

Choku KIMURA

Artist | Curator

- 2025 MFA in Intermedia Art, Tokyo University of the Arts
- 2024 Exchange Program, Bauhaus-Universität Weimar
- 2020 BA in Photography, Tokyo Zokei University

Solo Exhibitions

- 2025 Osaka's Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums, Human Rights Library, Tokyo
- 2025 Osaka's Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums, Chidori Bunka Hall, Osaka
- 2023 Chikyu-ha: Searching for the Meaning of Lines, Art Research Institute Project Vol. 2, Tokyo Zokei University mime, Tokyo
- 2022 Michishirube 2016–2020: Records and Succession of National Leprosy Sanatoriums, T3 PHOTO FESTIVAL STUDENT PROJECT 2021 Grand Prix Commemorative Exhibition, 72gallery, Tokyo
- 2020 Records and Succession: Okinawa Airakuen and Miyako Nanseien, Tokyo Zokei. University Graduation Research and Exhibition 2019, Okinawa Airakuen Museum
- 2019 Blow Away Education, Tokyo Zokei University mime, Tokyo

Group Exhibitions

- 2025 Gunma Biennale for Young Artists 2025, The Museum of Modern Art, Gunma
- 2023 Dialogue: Encountering Matsuoka Hoyouen, Hirosaki University Museum, Aomori
- 2023 Creative Thinking 1: A Modern Touch, Tokyo Zokei University Art Museum, Tokyo
- 2023 Outside the White Cube joins Dörfler Nr.2, Dörfler Nr.2, Germany
- 2022 Chikyu-ha: Contemplating Absurdity, or Resistance to Emptiness, Tokyo Zokei University mime, Tokyo
- 2022 Comité Colbert Award 2022: The Beauty of Imperfection, The University Art Museum, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo
- 2022 9th 500m Museum Award Selected Exhibition, 500m Museum, Hokkaido
- 2021 ATLAS Exhibition 2021, Tokyo University of the Arts Cafeteria Gallery, Ibaraki
- 2020 Handwork and Coexistence: Thinking of Others through Hands, Okinawa Airakuen Museum, Okinawa
- 2020 Unseen Landscape 2020, AYUMI GALLERY, Tokyo
- 2019 Now, Artists Worry about the Signs of War 2019 Kyoto...Okinawa, Okinawa

- Airakuen Museum, Okinawa
- 2018 Chikyu-ha, Tokyo Zokei University mime, Tokyo
- 2017 DEADPAN, Tokyo Zokei University mime, Tokyo

Art Fairs

- 2024 Tokyo Geidai Art Fes 2024, Online
- 2023 Tokyo Geidai Art Fes 2023, Online
- 2023 17th Geidai Art Plaza Award, Geidai Art Plaza, Tokyo
- 2022 Tokyo Geidai Art Fes 2022, Online
- 2021 T3 PHOTO FESTIVAL STUDENT PROJECT, Online
- 2018 Incheon Asian Marine Media Festival, Incheon, South Korea

Awards

- 2025 Selected Artist, Gunma Biennale for Young Artists 2025
- 2023 Honorable Mention, Tokyo Geidai Art Fes 2023
- 2023 Finalist, PITCH GRANT
- 2023 Selected Artist, 17th Geidai Art Plaza Award
- 2022 Finalist, Comité Colbert Award 2022: The Beauty of Imperfection
- 2022 Guest Judge Special Award, selected by Kazushi Ono, Tokyo Geidai Art Fes 2022
- 2022 Art Renaissance Award, Tokyo Geidai Art Fes 2022
- 2022 Grand Prize, 9th 500m Museum Award Selected Exhibition
- 2021 Grand Prix, T3 PHOTO FESTIVAL STUDENT PROJECT
- 2020 Excellence Award, Tokyo Zokei University Graduation Works 2019
- 2017 Academic Excellence Scholarship, Kuwasawa Gakuen
- 2016 Selected for “100 Photos that Touched the Heart,” FUJIFILM 30,000 People Photo Exhibition, nominated by photographer Yuki Okuyama

Grants

- 2025 Grant, Osaka Chishima Foundation for Creative Osaka
Osaka's Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums: Records and Succession of Sotojima Hoyoin,
Fukinoto no Kai / Project Director: Choku Kimura
- 2024 28th Tokyo Zokei University Alumni Association Study Abroad Scholarship
- 2024 Osaka Chishima Foundation for Creative Osaka

Osaka's Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums: Records and Succession of Sotojima Hoyoin

