Yui Onodera

Contact:

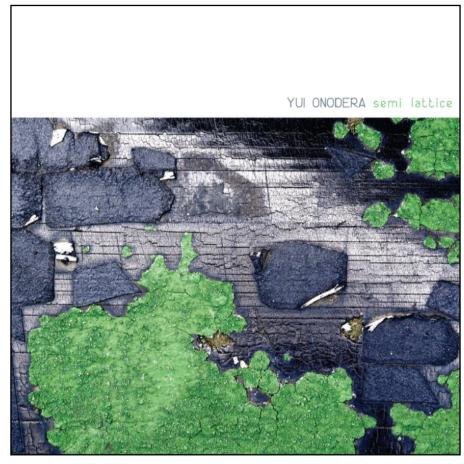
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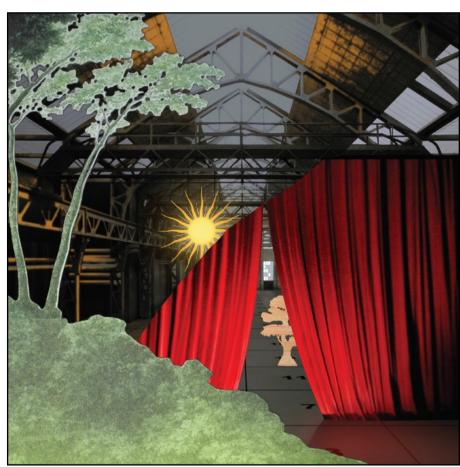
Yui Onodera is a Tokyo-based composer, sound artist and new media artist whose works explore the relation between musical forms, architectural acoustics and spatial awareness. He studied music and architecture design, after working as an architectural acoustics designer, his familiarity with both the architectural acoustics and sonic arts resulted in numerous commissions to create sounds and music for specific, tangible locations (complex facility, office, airplane, exhibition etc). He has a distinctive figure in the fields of experimental ambient/electroacoustic music involving delicate hybrids of digital technology and acoustic instrumentation, working across the spheres of composition and installation work.

His works are widely published internationally, he has released numerous works on esteemed labels like KOMPAKT, ROOM40 and more. Exploring notions of perception, memory and sonic afect across a wide array of creative forms, he uses a broad palette of musical instruments, field recordings and electronics to craft provocative listening experiences and creating dense clouds of blurry, hypnotic sound. His work has separately appeared on compilations by Tribute to Ryuichi Sakamoto "Micro Ambient Music" etc. In 2017, alongside his musical profession he works as a sound art lecturer at Rikkyo University and Musashino Art University.



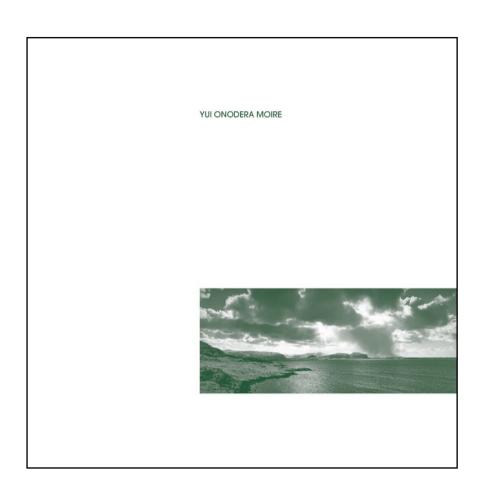






His debut album Suisei was released in 2007 by experimental and sound art label and/OAR(USA). This approximately 45min-long piece of music is a work composed from field recordings and pump organ. His sound is largely based on environmental sound and various musical instruments (guitar, piano, organ and electric violin, etc.), re-editing techniques, and dedicated software processes, for electro-acoustic, experimental and ambient pieces. Through a process of layering and synthesis, he was create incredibly minimal, yet dense sound textures from very singular materials. He tries to reduce the "material" to its basic aesthetic structure by using digital and analog processing in order to release it from its original meaning and context.



