

Echigo-Tsumari Australian Artist-in-Residence Program 2012

Application Guidelines

Echigo-Tsumari is a rural area famous for its beautiful terraced rice fields and heavy snowfalls. Farming in such a harsh natural environment has fostered resilient people with a rich culture. However, the region is now facing a number of issues such as a rapidly declining and aging population and the abandonment of farmland.

The Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale, one of the largest and most innovative international arts festivals in the world, was founded to revitalise this region using art and culture.

Since its inaugural year in 2000, Australian artists have participated in each of the Triennales. As a result of this relationship between Australia and the Echigo-Tsumari region, Australia House was established in 2009 as part of the Triennale, as a base to showcase Australian artworks in Japan and a venue for exchange between Australians and the local people even during off-Triennale years. Many Australian artists conducted residencies there before it collapsed in an earthquake centred on the northern part of Nagano prefecture on 12 March 2011.

Although the original Australia House was lost, the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale Executive Committee (the Organiser) has been carrying out an Artist-in-Residence program for Australian artists elsewhere in the region. This is to build upon and continue the success of the Australia House projects and the Artist-in-Residence program in 2011 until Australia House is rebuilt in time for the fifth Triennale to be held from July 2012.

For the 2012 Artist-in-Residence Program (the Program), two Australian artists working in any contemporary artform (the Artist(s)) accompanied by one curator/researcher/coordinator (the Curator) will be chosen in an open selection process. The Program aims for the participants to:

- a) showcase outstanding Australian art to the people of Japan;
- b) in collaboration with the local community and volunteers, contribute to the revitalisation of the region through art and cultural exchange based on the spirit of the Triennale;
- c) conduct exchanges with the artists, curators, critics and other art experts in Japan;
- d) disseminate information on the Program and the Triennale in Japan, Australia and elsewhere; and
- e) establish a human network which will enable the Program to continue and develop in the future.

During the residency period from 30 January to 1 March 2012 (the Residency Period), the

artists will create artworks using snow to be presented as part of the Snow Art Project 2012 to be held on 25 and 26 February 2012 as part of the Echigo-Tsumari Festival of the Earth Winter (See Attachment A). Participants must be prepared for a very cold winter.

The Program will be managed by NPO Echigo-Tsumari Satoyama Collaborative Organisation and Art Front Gallery and be held with the assistance of the Australian Embassy Tokyo and funded by the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs.

For more information on the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennales and its related activities as well as that on the Australia House, please see the following websites:

<http://www.echigo-tsumari.jp/>

<http://echigo.australia.or.jp/en/>

■ Program details

Period of residence (Residency Period): 30 January to 1 March 2012 (max.32 days)

Period of exhibition: 25 to 26 February 2012

Participants' workspace, accommodation: a facility in Tokamachi to be decided after consultation with the Organiser.

■ Eligibility

All of the successful applicants (the Participants) must:

1. be an Australian citizen or Australian permanent resident.
2. support the purpose of the Triennale and the aims of the Program (including that of the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Australian Embassy, Tokyo, the Program's supporters), be flexible and willing to overcome cultural differences, and work in cooperation with the Organiser and local residents.
3. in addition to producing and exhibiting works, participate in activities which help revitalise the local community and participate in at least two workshops and exchange programs that are part of the Program. Unless prior approval is obtained from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy, the Participants are required to stay in Tokamachi for the entire Residency Period. Trips to other regions in Japan should be undertaken with prior written consent from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy before or after the Program at the Participants' expense.
4. make active contributions to publicising the Program. Any photographs, etc taken during the Program may be used free of charge for publicity by the Organiser or other parties designated by the Organiser.
5. be in good health and able to take responsibility for their own wellbeing during their stay in Japan.

