

# PORIN TAIDEMUSEO | PORI ART MUSEUM



**EAST ASIAN VIDEO FRAMES: TOKYO**

7 February – 25 May 2014

Curator: Minna Valjakka



Hong Kong, Tokyo and Seoul are internationally known as innovative metropolises. In the beat of these cities, the varying forms of culture, art and design are constantly interacting. How does contemporary art manifest itself and shapes the cities today? Which new form, art movements and styles the local actors of the art scenes are exploring? The three-year video project, started in January 2013, explores these questions through varying perspectives. In 2014 the focus lies on the contemporary art forms, institutions and artists in Tokyo.

Especially since the 1990s, economic fluctuations and the continuing alterations of the global art scene have affected Tokyo. During the recent years, museums, galleries and non-profit art organizations specialized in contemporary Japanese art have actively developed events and spaces in order to support the local and global recognition of contemporary art. The younger generation artists correspond to the challenges of globalization by creating art works that aim to avoid the dichotomy between Japanese and Euro-American cultures and furthermore to negotiate the evaluation processes. They also explore new art forms present in the urban space to enhance the interaction of art and everyday life.

The examination of the contemporary art scene in Tokyo will be started from a non-institutional perspective. Since the end of the 1980s the forms of contemporary graffiti and street art have gradually emerged in the urban space of Tokyo. Although the original inspiration derived from the styles of New York graffiti, the local creators have actively developed indigenous forms of expression and composed a vigorous, versatile urban art scene. In 2010, the Studio Rarekwai (SRK), formed by Ryo Sanada ja Suridh Hassan made the first documentary film, RackGaki, focusing on Japanese graffiti. Through versatile materials, the film illustrates how graffiti writers and artists perceive Tokyo. The second set of the spring, starting from April 1, will bring an updated perception of art in urban space today. A film created by Free Art Friday Tokyo at the beginning of 2014 will introduce the activities of this recent local branch of the international art movement established in early 2013.

In co-operation with The SRK ja Free Art Friday Tokyo



FREE ART  
FRIDAY  
TOKYO

**Additional information:**

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