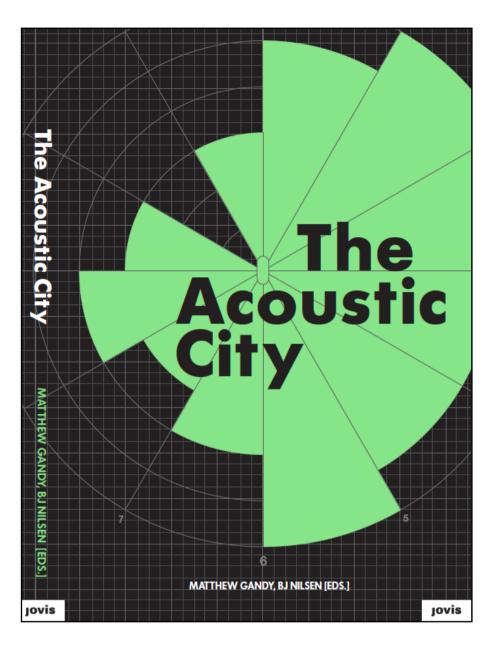


The Shō is a reed instrument that has maintained a place at the very heart of traditional musics in Japan.

Introduced from China during the Nara Period (AD 710–794), its timbre is as haunting as its visual appearance. Held across the face, the shape of the instrument is said to resemble a phoenix. Sonically too, the instrument maintains a mythic quality. Its reeds resonate creating a beautiful and deeply affecting sound. This feature is undoubtably why the Shō was such a central feature of Gagaku (music of the Imperial Japanese Court).

This affective quality is also what drew Tokyo musician Yui Onodera to seek out the instrument. Onodera, known for his work creating lilting ambient sound fields, began learning the instrument in 2016 and gradually developed an approach to it that merged his interests in cavernous acoustic spaces, with the sonic potentials of the instrument.

MOIRE is the first resolution of these interrogations. It allows both the timbral sensibility of the instrument and his unique production approaches to coexist in a loose orbit that extends the hazy dreamlike tones of the instrument, shaping new ambient states that echo outward from the past.













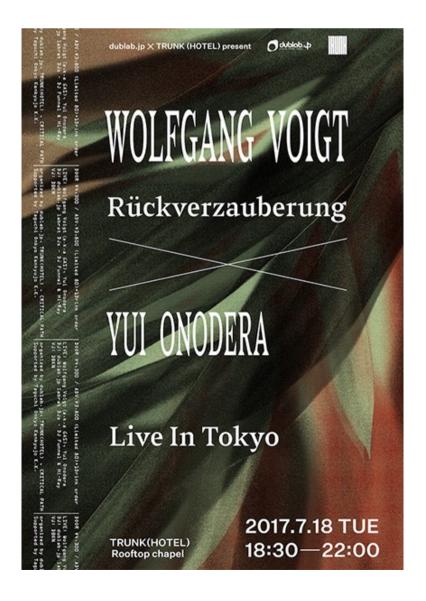
















He investigates the politics of perception, through live performance and installation, to create works that ponder subtle transformations of space and ask audiences to become aware of that which exists at the edge of perception. He invites audiences to enjoy impressions of depth, distance and disappearance, and to fathom the qualities of the space around our limits of perception. His concerts at museums, churches, Japanese temples, and other non-traditional performance spaces explore the physicality of sound. He produces installation pieces and live performance, often using multiple speaker systems. Include concerts and installations at prestigious festivals STÖRUNG FESTIVAL (ES), Unyazi Festival (RSA),etc. And he hosts radio shows on "dublab.jp"; showcasing diverse environmental music and ambient music in Japan. dublab.jp was launched as a Tokyo branch of the LA-based non-profit dublab radio station.



He has also produced collaboration works with artists from every imaginable genre: sound artists Stephen Vitiello, Francisco López, musician/visual artist Robert Lippok, Pjusk, Yotam Avni, composer Scanner, Kokubo Takashi, vibraphone player/composer Masayoshi Fujita, musician Chihei Hatakeyama.