6. be willing to actively communicate with the local community, even if they are not able to communicate in Japanese.
7. be able to drive a car in Japan (if not all, at least one of the three Participants).
8. take responsibility for procuring any extra equipment, etc. they require in addition to the basic facilities provided by the Organiser.
9. ensure that each aspect of the Program is carried out with the consent of the Organiser and the Australian Embassy. The Participants must report regularly to and coordinate closely with the Organiser, the Australian Embassy and other parties involved in regard to all aspects of the Program. The Participants must have briefing and debriefing meetings with the Australian Embassy staff at the beginning of and at the end of the Residency Period.
10. demonstrate a high level of professionalism during the Residency Period.
11. submit necessary documents including a report, financial statements and receipts, etc to the Organiser and the Australian Embassy within one month of the conclusion of the program.
12. provide necessary information and material at least twice a week for the updating of the Australia House website (the Website). One of the Participants must send a report to the Organisers and the Australian Embassy to be put on the Website.
13. publicise the outcomes of the Program, both in Australia (through exhibitions, lectures and/or conferences at art galleries, universities and/or other academic institutions) and overseas, in order to ensure the future continuation of the Artist-in-Residency Program. All publicity undertaken by the Participants would need the prior approval of the Organiser and the Australian Embassy and acknowledge the support provided by the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Australian Embassy.
14. provide advice and cooperation to the Organiser and the Australian Embassy in regard to future projects.

In addition to the above conditions required as one of the Participants, the Curator must:

1. conduct research on the Triennale, other art festivals and creative activities in Japan and present the outcomes in Australia.
2. assist the Artists to engage in activities in line with the purpose of the program such as promoting dialogue with local people etc.
3. support the other artists participating in the Yuki Art Project and the Organiser for the preparations of the 2012 Triennale.

■ Funding

The Organiser will provide a grant of up to AUD 13,825 (approx. JPY 1,106,000 based on an exchange rate of AUD 1.00 = JPY 80) to each of the Artists to assist with the following costs:

- One return economy airfare per person for flights between Australia and Japan up to AUD 2,000 (approx. JPY 160,000) in total.
- Travel expenses between Narita Airport and Tokamachi up to AUD 250 (approx. JPY 20,000) per person in total. (The artist may purchase a J-Rail pass but only max. AUD 250 will be reimbursed)
- Accommodation up to AUD 875 (approx. JPY70,000) per person for 30 nights during the Residency Period in a facility in Tokamachi and one night in Tokyo for the reporting after the Residency Period.
- Living expenses and meals (JPY 3,000 per day for up to 32 days), travel insurance, international driver's licence, internet and mobile phones expenses for official calls, maximum AUD 1,825 (approx. JPY 146,000) per person in total.
- Art materials freight and exhibition up to AUD 8,500 (approx. JPY 680,000) per person. Costs for food and other daily necessities will not be considered as these costs.
- Honorarium for interviewees and others who have assisted the research for the artworks up to AUD 375 (approx. JPY30,000) per person.

The Organiser will provide a grant of up to AUD 5,450 (approx. JPY 436,000 based on an exchange rate of AUD 1.00 = JPY 80) to the Curator to assist with the following costs:

- One return economy airfares for flights between Australia and Japan up to AUD 2,000 (approx. JPY 160,000) in total.
- Travel expenses between Narita Airport and Tokamachi up to AUD 250 (approx. JPY 20,000) in total. (The artist may purchase a J-Rail pass but only max. AUD 250 will be reimbursed)
- Accommodation up to AUD 875 (approx. JPY70,000) for 30 nights during the Residency Period in a facility in Tokamachi and one night in Tokyo for the reporting after the Residency Period.
- Living expenses and meals (JPY 3,000 per day for up to 32 days), travel insurance, international driver's licence, internet and mobile phones expenses for official calls, maximum AUD 1,825 (approx. JPY 146,000) in total.
- Research and presentation up to AUD 125 (approx. JPY 10,000). Costs for food and other daily necessities will not be considered as these costs.
- Honorarium for interviewees and others who have assisted the research for the artworks up to AUD 375 (approx. JPY30,000)

In addition, the Organiser will cover the costs of one rental car and petrol for the Residency Period (maximum 31 days) up to AUD 1,875 (approx. JPY 150,000) for use of all the Participants.

* Costs for the rental car, accommodation and honorarium for interviewees and others who

have assisted the research for the artworks will be paid directly to the relevant companies by the Organiser (excluding petrol for the rental car when filling up during the Residency Period). Any excess costs incurred must be borne by the Participants.

