

Press Release

2019.11.7

Alan, Koheita Saito

Art as a Non-Zero-Sum Infinite Stochastic Game with Imperfect Information?

curated by Kazuho Soeda

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November 30 - December 29, 2019

Opening reception: November 30, 6 - 8 pm

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Talion Gallery is pleased to present the group exhibition "Art as a Non-Zero-Sum Infinite Stochastic Game with Imperfect Information?" curated by Kazuho Soeda.

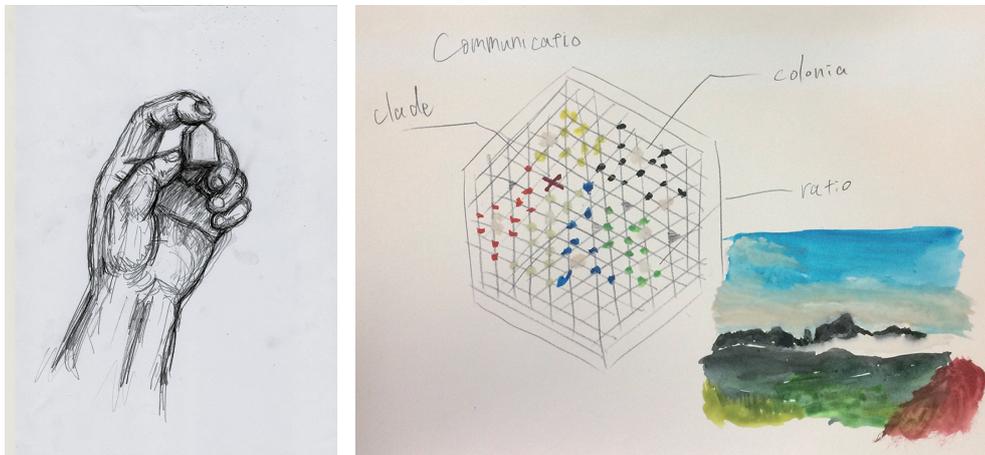
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In this exhibition, we introduce two artists who research the relationship between game and art.

For the board game <Zombie Master> created by Alan (Alan Miura), the artist focuses on the failure of communication between game tool and player. As for the point that we transform the state of piece for the possible moves based on the rules indicated to the player, there is no difference from Shogi and Chess which are traditional perfect information board games. However, the more the state changes has been complicated, the more it is difficult to consider the next move so that the player feels hard to control the piece as he expected.

Koheita Saito registers with Patent Office the design of "Shogi style Chess" which replaced the appearance of Chess with the shape of Shogi piece. The function of chessman is not affected by its shape and design. Though, it does not mean that design of piece is unimportant of course. By designing chessmen as fictive characters such as "King", "Rook" and "Knight" and create them as appropriate sizes, player who is unfamiliar with the game can easily make analogical inference, for example, a large piece has more power and functions than a small piece.

These two artists who create new games by reinventing the relationship between existing game mechanics and tools, is aiming to lose the ties with the author's name, as Chess and Shogi had lost, or overwriting the existing ties, to consider the next move of the "game" named as art.



[Left] Koheita Saito | Hohei Pawn Shogi style Chess sales promotion image drawing | 2018 | Paper, pencil | 29.7x21cm
[Right] Alan | Drawing of Comunicatio | 2018 | Paper, pencil, acylic gauche | 19 x 27 cm

Curator's Statement

As one of the way to know the world around us and ourselves and to communicate with other persons, we have a mode of "playing". There are now games and art all over the world. And game and art strongly associated with this "playing" mode. Because of the mechanics that are not disclosed to us as players, our every single actions results in a modest change in this world. Based on the fundamental thinking which games and art can share, let's consider next move for us who are playing with the world.

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Kazuho Soeda

Born in Fukuoka 1982, Aichi prefectural museum of art since 2008. M.A in University of Tokyo Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, Division of General Culture (Art History). Specialized in modern and contemporary art, especially research on Surrealism and its local developments, planning exhibitions that uncover the intersection of art and visual culture such as scientific photographs and charts.