He is also organizing electronic music shows, experiential performances and symposium at concert halls, churches, and art spaces. Those event was responsible for the artists working in the modern electronic music field (Wolfgang Voigt, Carl Stone, Christophe Charles, Pjusk, Chra, to name a few), and bringing to Japanese shores influential artists from abroad.

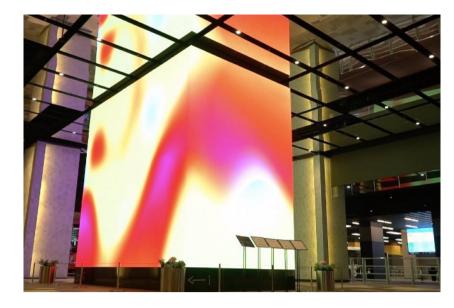




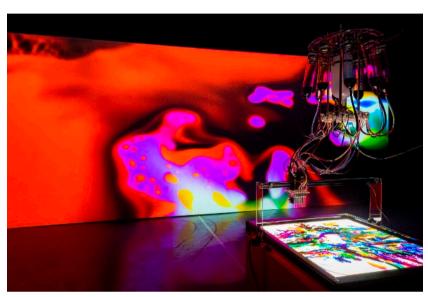




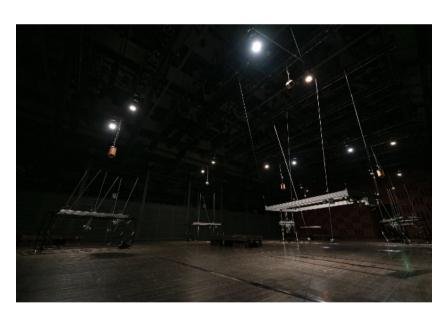




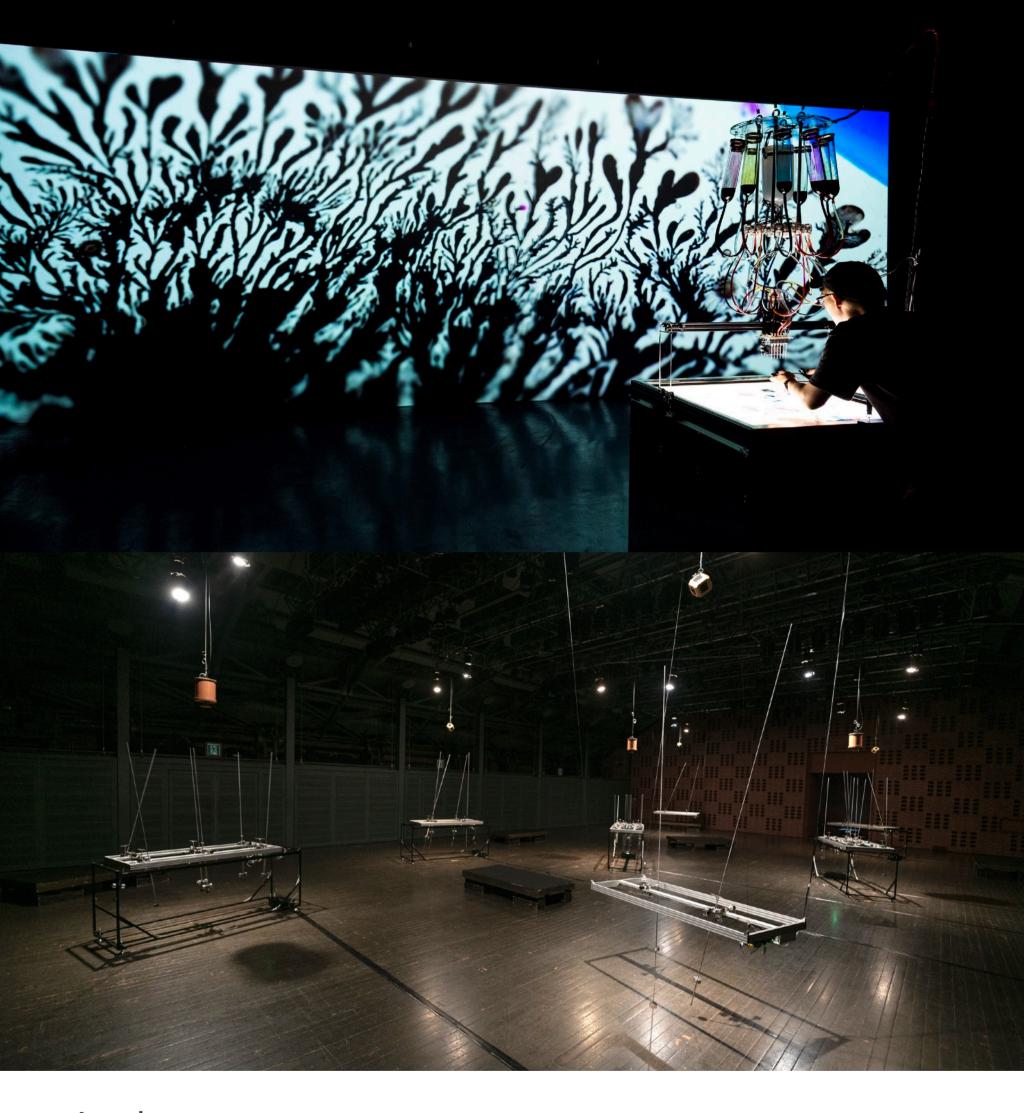








He is a founding member of the art collective "nor" whose ethos is centered around the production of multidimensional work through sound, visual and Installation art. Members come from various backgrounds, including architecture, design, music, science and engineering. The idea behind their installation works, mixing means and technologies from such diverse creative fields as space, imagery and sound, is to translate subjects of advanced studies and natural philosophy into formats for a broader audience to experience, and update these as social values. In recent years, his work has been exhibited at international festivals and museums including Media Ambition Tokyo, MUTEK.JP and NTT inter communication center [ICC].



Awards

The 29th ifva Awards | Media Art Category Special Mention

PRESENT FUTURE Art & Technology Star Award 2019: Installation Star Award

Japan Media Arts Festival | Art Division : Jury Selections prize

ALIFE 2018 | ALife Art Award : Honorable Mention prize

Art Hack Day 2016 | Top prize

Selected reviews

