita, Takeru Arai, Yiqing,
Yoshiyuki Ishikawa

Cinematography: Yukiko Iioka

Camera assistance and lighting: Risa Hiraya

Camera assistance: Hitoshi Omika

Sound recording : Young Chang Hwan

Make-up: YAMA

Still photographer: Chloe Pare-Anastasiadou,
Kyongfa Che

Production assistance: Yoshiyuki Ishikawa

Line production: Natsuko Odate (Yoshiko Isshiki
Office)

Edit: wendelien van oldenborgh

Sound mix: Junji Nakaue

Colour grading: Hayato Itakura

Subtitle translation: Yoshiyuki Ishikawa, Gema
Galves Luis

Acknowledgement: Norio Kanzawa, Rousyu
Shimizu

Film location: Aoyama Hachi, Kinone Pension

Postproduction support and enormous thanks to:
Leonhard Bartolomeus and Kartika Menon

開催概要

wendelien van oldenborgh
Dance Floor as Study Room – したたかにたゆたう

November 30 (Sat), 2024 – March 15 (Sat), 2025

Open 10:00-19:00

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Studio A

Closed on Tuesdays, February 26th - March 6th, 2025

Admission free

*The exhibition will be closed during the related program 1 below.

Organized by Yamaguchi City, Yamaguchi City Foundation for Cultural Promotion
Sponsored by Yamaguchi City Education Committee
Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Fiscal Year 2024
Cooperation with YCAM InterLab
Produced by Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]
Curated by Leonhard Bartolomeus

Related Programs

1. Closing Talk Session

March 15 (Sat), 2025 17:00-19:00

Guest: wendelien van oldenborgh

Venue: Studio A

Participation free, application required (limited to 30 visitors, first-come-first-served)
[Simultaneous interpretation available]

2. Gallery Tour

March 8 (Sat), 2025 13:00-13:45

Meeting Point: Foyer

Participation free, Limited to 15 participants
Application required

Related Cinema

Special Screening: Film by Kinuyo Tanaka "Onna bakari no yoru" (1961, Japan)

March 12 (Wed) - 14 (Fri) , 2025 10:30-

March 15 (Sat) and 16 (Sun) , 2025 12:30-

Screening and Talk Event

March 14 (Fri) 10:30- / After the screening, talk event starts from 12:15

Guest Speaker: Ayako Saito

Venue: Studio C

Cinema tickets required
[Simultaneous interpretation available]

Ticket information

Please visit the website for purchase.

Website:

www.ycam.jp