Research Projects / Joint Research

- 2023 Regional Future Creation Project, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences,
Hirosaki University
Rediscovering Matsuoka Hoyouen in the Region: Life Histories, Natural Landscape,
and Physical Experience
Representative: Soichiro Shiraishi
- 2023 JSPS KAKENHI JP20K20737
The Inheritance of Lives in Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums in Japan: How We Can
Archive Social and Historical Facts while Protecting Personal Information
Representative: Noriko Tahara

Newspaper / Reviews

- 2025 "Review: The River and Soil Are No Longer Visible, Yet Still There — Choku
Kimura, Osaka's Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums, Chidori Bunka Hall," paperC, April
16, 2025
- 2023 "Top Three Exhibitions of 2023 Selected by Experts: Yuka Keino, Curator, Aomori
Contemporary Art Centre," Bijutsu Techo Online, December 26, 2023
- 2023 "An Entry Point to Learning about Hansen's Disease," Mutsu Shimpō, December 25,
2023, front page
- 2022 "Discrimination Can Happen to Anyone: Why a Tokyo University of the Arts
Graduate Student Continues Photographing Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums," The
Nippon Foundation Journal, July 14, 2022
- 2022 "A 24-Year-Old Tokyo University of the Arts Graduate Student Continues
Photographing Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums: 'A Story That Must Not Be Ended,'"
Tokyo Shimbun, evening edition, March 24, 2022
- 2022 "Connecting Past and Present through Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums:
Photographing Them as Living Places," Okinawa Times, February 23, 2022
- 2022 Shinji Sano, "An Opportunity to Think about Hansen's Disease: Choku Kimura, T3
Photo Festival Grand Prix Winner, Photographs the Everyday Life of Sanatoriums in

Okinawa,” Ryukyu Shimpo, January 14, 2022, p. 30

- 2020 “Kisetsufu: Records and Succession — Okinawa Airakuen and Miyako Nanseien 2016–2019,” Okinawa Times, March 1, 2020, p. 27
- 2020 Shinji Sano, “What the ‘Refusal to Permit the Exhibition’ Reveals about the Harsh Reality That Still Continues for Residents,” Ryukyu Shimpo, March 10, 2020, p. 26
- 2020 Erina Nakamine, “Monthly Art Review,” Ryukyu Shimpo, April 8, 2020, p. 17
- 2020 Ken Nakamoto, “Monthly Art Review,” Okinawa Times, April 10, 2020, p. 17

Talks / Lectures

- 2025 Public Talk
August 8, 2025 | Human Rights Library Multipurpose Space, Tokyo / Online
Speakers: Choku Kimura, Kazuhisa Kuroo, Hakuryu
- 2024 Public Talk
January 15, 2024 | Hirosaki University, General Education Building, Room 201
Moderator: Soichiro Shiraishi
Speakers: Choku Kimura, Hakuryu, Daisuke Sawada
- 2023 Parent and Child Symposium: Passing on the Hansen’s Disease Issue to the Next Generation
November 11, 2023 | Online
Keynote Speaker: Yoshio Yamaoka
Panelists: Yuno Matsuba, Choku Kimura, Akio Ota
Commentators: Hirofumi Uchida, Guibun Kim
Coordinator: Asei Machi
Talk Show: Naho Yokomizo
Video Messages: Isao Tateyama, Takeshi Ya, Plaintiff Representative No. 21 of the Hansen’s Disease Family Lawsuit
- 2022 Special Talk Event: Chikyu-ha × Ryudai Takano
November 30, 2022 | Tokyo Zokei University, Tokyo
Speakers: Choku Kimura, Yuki Makino, Hikari Ishii, Ryudai Takano
- 2022 Lecture: Visiting Hansen’s Disease Sanatoriums as Living Places — A Study of the

History of Hansen's Disease Photography

October 18, 2022 | Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto

Writing

2025 "Osaka's Hansen's Disease Sanatoriums: After the Exhibition," Kaede, No. 623
Exhibition Catalogues

2023 Creative Thinking 1: A Modern Touch
Published by Tokyo Zokei University; printed by Watabe Printing Co., Ltd.

2022 Comité Colbert Award 2022, pp. 28–29
Printed by Watabe Printing Co., Ltd.

Curatorial Projects

2026 Oku Komyoen Collection I: In the Wind and Sea, SANTA Gallery, Okayama

2023 Dialogue: Encountering Matsuoka Hoyouen, Hirosaki University Museum, Aomori

2023 Chikyu-ha: Approaching the Human Gaze, Art Research Institute Project Vol. 1,
Tokyo Zokei University mime, Tokyo