The Sounds within aspire to the dreamtime electronica of Lawrence English, Biosphere, BJ Nilsen and plenty of others on Touch. Onodera doesn't pretend that his field recording techniques enjoy the pristine fidelity of Chris Watson or a Douglas Quin, rather his mottled sounds embrace the abstraction produced through contact microphones and consumer–grade dictation mics. Sustained drones from his pump organ buttress the quiet hypnosis of these field recordings, thanks to the instrument's woozy oscillations. – **THE WIRE** (UK)

The three albums he churned out in 2007 alone would have fueled the career of other artists for at least a decade. The accuracy of his vision is astounding: In the best of Japanese traditions, his compositions are the most immediate realisation of a single idea imaginable. Onodera is constructing a greater picture from these small-scale miracles as well. As the market becomes saturated, artists like Yui Onodera are thus becoming ever-more important. His work always goes that one decisive step deeper. - **TOKAFI (Germany)**

Great album of processed instrumental drones by Yui Onodera. I'd be happy to align Yui Onodera with a number of other genius Japanese solo creators such as Ryoji Ikeda who are capable of creating fully-realised, self-sufficient universes in sound, then leaving them for others to explore and chart while they set off across the horizon in their strange sky-boats. And he creates a world more tolerant of human passions than the strictly-demarcated tones of Ryoji Ikeda, that ruthless architect of enormous sci-fi virtual palaces in digital sound. – **THE SOUND PROJECTOR (UK)**

