

## Hiroshi Ono Solo Exhibition “Japan, Today”

- Period Sunday, December 17th, 2017—Sunday, January 21st, 2018  
\* Closed on Dec 23, Dec 24, and during Dec 28 to Jan 4
- Hours 11:30~23:00 (closed 18:00 on Wednesdays, 16:00 on Dec 27th, and 21:00 on Jan 21)
- Venue SUNDAY  
2-7-12, Ikejiri, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 154-0001 Japan / Tel: +81 3 6413 8055
- Curation KANA KAWANISHI ART OFFICE  
4-7-6 Shirakawa, Koto-ku, Tokyo 135-0021 Japan / Tel: +81 3 5843 9128

### ▼ ARTIST TALK

December 17th, Sunday, 19:00-20:30

Mika Kobayashi (Photo Researcher, The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo, Guest Researcher)

× Hiroshi Ono (Photographer)

\*talk will be held in Japanese language only

\* dinner with the artist

20:30-22:00, JPY3,000 (meal & one drink)

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*Namie, Fukushima*

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KANA KAWANISHI ART OFFICE is pleased to announce opening of Hiroshi Ono's solo exhibition, *Japan, Today*, on Sunday, December 17th.

■Please contact below for any image enquiries■



Hiroshi Ono was born in 1971 in Okayama Prefecture, Japan, and currently lives and works in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, since 2002. Ono completed his B.A. at Tama Art University, Faculty of Art and Design, Department of Sculpture and M.F.A at Sandberg Instituut, Fine Art department. Visiting 50 countries in the world, he created *Line on the Earth* after receiving Konica Photography Encouraged Prize in 1999. In his first publication *Line on the Earth* (Edición Iman, 2007), Ono discreetly connected divided grounds of dystopias he confronted in his real-life as one road.

His second publication *The small feasts make the world* (Mochuisle, 2012) introduces landscapes in the Netherlands and Japan on the equal vision of hope, consisting of essays of his frustrating everyday life in the oppressed Tokyo, and diaries of his peaceful days in Amsterdam where people from varied nations and backgrounds are naturally accepted as is. His unique and humorous point of view allowed not only the cultural differences between the Netherlands and Japan to appear but also the essential cores that human share, regardless of one's cultural sphere.

In his third and latest publication, *Japan, Today*, Ono focuses on Japan.

As seen in Ono's comment stating "*Shōwa* was rough but full of happiness; *Heisei* became beautifully organized but oppressed; and the post-disaster era had been as though we hit an endless end," he adequately and appropriately depicts the true scenes of Japan in which to us living inside the nation feels as one vague flowing story.

Trace of the Pacific War. Sites of tragedies that shook the society. Current states of places where affairs took place as a turning point. Afflicted areas of the tragic Great East Japan Earthquake—and, ordinary scenes of everyday life. Ono presents all such landscapes in parallel, allowing viewers to discover the true state of Japan, and what happiness is for the country, from his unique perspective as a Japanese living in the Netherlands.

We hope this exhibition will be an opportunity for all viewers to acquire inspirations as their own related story.

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■Hiroshi Ono

Photographer. Ono was born in 1971 in Okayama, Japan, and currently lives and works in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, since 2002. After residencies around the world as an Overseas Research Fellow for Pola Art Foundation, he participated an overseas study residency program in the Netherlands for the Agency for Cultural Affairs from 2003 to 2006. Major solo exhibitions include *Important things are spoken in a low voice* (Ohara Museum, 2008), *Line on the Earth* (Nagi Museum of Contemporary Art, 2001) and others. Selected group exhibitions include *Sight-Cruising* (Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, 2005), *Traveling: Towards the Border* (The National Museum of Modern Art, 2003) and others. His works are acquired as public collections by Ohara Museum, Kiyosato Modern Photo Art Museum, and Tokyo Photographic Art Museum.

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*The disaster was a monster that evoked the true Japan,  
hiding undersurface, to appear.  
The true Japan had lost its destination, and was idling away.  
I decided to squarely confront this true Japan.*

*Since then, I started to travel all over Japan.  
Japan that I used to like, Japan when it was hard to breathe,  
Japan that has not changed, Japan that has changed, Japan in prosperity, Japan in decline,  
Japan seen from the disaster area, and Japan seen from ordinary daily life.*

*This is a book that combines all such views of the true Japan that I saw.*

Hiroshi Ono  
from *Introduction* of “Japan, Today”



*Mount Fuji | Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant*  
© Hiroshi Ono, courtesy KANA KAWANISHI GALLERY

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*Okayama | Rikuzentakata, Iwate*

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*Rikuzentakata, Iwate | Tokyo*

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Osaka | Kinugawa Onsen, Tochigi

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Atomic Bomb Dome, Hiroshima | Daigo Fukuryu Maru Exhibition Hall, Tokyo

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