

# Hiroshi Sunairi

Born in Hiroshima in 1972, Sunairi has been making film works, expanding and experimenting with content and form of documentary and fiction films in the last decade. From personal issues to collective memory and the public sphere, Sunairi creates each film's distinct approach and style. Sunairi examines ways to represent the "other" in post-colonial discourse, emphasizing authenticity and surrounding context and the meaning of silence in storytelling.

48 years – 沈黙の独裁者 *Silent Dictator*, an interview documentary with Iwao Hakamada, known as the world's longest-held death row inmate. This in-depth interview was captured one year after Mr. Hakamada's discharge, shedding light on complicated psychology, a web of opaque logic warped by his life's predicament. The film received critical acclaim and was honored with the Mt. Fuji - Atami International Film & VR Festival Special Prize Award in 2018, following its theatrical release at Cinemae-ra HAMAMATSU. Qué Tan Lejos / How Far Am I, serves as a contemplation on the interplay between reality and artistic creation/poetry, personal and universal values within the evolving backdrop of Juarez, a city that rose out of the drug war in Mexico. Sunairi is currently working on Das, a hybrid experimental biography/fiction/documentary film of the "most alone of poets", Jibanananda Das, a Bengali poet, writer, novelist and essayist. Sunairi's latest film, オキナワより愛を込めて / From Okinawa with Love premiered at the 15th DMZ International Documentary Film Festival. It was screened as the Opening film for the inaugural Cinema at Sea - Okinawa Pan-Pacific International Film Festival in 2024.

## CV

2001-2023

An adjunct-professor

### **The New York University**

Steinhardt School of Culture, Education, and Human Development, Department of Art and Art Education

New York, USA

2020-2023

An adjunct-professor

### **The School of Visual Arts**

Art History Department

New York, USA

1995

Graduated from State University of New York at Purchase, majoring in Visual Arts (B.F.A.)

## Film Festival

- 2023 The 24th Nippon Connection Film Festival  
15th DMZ International Documentary Film Festival  
The 1st Cinema at Sea - Okinawa Pan-Pacific International Film Festival  
Runokuu, Tiivistämö
- 2020 The 28th Rendezvous With Madness Festival  
DocsMX and FilmChihuahua
- 2019 Yogyakarta, Festival Film Dokumenter (FFD)
- 2018 The Dharamshala International Film Festival  
ARKIPEL Jakarta International Documentary and Experimental Film Festival  
Mt. Fuji Atami Film & VR Festival, Atami city, Japan  
The 8th Cambodia International Film Festival, Phnom Penh, Cambodia
- 2016 International Peace Film Festival in Gangjeong
- 2014 M1 Singapore Fringe Festival
- 2013 cutlog Paris 2013  
Art Taipei 2013,  
The 10th Green Film Festival in Seoul  
cutlog art fair  
The International Veask 2013 Buddhist Film Festival
- 2012 Cinema Vérité, Iran International Documentary Film Festival  
The 4th DMZ Korean International Documentary Film Festival  
Cannes Court Métrage  
Gandhinagar International Film Festival  
The Queens World Film Festival  
Filums- the LUMS International Film Festival by the LUMS Media Arts Society (LMA)  
UFO 0110 International Digital Film Festival
- 2011 Independent Film Quarterly Film & Media Festival  
Green Screen Film Series

## Award

- 2023 オキナワより愛をこめて FROM OKINAWA WITH LOVE,  
Opening film, The 1st Cinema at Sea – Okinawa Pan-Pacific International Film Festival
- 2018 48 years - Silent Dictator/48 years, The Mt. Fuji - Atami Film Festival
- 2017 PUERTO (PORT), Experimental Forum 2017 Honorable Mention Award
- 2012 Making Mistakes, Honorable Mention Documentary award, Queens World Film Festival  
air, Documentary Silver Palm Award, Mexico International Film festival
- 2011 Making Mistakes, Documentary Audience Award,  
Independent Film Quarterly Film & New Media Festival