Imprints such as Touch, 12k and Baskaru have made their names with music such as this, but the constructs of Tokyo's Onodera possess enough poise and finesse to rank them alongside works by Christian Fennesz, Lawrence English and Ethan Rose. Like those aforementioned artists, Onodera is a sculptor in total control of his materials, deploying the timbre and tempo (or absence thereof) of a minimalist palette for maximum effect. – **RECORD COLLECTOR (UK)**

Onodera has created a set of seemingly minimal sound structures out of complex interactions that will effortlessly transform any room, while the details of their intriguing inner architectures only begin to become apparent through focused listening. – **THE QUIETUS (UK)**

A master at extracting audio gold from lead, Onodera can make the thinnest octave resonate brighter than a thousand supernova. Operating at bracingly abstract levels, and using only bare essentials (piano, voice, and processed electronics) he constructs Ikeda-like oscillations that appear to leach out of the universe's atomic structure. – SIGNAL TO NOISE (USA)

"Suisei" is a gorgeous album of darkly textured drones with parallels to Thomas Koner's isolationist compositions or Keith Berry's precious deconstructions. Wind, rain, and water all make themselves known in the collection of field recordings, as does the pump organ, which reveals itself in harmonic sustained tones with a spectral timbre (e.g. Niblock, Radigue, Chalk, etc.). These crunching textures situate humbly next to a hypnotic wash of compressed static and melancholic shadowy drone, which sublimely shift into a slippery crescendo of grey massed sound. Very, very well done! – **AQUARIUS RECORDS (USA)**











Discography (selection)

	0 1 / (
year	artist		title		labe	<u>.</u>	
album							
2024	yui onodera		1982		room40		(AUS)
2023	yui onodera		mizuniwa		decaying spheres		(UK)
2022	yui onodera		too r	ne	roo	m40	(AUS)
2020	yui onodera		ray		sere	ein	(UK)
2020	yui onodera		moir	e	roo	m40	(AUS)
2020	yui onodera		syner	rgetics / entropy	drag	gon's eye recordings	(USA)
2018	yui onodera		subst	crate / the garden	drag	gon's eye recordings	(USA)
2015	yui onodera		semi	lattice	basl	karu	(FR)
2015	yui onodera		sinkai		arctic tone		(JP)
2007	yui onodera		suisei		and/oar		(USA)
collabora	ition						
2023	yui onodera + takashi	kokubo	thousand bells		constellation tatsu		(USA)
2022	stelios vassiloudis + y	ui onodera	white cells		balance music		(AUS)
2022	yotam avni + yui onoo	lera	YY		AVN		(ISR)
2020	francisco lópez + yui o	onodera	dropzone cryonics		two-headed snake		(NL)
2018	yui onodera + stephe	n vitiello	quiver		mikroton		(RUS)
2015	yui onodera + vadim l	yui onodera + vadim bondarenko		cloudscapes		ein	(UK)
2011	yui onodera + the bea	yui onodera + the beautiful schizophonic		night blossom v		ereabouts records	(JP)
2009	yui onodera + celer		gene	ric city	two	acorns	(USA)
year	artist	track		title		label	
contribut	tions						
2024	yui onodera	untitled #	#	Tribute to Ryuic Sakamoto	hi	commmons / avex	(JP)
2023	yui onodera	IZUMO		reflections 07		amjunadeep/ reflections	(UK)
2023	yui onodera	cromo 7		pop ambient 202	24	kompakt	(DE)
2021	yui onodera	cromo 6		pop ambient 202	22	kompakt	(DE)
2020	yui onodera	cromo 5		pop ambient 202	21	kompakt	(DE)
2019	yui onodera	cromo 4		pop ambient 202	20	kompakt	(DE)
2018	yui onodera	cromo 3		pop ambient 201	9	kompakt	(DE)
2017	yui onodera	prism		pop ambient 201	8	kompakt	(DE)
2016	yui onodera	cromo 2		pop ambient 201	7	kompakt	(DE)
2016	yui onodera	cromo I		pop ambient 20 l	7	kompakt	(DE)
2016	yui onodera + scanne	r locus solu	us	pop ambient 20 l	7	kompakt	(DE)
2016	yui onodera + chihei hatakeyama	solaris		orbital planes & passenger trains		serein	(UK)
2014	pjusk	skimt		solstøv		I2k	(USA)

