A woman in a purple dress with her arms raised is positioned in front of a large mural of a lotus flower. The mural is painted on a curved, textured surface, possibly a wall or a large piece of paper. The woman is looking upwards and to the right. The overall scene is dimly lit, with a purple and blue color palette. The text 'Artwork' is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Artwork

Ekotumi

Artist Statement

When I sing, "I" do not sing. I only listen to the voice of my body.

When I dance, "I" do not dance. I just try not to let my body wander through the memory of the place.

In my body, there are an endless number of memories. The memories from when I was born. The memories...

The blood when I fell down. The sun when I woke up early unusually. The fearfulness when it strangled a part of my soul. The songs when it made me fly forever and wherever. All the stories until the present day have piled up in my inside and that is why I exist here.

But that is not all. Each story has its own context.

After I saw the beautiful twilight, ""Tasogare"". I knew the origin of the word ""Tazokare, Who are you"" and the story behind the word. After I saw the glorious moon. I noticed the ancient authors who composed WAKA, traditional Japanese poetry also saw this same moon. I was born in Japan. There are mythology and it's living especially at the shrines/Jinjas and in the nature even today. I live in Tokyo. But at the same time, I live together with the nature.

All of these things have piled up in my inside and create my body and soul with dimly defined boundaries.

My body is filled with memories and stories of me and before me.

When I sing, "I" do not sing. I only listen to the voice of my body.

When I dance, "I" do not dance. I just try not to let my body wander through the memory of the place.

Profile

Cultural multiform artist, Singer-songwriter, Dancer, Performer, Storyteller, Novelist, and New Mom.

Spoken word. Artwork are inspired by Japanese mythology and reconstructed by eyes of women. Using voice, singing, dance and words. Shinto culture examination (Jinja-kentei) level 1 (highest). She has developed her own world by mixing ancient story with nowadays music and has developed the 'New translation Kojiki series' - a Japanese-style contemporary opera with a personal interpretation of Japanese mythology through song and dance.

Since 2015, she performs in concerts over the world, beginning with Europe. She also writes Japanese mythology long novels aside her singer career. She also had solo performances at Paris, London, and Vilnius/Lithuania.

She has also developed her activities as an artist and was granted the prize 'KDCC Northern Kyûshû digital creative contest' with her collaborative art with Anderson Sudario. Her performance video was chosen for the Berlin 'WomenCinemakers Biennial2018'. She was also awarded the grand prize for the regional art festival MMM in 2021. She was selected for the finalist of ARTE LAGUNA PRIZE in 2024. (Venice, Italy) She also has published a long novel of Japanese mythology in 2024. Her hologram under the Covid 19 was created to make audience to watch with a real musical experience without the worry to get the covid-19 and was exhibited in Berlin. To explore the possibilities of women, she created a maternity music video dancing at nine months pregnant and maternity nude photos that expresses the joy and anxiety of pregnancy and childbirth as NFT art "Maternity Eternity." She currently performs as a unique artist who tells the world about Japanese mythology.

Born in Tokyo, Japan. Graduated from Waseda University. CEO of Raku LLC. Captain of Ekotumi Project which operate Japanese Mythology website. Director of SHOEHORN, a general incorporated association that supports the independence of young people who have left foster care. New mom of a wonderful baby!



Japanese Mythology Concert

Japanese Mythology Concert

I was born and raised in Tokyo, and from kindergarten to university, I have frequented Christian schools; thus I knew that there was a history to Japan, but I did not know about its mythology. “Kojiki” (the oldest Japanese historical book and there are myths) was only some word during the exams.

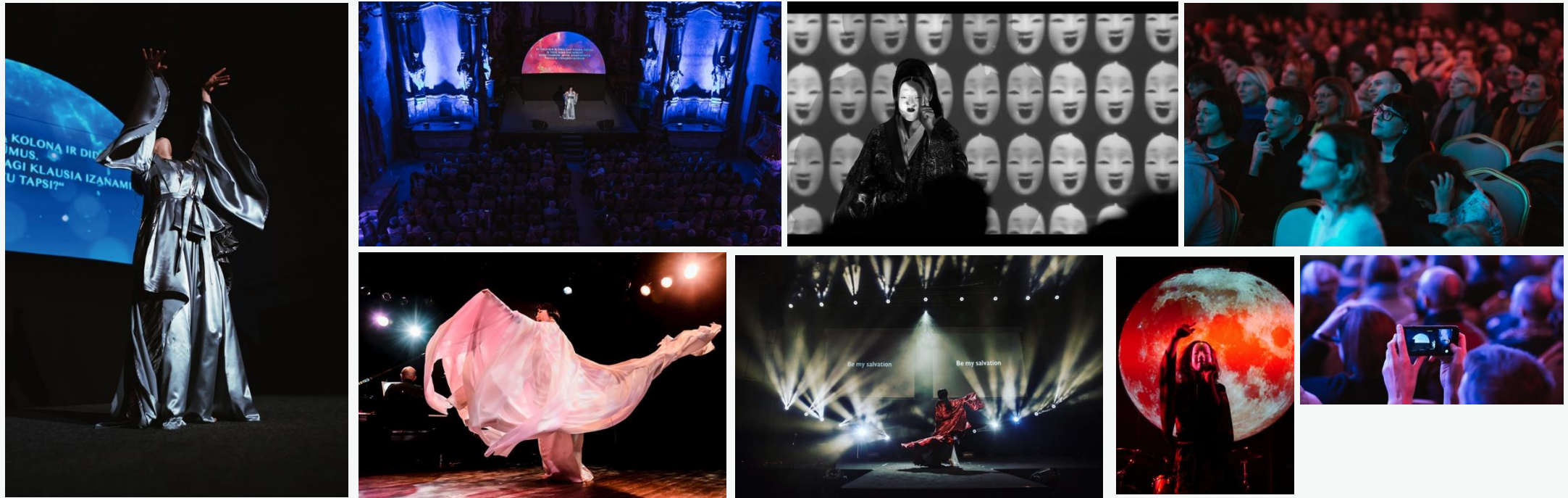
I thought that great fantasies such as Greek or Scandinavian mythologies I adore were unthinkable in Japan. That made me believe that Japan was lacking culture—that was my state of mind by that time.

