

~ Let's revitalize Japan with Art ~
"Roppongi Art Night 2012"

An all-night art event, attracting as much as the total of 700,000 people*, is to be held!
 ~A number of artists, domestic and foreign, gather for the event, including Yayoi Kusama~
 (*the total number of visitors for the 2010 event)

Date: 10:00, March 24 (sat.) — 18:00, March 25 (sun.) 2012
Core Time: 17:56 sunset — 5:38 sunrise
Venue: The Roppongi Area (Minato-ku, Tokyo)



Yayoi-chan, Ring-Ring ©YAYOI KUSAMA
New Work Image



Antenna, Legend of Roppongi, 2012



©KATSUHIKO HIBINO

As a part of the Tokyo Culture Creation Project, "Roppongi Art Night 2012" will take place all night from 10:00 on Saturday March 24 to 18:00 on Sunday March 25, 2012. This is an all-night art banquet staged in the district of Roppongi (Minato-ku, Tokyo), in which the whole area will be covered not only with artistic works but also with various other forms of art, such as music, film and performance.

"Roppongi Art Night" started in 2009, and the total number of visitors reached approximately 700,000 in the 2010 event. In 2011, in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake, we decided to cancel the event in consideration of lingering concern for aftershocks, the ensuing energy crisis, and most importantly, the feelings of many victims of the disaster. In this year's event, which is to be held for the first time in two years, the program will operate under the theme of 'Let's revitalize Japan with Art'. A wide range of artists will exhibit their works accordingly, many of which have been created with the intention of making particularly strong statements, while others focus more on providing inspiration.

The launch of the following programs has been confirmed in the greater Roppongi area: "Love Forever, The Future is Mine", a work by the avant-garde artist Yayoi Kusama to be exhibited all over Roppongi; "Legend of Roppongi 2012", the installation in the motif of a festival, by the artist duo, Antenna; and "Roppongi Agora", the Great East Japan Earthquake-related project planned jointly by the cooperation of various organizations.

Other programs are to be held in each area at such locations as Roppongi Hills, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo Midtown, Suntory Museum of Art, 21_21 DESIGN SIGHT, the National Art Center, Tokyo, and Roppongi Shopping Streets. There will be special programs offered only on the days of "Roppongi Art Night 2012", and opening hours at each museum will be extended.

"Roppongi Art Night 2012" makes the entire Roppongi area totally immersed in art with its wider area programs and each area program. Don't miss the first chance to see these spectacles in two years.

*Information will be updated as required on our website.



Press Contacts

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◆ GREATER ROPPONGI AREA PROGRAMS

Yayoi Kusama "Love Forever, The Future is Mine"

A large-scale personal exhibition of the artist is currently making a tour around major museums in Europe and America. The famed works by Yayoi Kusama will appear in various places in Roppongi. Feel the artist's message of peace and hope in her works, including highly popular pumpkin-shaped and dotted pieces as well as a newly created large-sized piece.

<Examples of exhibited works>

- "Yayoi-chan" "Ring-Ring"
(a newly created installation of a gigantic balloon of the total length of 10 meters)
- "Footprints of Life"
(a pink-colored floating island patterned with black polka dots in various sizes)
- "PUMPKIN"
(a new piece of highly popular pumpkin-shaped works, her forte. A gigantic pumpkin standing at the height of 3 meters)
- "Polka-dotted Cafe"
(for the Art Night only, and will be colored with "Kusama-dots")



PUMPKIN 2011 ©YAYOI KUSAMA



Antenna, *Roppongi Rokuyo-do*, 2012 (artists' rendering)

※ Please note that this is an artist's rendering and the actual work might differ from the above.

Antenna "Legend of Roppongi 2012"

Inspired by the Japanese traditional culture, various works and performances in the motif of such traditional objects as *mikoshi* (portable shinto shrines) and temple halls, by the Kyoto-based artist duo Antenna, will be exhibited. As prayers for "Making Japan Happy", a portable shrine carrying "Jappy" (the "Jappy *mikoshi*") will be making its rounds!

"Roppongi Agora"

This project presents visitors an opportunity to contemplate the "Past" (what happened in the Great East Japan Earthquake), the "Present" (the effort being given to support the reconstruction), and the "Future" ahead. From the perspectives of as well as through the expressions of diverse artists, visitors can catch a glimpse of the processes to continue pondering the post-3.11 art world and its activities, and the future beyond.

Examples of expected programs:

- Katsuhiko Hibino "Night Boats of the Tohoku Calender"
("Night boats" made of Ishinomaki Japanese paper will carry lights, conveying messages from Roppongi for the victims of the disaster.)
- Ichiro Endo "RAINBOW JAPAN PROJECT Here we go!"
(Having likened the Japanese Archipelago to a "canvas", the artist portrayed his message "Here we go!", which is directed toward the entire Japanese population, with the tracks of his own bus named "To the Future" during his journey on the road around the nation. The message will be revealed on the main television screen at Roppongi Art Night.)



©ICHIRO ENDO

"HUNT the Stranger"

Transforming the entire Roppongi district into a stage, three walking actors will appear and enliven Roppongi Art Night.



"Musicity Tokyo in ROPPONGI"

"Musicity Tokyo", a will begin from We will provide points where visitors can enjoy sound sources by streaming which are created by a diverse array of artists specially for Musicity.

Planned in cooperation with: British Council



"HANAKO"

A gigantic *kokeshi* doll with the height of 13.5 meters by the artist "Yotta Groove", which integrates traditional patterns of various places in the Tohoku region.