Selected curatorial projects include "Max Ernst -Figure x Scape"(co-organized, 2012/Yokohama museum of art, Utsunomiya museum of art and Aichi prefectural museum of art), "Between Botany and Art" Aichi prefectural museum of art (2015/Aichi), "Aichi Art Chronicle 1919-2019" Aichi prefectural museum of art (2019/Aichi).

Selected writings include "(Anti) Barcelona painter:Joan Miró", "Barcelona: Regeneration and development of Catalonia culture (2017/Chikurinsha), "Nobuya Abe (Yoshifumi) and "Michishirube" : A Fragment of Painter's Activities in Philippines under Japanese Occupation"(2017/Bulletin of the Aichi Prefectural Museum of Art).



"Max Ernst -Figure x Scape" | 2012 | co-organized of Yokohama museum of art, Utsunomiya museum of art and Aichi prefectural museum of art



"Between Botany and Art" | 2015 | Aichi prefectural museum of art

Alan (Alan Miura)

Born in Totori 1991. B.A. in Department of Art, Faculty of Art, Seian University of Art and Design.

2nd generation student of Parplume Art School.

Recent solo exhibitions include "Communicatio" TAV GALLERY (2018,Tokyo).

Recent group exhibitions include "Reborn Art Festival 2019" Ajishima (2019/Miyagi),"Purple-ism in Purple Town" Parplume Art School (2018/Kanagawa),"Purplume University: Fantasia from the tip to the end" Birds' Gallery Tottori (2017/Tottori), "Purplume University and Yoichi Umetsu" Watari Museum of Art (2017/Tokyo),"The Ger (Mongolian home) of Parplume student" YEBISO ART LABO(2017/Aichi), "The Optical Façade of Parplume" gallery N (2017/Aichi), "X and Parplume" Moritakaya (2016/Fukushima), "Come to PURPLE TOWN", Parplume Art School (2016/Kanagawa), "KITAJIMA/KOHSUKE"#12—81of 20th Dec—" Kata/kombe (2015/Tokyo), "Paplume University Story" ARATANIURANO (2015/Tokyo).



Alan | communicatio | 2018 | Wood, resin, pin, paint, urethane varnish, table (wood, paint, urethane varnish), back image (tarpaulin) | Dimension variable (100x100cm~)



Alan | Zombie Master | 2017 | Wood, resin | 21.5x21x4.6cm | Photo by Fuyumi Murata

Koheita Saito

Born in Aichi 1972. Started artist's practices since 1994.

Recent solo exhibitions include "Gustav Fechner or Benham's top" Art Lab Aichi (2018/Aichi), "The story of Gamagori 2" Gamagori City Library (2015/Aichi), "A journey to find Mr. Hajime Ouchi" Miyazaki Art Center (2014/Miyazaki), "The story of Gamagori" Gamagori City Library (2013/Aichi).

Selected awards include "Aichi Prefecture Arts Culture Selection 2014, Culture Rookie Award" (2015), "8th Taro Okamoto Memorial Contemporary Art Award Exhibition, Special Prize" (2005).

Selected writings include "Art is vague! -Too much thinking in vain of Koheita Saito" (serialized since June 2017/ Chunichi Shimbun Newspaper Plus Column, http://chuplus.jp/blog/list.php?category_id=591)



Koheita Saito | 4m diameter Benham's top (Gustav Fechner or Benham's top) | 2018 | Wood, tarpaulin, paint | 4 m diameter, 2m height



Koheita Saito | Drawing for the Story of Gabagori | 2015 | Paint on paper | 109.1x78.8cm each

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[Exhibition Informations]

Title Art as a Non-Zero-Sum Infinite Stochastic Game with Imperfect Information?
Artist Alan, Koheita Saito
Date November 30 - December 29, 2019 11 am - 7 pm
Closed on Monday, Tuesday and Holidays
Venue TALION GALLERY B1 2-2-1 Mejiro Toshima-ku, Tokyo
Curated by Kazuho Soeda

[Inquiries]

TALION GALLERY

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