After graduating from university and beginning my journey as a singer, I happened upon Kojiki while searching my theme. I was stunned to discover that such captivating stories existed in Japan, and even more so to realize that the "characters" from these stories still live on in Japan's shrines. These shrines are, in a sense, the descendants of what might be dismissed as fantastical tales, yet adults today still pray there with deep sincerity. This country was not what I had imagined. It was not what I had been led to believe. We have roots—whether to embrace or reject them is up to us, but we must first recognize their existence.

Every nation's mythology follows certain archetypes, but the differences between them arise from each nation's unique environment, and ultimately, the necessities of the people who inhabit that land. To understand mythology is to understand the differences in environments and, by extension, the fundamental thought processes of the people who live there. Mythology is not religion; it is the "living story" of each nation, and at its core, it represents the "culture" of this planet. The more I perform abroad, the more I realize that Japan, with its still-living myths, is an extraordinarily intriguing country from a global perspective. I feel a responsibility to share these relatively unknown "stories" with the world, because the idea of living in close harmony with nature—the choice of coexistence over division—may offer a key to changing the world as it stands today.

Japanese Mythology Concert

◆ Solo performances New Translation Kojiki series 'Amaterasu' in Paris and 'Izanami' in London as a seasonal culture program by Embassy of Japan in the UK. Opening performance of the 1st Firenze Japanese Movie Festival 2010, Opening performance of World Art Dubai, And many other performance tours in Japan and foreign countries such as Davos, Lausanne, Liège, Lille, Plovdiv etc.



Performance Art

Performance Art

A performance of song and dance based on an artist statement. Aside from minimal guidelines like time and location, the performance is entirely improvised. Themes and the use of space (the venue) are decided on the spot, creating a performance art piece where singing and dancing unfold spontaneously. Living in modern cities, our bodies have long been subordinated to the brain and our thoughts. It has become a common belief that being conscious of and controlling the body is a virtue. However, as I mentioned in my artist statement, our bodies carry within them a memory of the diverse forms they took before evolving into their current state—organs that allow us to live on land, hands and feet with five digits, and the ability to walk upright. These memories go beyond a mere evolutionary progression; they also include memories of different times, such as the sound of the sea or the colors of the sun. It is possible to think that all of these memories remain dormant within us. Through as much improvisation as possible, by singing melodies that emerge unconsciously and moving the body as it is instructed by its own internal impulses, I seek to explore the possibility of accessing a vast collective unconscious that transcends the self—an inner, divine force that lies within us all.





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the memory of the place.

Social Art

On the way to the Earth/Covid19-20

The distance between individuals, the fragility of society, and the desire for human connection were all brought to light by the Covid-19 pandemic. In response, I felt the necessity to create works that could not be produced by the "individual" alone as an artist. This led me to create a series of social art projects.



Community Art Project: "Living Japanese myth -On the way to the Earth-"

An outdoor performance that takes place while traveling between two local shrines deeply rooted in the community. Inspired by the Japanese myth of the heavenly descent (Tenson Kōrin), the project was created with the participation of local volunteers. The performance also included elements from the postponed Hassaku Festival, an intangible cultural asset, Motomachi Miroku. I wrote lines to match the sounds of Miroku, and by adjusting Miroku's tempo to the rhythm of the dialogue, we created a work that fused local traditional culture with contemporary art. The project was awarded the MMM Grand Prix at the arts festival.



Covid19-20 Series

A sound project consisting of seven pieces. During the global lockdown from March to May 2020, I collected field recordings from various areas around the world (90 recordings from 40 global regions, 205 recordings from 88 areas in Japan, and 114 recordings from Tokyo).