Exhibitions & Concerts (selection)

ear	artist			venue	
conce	erts & feativals	1.01.1	T.L. BYLLICLU		
2024	yui onodera	otomo yoshihide, and more.	Tribute to RYUICHI SAKAMOTO	NTT icc	(JP)
2023	yui onodera	w/ ken ikeda	micro ambient music	rittore base	(JP)
2019	yui onodera	minamo, and more	. 901 editions night	soup	(JP)
2017	yui onodera	wolfgang voigt		trunk hotel	(JP)
2016	yui onodera	pjusk, and more.	experimental room		(JP)
2015	yui onodera		hors pistes japon 2015	kyoto cinema	(JP)
2015	yui onodera		störung festival 10		(ES)
2014	yui onodera	cristian vogel, and more.		kosmos lane gallery	(JP)
2013	yui onodera		störung festival 8		(ES)
2013	yui onodera	w/ carl stone + christophe charles		super deluxe	(JP)
2012	yui onodera	brandt brauer frick and more.	^{C,} musa	unit	(JP)
2011	yui onodera	w/ celer		yougenji	(JP)
2010	yui onodera	machinefabriek, and more.	moire	super deluxe	(JP)
2009	yui onodera	yves de mey, and more.		ottomainzheim gallery	(JP)
instal	lation art				
2023	yui onodera	untitled #I	AMBIENT KYOTO 2023	sibasi	(JP)
2023	w/ Andreas Gursky	cromo3	visual spaces of today	MAST	(IT)
2022	nor	syncrowd	ICC annual 2022	NTT icc	(JP)
2022	nor	syncrowd-seven chorus	solo exhibition	Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse	(JP)
2020	w/ Francisco López	entropy	audiosphere	Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía	(ES)
2018	nor	dyebirth & specimens	mutek JP	USN gallery	(JP)
2018	w/ Mischa Kuball	res o nant	res ·o ·nant	Jewish Museum Berlin	(DE
2018	nor	dyebirth	media ambition tokyo	roppongi hills	(JP)
2017	nor	herering	open space 2017	NTT icc	(JP)
2014	w/ Carl Stone	listening room	unyazi festival 2014		(ZA
2009	+LUS	flex acoustics	experimental sound, art & performance festival	tokyo wonder site	(JP)
2008	w/ Kenichi Kanazawa	oto no kakera	oto no kakera	kawagoe city museum	(JP)
year	artist	title			
film					
2017	giuseppe carrieri	nanaa	pe town international film	best documentary film	(IT)

Employment History

Lecturer, Rikkyo University, Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts [2024–] Lecturer, Rikkyo University, Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts [2017] Lecturer, Musashino Art University, Department of Imaging Arts & Sciences [2017]

Awards

The 29th ifva Awards | Media Art Category Special Mention

German Record Critics' Award 2023 | Electronic and Experimental

Sound of the Year Awards 2021 | BEST SOUND INNOVATION IN EVERYDAY LIFE

ADFEST 2019 | MEDIA LOTUS: BEST USE OF AUDIO_SILVER

ADFEST 2019 | AUDIO LOTUS : USE OF AUDIO SUB-CATEGORY_BRONZE

New York Festivals 2019 | AUDIO/RADIO : Best Use of Medium_Finalist Certificate

PRESENT FUTURE Art & Technology Star Award 2019: Installation Star Award

22nd Japan Media Arts Festival | Art Division : Jury Selections prize

Spikes Asia 2018 | Radio & Audio : Silver Spike

AD STARS 2018 | Data Insights : Crystal

ALIFE 2018 | ALife Art Award : Honorable Mention prize

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