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2016 Recent drawings and Collages, Owen Gallery, Gould Academy, Bethel, ME, USA
- 2014 Majulah Singapura - Tree Project, M1 SINGAPORE FRINGE FESTIVAL 2014:  
ART AND THE PEOPLE, National Museum of Singapore, Singapore
- 2009 Tree Project, The Horticultural Society of New York, NYC, USA
- 2005 A Night of Elephants, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Japan
- 2001 Buddha, Andrew Kreps Gallery, NYC, USA  
Buddha, Art Unlimited, Art/32/Basel, Switzerland
- 2000 Early-Hiroshi, L.A. Galerie, Frankfurt, Germany  
Big Bang Bang!, Galleri Wang, Oslo, Norway
- 1999 Deception, Andrew Kreps Gallery, NYC, USA

## Museum Exhibitions

- 2017 HYBRIS. A Possible Approach to Ecoaesthetics, at MUSAC, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León
- 2010 The Curse of Bigness, Queens Museum of Art, NYC, USA
- 2007 Project for a New American Century, Rose Art Museum, Brandeis University, USA  
Making a Home: Japanese Contemporary Artists in New York, Japan Society
- 2002 Self exposure, Kunst- en Architectuurgeschiedenis Rijksuniversiteit Groningen
- 2001 The Americans, Barbican Art Center, London, England  
Queer Visualities, Staller Center at Stony Brook University, USA
- 2000 Vertigo, Ursula-Blickle-Stiftung, Kraichtal, Germany  
Vertigo, Vorarlberger Kunstverein, Bregenz, Austria  
Desire, Ursula-Blickle-Stiftung, Kraichtal, Germany  
Desire, Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Bologna, Italy

## Group Exhibitions

- 2020 Mother Altar, Mother Gallery in Beacon, NY, USA
- 2019 Apocalypse: Then and Now at Shiva Gallery
- 2016 The Art of Humanity, THE RUBELLE AND NORMAN SCHFLER GALLERY
- 2015 MAP OF THE NEW ART, FONDAZIONE GIORGIO CINI, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore  
Body - Site: The Meeting of Nature and Culture, Marxhausen Gallery, Concordia
- 2014 Imago Mundi: The Art of Humanity, the Biennale of Contemporary African Art in Dakar
- 2013 Imago Mundi at Biennale 2013, FONDAZIONE QUERINI STAMPALIA, Italy  
Art Taipei 2013, video art program: Into the woods, Taipei, Taiwan.  
Imago Mundi Venice, Fondazione Querini Stampalia, Venice, Italy  
War is for the Living, The Sylvia Wald and Po Kim Art Gallery, NYC, USA
- 2012 The Fire That Doesn't Go Out, New Baron Gallery, Oberlin, OH, USA  
THE DROP, Urban Art Infill: 2012+, NYC, USA
- 2010 Divide & Conquer, Quinebaug Valley Community College, CT, USA  
Last Book, Zentral Bibliothek in Zurich, Switzerland  
O, Art Next Gallery, NYC, USA  
A DRY RUN, Charlie Horse, NYC, USA  
Visual AIDS: Postcards from the Edge, ZieherSmith Inc., NYC, USA  
Bailout Biennial, Golden Belt, Durham, NC, USA  
Art at Straus, The Joseph and Gwendolyn Straus Institute, Law & Justice

## Curation

- 2017 ROADSIDE PICNIC, Chambers Fine Arts, NYC
- 2005 Peace By Piece 2005, Old Bank of Japan at Hiroshima Branch, Hiroshima, Japan  
Peace By Piece 2005, Desbrosses Gallery, NYC, USA
- 2004 Let's Laugh At Stereotypes, About Glamour Gallery, NYC, USA  
The Exhibition of Color Photography, New York University, NYC, USA  
Peace By Piece, The Living Museum at Creedmoor Psychiatric Center  
Peace By Piece, Guild & Greyskul, NYC
- 2003 Boredom with Everyday Life, SOUTHFIRST Gallery, NYC, USA  
University of Girls/T-shirt by female artists of NY, United Bamboo, Tokyo, Japan
- 2001 The Young Americans, New York University, NYC, USA  
Life Expectancy Music, Tonic, NYC, USA
- 1998 No Wave Music Festival, 407 Gallery, NYC, USA
- 1997 L'en - A performance festival, Life, NYC, USA