These sounds were incorporated into compositions, designed so that the audio corresponds with actual geographic coordinates, allowing listeners to hear sounds from their real-world directions. For example, [Starting Point] WHO: World Health Organization (Geneva, Switzerland); [Central Reference Point] the direction of the sunrise on November 22, 2019, when the first case of unexplained viral pneumonia was confirmed, is set at 0 degrees directly in front. This work, made possible through the cooperation of people from many countries and regions, encapsulates the memories of that time in music.

Sound Installation

Spray Chorus / Hologram

"Spray Chorus"; A work that transforms the obligatory act of sanitization during the pandemic into a musical experience. "Little God SUKUNABIKONA"; A project that explores the pursuit of a real music experience through 360-degree singing and dancing holograms during a time when live performances were canceled due to the pandemic.



When visitors use a spray, a voice is emitted from speakers attached to each spray bottle. As multiple visitors use the sprays simultaneously, the emitted voices create a harmony.



Created during a period when overseas performances were not possible, this work synchronizes the movement of visuals and voices, offering a realistic musical experience without the concern of airborne droplets, allowing for safe viewing.

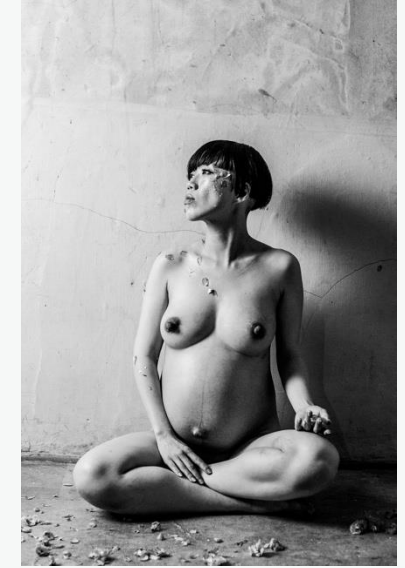
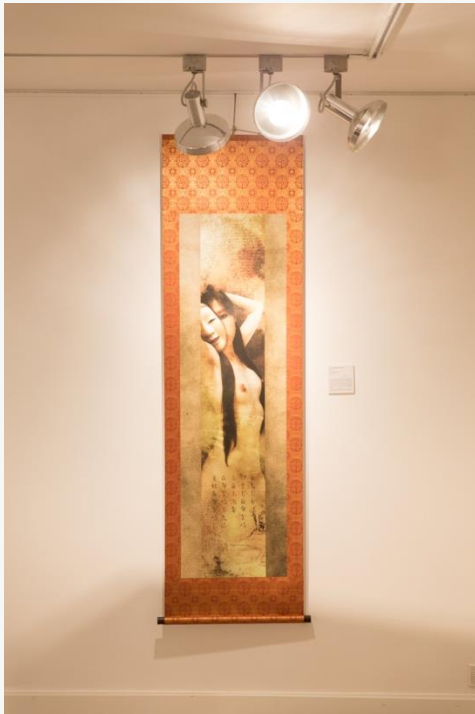
Body Expression

KAKEJIKU, the wallpaper / NFT Art

A collection of works that, while drawing upon the artist's own unique physicality, explore expressions that transcend individual life. These pieces delve into themes that surpass the boundaries of the self, such as the timeless narrative of Japanese mythology and the creation of new life through pregnancy.

The hanging scroll "Yagumo Tatsu" features Kushinada-hime, the wife of Susanoo, as its central motif. At the bottom of the Kakejiku, Japan's first waka poem, composed by Susanoo, is depicted.

The maternity photo "Maternity Eternity" captures the artist's experience of pregnancy, not as an idyllic "perfect pregnancy," but as an expression of the anxiety, determination, and worldview shaped during a pregnancy that followed recurrent miscarriages.



Video Works

Visual Music / Short Film

A series of works exploring the potential of performance art using voice and song.

NFT Art “Displayed Soundscape”



These projects examine the possibilities of adorning music with visual art through NFTs. The still images accompanying the music feature minimal human movement, with only the natural world weaving its rhythm and motion. The music, layered with vocals, complements this visual stillness.



"Dream which you can see in the backside of your eyelids"



After giving birth and reflecting on early childhood memories through parenting, the artist revisited the place of her upbringing, reinterpreting various emotions, regrets, and vague fears from that time. This short film was produced in collaboration with a French screenwriter and created as a promotional video for Minato City. The artist served as the project planner, director, composer, and performer.



Performance Film / Mapping Projection

“Descent to the Earth”



The artist's directorial debut, a performance art film inspired by Tenson Kōrin (the descent of the heavenly grandchild from Japanese mythology). The work was selected by the Berlin-based "WomenCinemas."

“Airly Color”



In contrast to traditional projection mapping, this experimental piece utilized real-time projection mapping, allowing the dancers to move freely as the visual elements responded to their movements. This work, created in collaboration with Anderson Sudario, won the KDCC Performing Arts Award.