- * The payment method of the funding for the Art materials and exhibition for the Artists (max. AUD 8,500) and Research and presentation for the Curator (max. AUD 125) will be determined through discussion with the Organiser.
- * The grant must be spent on direct costs for conducting the residency and no personal expenditure of the artist/curator can be paid out of the grant.
- * The grant will be paid to the Participants according to the following schedule;

Artists

First payment: AUD 4,075 Date: 10 January 2012

Second payment: remaining amount subject to satisfactory acquittal by the Artists to the Organiser Date: 10 April 2012

Curator

First payment: AUD 3,500 Date: 10 January 2012

Second payment: remaining amount subject to satisfactory acquittal by the Curator to the Organiser Date: 10 April 2012

- * Capital expenditure in real property, equipment or computer software cannot be paid out of the grant.
- * The figures indicated are the maximum amount for each of the items. Transfer among each of the items requires prior written approval from the Organiser.
- * The Participants would need to obtain prior written approval from the Organiser and the Australian Embassy for the legitimate expenditure incurred before and after the Residency Period to be reimbursed.
- * Within one month after the Residency Period, the Participants must submit a report, used boarding passes and copies of all receipts relating to the expenditure items above to be paid for by the Program according to the format provided. If the Participants fail to fulfil this obligation, the Organiser may refuse to pay the rest of the amount and/or request the Participants to return the funds provided.
- * Any other costs incurred in relation to the Program in excess of the funding provided above will be borne by the Participants.
- * The Participants will not be paid for, or must return, any left-over funding to the Organiser.
- * Upon completion of the Program, the property used must be returned to the Organiser in the same condition it was at the beginning of the Program.
- * The cost of repairing damage to the property caused by the Participants, their friends or family members, shall be borne by the Participants.
- * Any incidental problems with the property or general wear and tear must be reported to the

Organiser. The Organiser must take appropriate reasonable action to provide the working environment that the artist requires.

*The Artists/Curator may apply individually or as a group.

* Successful applicants will be advised of the detailed conditions of the Program prior to the Residency Period.

■ Application Details

The attached application form should be sent by e-mail to cultural.tokyo@dfat.gov.au by 18 December 2011.

■ Selection Process

Applications will be considered by the Organiser based on the application documentation and possible telephone interviews.

■ Results

The successful candidate is due to be selected by 28 December 2011.

■ The Organiser

Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale Executive Committee

■ Australia House – Artist-in-Residence Program 2012 is supported by:

The Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs and the Australian Embassy Tokyo

Dates: February 25 (Sat)—26(Sun), 2012

Program: snow art works(Niigata Unit and others) / light event(Kyoto Takahashi) / Snow Sports Festival

Participants: local residents, visitors from outside the region

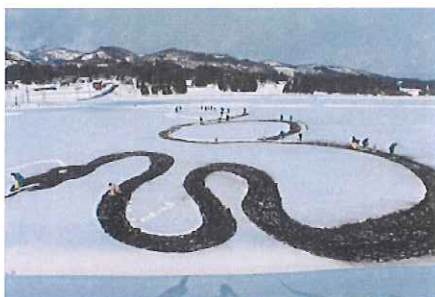
■ Echigo-Tsumari Snow Art Project

Echigo-Tsumari, one of the heaviest snowfall areas in Japan, is completely covered with white snow in winter. The height of accumulated snow is 3 to 4 m in late February, the heaviest snowfall period.

Nowadays, the work of snow removal can be done with machines, and various communication instruments and postal system have facilitated the life of local people, but decades years ago, the winter was very severe, and enclosed by snow, the local people struggled with snow in their lives. The snow in Echigo-Tsumari

Snow Art Project has been launched since 2008 with the aim of exploring the possibilities of snow in Echigo-Tsumari as artwork, and a variety of artworks were realized on the white snowy ground.

■ Examples of Snow Art (in the past projects)



“Snow Ground Painting”



“Hyakkaryoran (profusion of flowers)”



“Enten Provence”



“Go Ahead on Big Sleigh”



“Gift for frozen village”



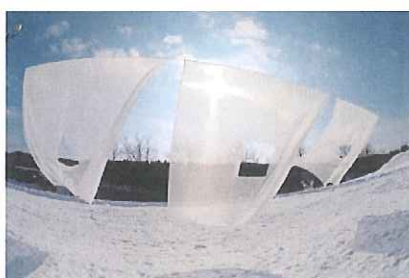
“Snow Shoes Dance”



“Snow Bath”



“Body Stamp”



“Snow Vision”



“Weather Cocks”