## Television/Radio Broadcast

- 2014 The silent survivor of the Hiroshima bombings, ABC Radio Australia  
2009 The Bailout Biennial, North Carolina Public Radio  
2007 Japanese Artists in New York, Nippon Television. New York Broadcast  
Japanese Contemporary Artists in New York, NHK. 10/6  
2005 Peace Art Exhibition by American Students, Nippon Television. 6/2  
A Feature Program, RCC Evening News in Hiroshima. 7/2  
Angle E: Hiroshima Born Artist Hiroshima, Elephants Never Forget, RCC News. 7/2  
Making Art of Peace in New York, Chugoku Television. Topic, 8/17  
An Inheritor of Hiroshima? through Art of an Elephant, Hiroshima television. 8/17  
A Night of Elephant, Hiroshima Home Television. 9/8  
Projecting the Memory of Hiroshima on Elephants, NHK. 9/16  
Projecting the Memory of Hiroshima on Elephants, NHK. 9/17  
NY Artist with an interesting motif to create his Hiroshima, Home ANN Home News  
Hiroshima-Born Artist Solo Exhibition on the Theme of Peace, Chugoku Cable Television  
2004 New York University Students' Hiroshima, NHK BS1. The World's Watch, August 6th  
Wishing for Peace, One Thousand Cranes from New York, Hiroshima television. 8/5  
Pouring Wishes of Peace in New York, Nippon Television. New York Broadcast

## Grant

- 2014 Japan Foundation Exhibitions Abroad Support Program  
2012 Japan Foundation Exhibitions Abroad Support Program  
2001 PS1 Studio Grant, NYC

## Article and Catalogs

- 2024 Resisting the Nuclear, Art and Activism across the Pacific, University of Washington Press.1/24  
2023 Pacific Island Peoples Explore Connections as Cinema Global Bulletin, Variety, 10/19  
1st Cinema at Sea, Asian Film Festival, Nov 9, 2023  
環太平洋地域にフォーカスした新しい映画祭, 映画.com, Oct 11, 2023  
沖縄の新たな映画祭「Cinema at Sea」映画ナタリー, Oct 11, 2023  
尚玄、沖縄の新しい映画祭Cinema at Seaに期待すること, 映画.com, Nov 15, 2023  
2021 Midori Yamamura, Yu-Chieh Li, Visual Representations of the Cold War and Postcolonial Struggles, Routledge, 6/25  
2019 The most alone of poets - Jibanananda Das through the lens of a Japanese filmmaker The Daily Star, Bangladesh, August 17  
2018 袴田さんの映画浜松で上映開始 静岡新聞, 12/23  
袴田さんドキュメンタリー映画 静岡新聞, 12/18  
袴田さんの日常 映画に 毎日新聞, 12/18  
袴田巖さん追った映画 中日新聞, 12/18  
Saibal Chatterjee, The seeds of inspiration The Tribune India, 11/25  
ドキュメンタリー公開 Arkipel じゃかるた新聞, 8/22  
Niskala H. Utami, Notes on international competition 5 at Arkipel 8/4  
48年間の孤独に焦点 熱海国際映画祭で国内初上映 産経ニュース, 7/4  
袴田さんドキュメンタリー 熱海国際映画祭で上映 静岡新聞アットエス, 6/30  
Hideki Nakatani, 袴田さん「48年」国内上映へ 中日新聞, 6/16  
Masanobu Sakamoto, 袴田さんのドキュメンタリー「生の言葉」で表現 静岡新聞, 5/30  
Masanobu Sakamoto, 袴田さん描く映画に脚光, 静岡新聞朝刊, 3/26  
Mimi Wong, ROADSIDE PICNIC, ArtAsiaPacific, Spring, 2018



