

For immediate release:

### **Cherry Blossom Party**

**Daisaku Oozu, Okamoto Mitsuhiro, Risa Marina Komiya, Midori Mitamura, Mineki Murata, Fukumo Touki, and Takehito Fujii**

**April 4–30, 2026**

Opening reception: April 4, 6–8 pm

eitoeiko presents Cherry Blossom Party, a group exhibition featuring works by Daisaku Oozu, Okamoto Mitsuhiro, Risa Marina Komiya, Midori Mitamura, Mineki Murata, Fukumo Touki, and Takehito Fujii. Since 2020, when the government-sponsored Cherry Blossom Party - an annual gathering held at Shinjuku Gyoen since 1952 - was discontinued amid allegations of legal and administrative violations, eitoeiko has organized an exhibition under the same title. The project recasts the former political spectacle as a cultural assembly, inviting artists to reflect on the symbolic and social resonances of the cherry blossom. This year's presentation marks the sixth iteration.

The exhibition takes place against the backdrop of 2026, the year Japan appointed its first female prime minister since the establishment of the cabinet system in 1885. The 104th prime minister - known as a close ally of former prime minister Shinzo Abe - has also been associated with the defense of longstanding patriarchal structures and has faced allegations of financial ties to the Unification Church. The historical ceremony of hanami, often framed as a seasonal celebration of transience, thus appears here entangled with questions of power, public ritual, and political memory. Across photography, performance, installation, and ceramics, the participating artists engage the layered meanings of sakura as both botanical presence and cultural sign. Their works gesture toward the aestheticization of ephemerality that has long accompanied cherry blossom viewing, while also probing the political theater historically surrounding the event from which the exhibition takes its name.

#### **Daisaku Oozu**

Born in Osaka, 1973. Studied at the Osaka International Media Library (now IMI Global College of Media Arts) from 1994 to 1995. Received his B.A. from Ryukoku University in 1997. Selected for the 26th Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art, 2023. Major exhibitions include Coal Mine Future Vision II, Tagawa City Museum of Art, 2025–26, 30 LOVE, eitoeiko, 2025, Loop Line, solo exhibition, eitoeiko, 2022, To Travel with Glasses, Aomori Museum of Art and others, 2019, The Unfinished Spiral, Former Hakubutsukan-Dobutsuen Station, 2019. A solo exhibition, Beyond the Focus, will be held at Musashino City Kichijoji Art Museum from April 18 to May 31, 2026.

#### **Okamoto Mitsuhiro**

Born in Kyoto, 1968. Received his M.A. in Education from Shiga University, 1994. Studied at the Art Students League of New York, 1994-1996. A Research artist at CCA Kitakyushu, 1997-1999. Participated in artist residencies in Germany, India, Spain, and other countries, and worked in Okinawa and Taiwan, 2004-2006. Recent exhibitions include Punch Back, Tsunagi Art Museum, 2025, Beuys Art, KUNST ARZT, 2025, also curated by the artist, the Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale, Niigata, 2024, and YBfab Outdoor Art Exhibition, Hyogo, 2024.

#### **Risa Marina Komiya**

Born in Atlanta, 1992 and currently based in Tokyo, Risa Marina Komiya explores new concepts of temporality from a queer perspective, focusing on the theme of "seeking new methods of reproduction and propagation." Working across biotechnology, performance, video, and installation, Komiya's practice moves fluidly between disciplines. Collaborative projects include The Reproductive Garden, which connects the legal prohibition of same-sex marriage with architectural regulations by creating a garden on land where reconstruction is prohibited, and FAQ?, a queer feminist art platform dedicated to sustaining processes of questioning. Komiya is also active as a manga artist; her publications include Senjō no Hito (Leed Publishing).

### Midori Mitamura

Born in Aichi, 1964, Midori Mitamura completed the basic course at the Institute of Contemporary Photography, 1995 and participated in the Agency for Cultural Affairs' Overseas Study Program for Emerging Artists in Finland, 2005. Recent exhibitions include Fragments of the 20th Century, solo exhibition, Yu Harada, 2024, The Work of Midori Mitamura, Gendai Bijutsu Seisakusho, 2025, MCMi-MM, Bus Projects, Melbourne, 2024, and NEW Days, ART CENTER NEW, 2025.

### Mineki Murata

Born in Gunma, 1979. Received his B.A. from Tama Art University, 2005. A member of Ongoing Collective, Responding Performance Initiative, and Karada no Hitotachi. Recent exhibitions include BAR, solo exhibition, void+, 2026, Tortoise, solo exhibition, Art Center Ongoing, 2025, A Mirror of Yourself, solo exhibition, rin art association, 2025, and New Horizons: From History to the Future, Arts Maebashi, 2023.

### Fukumo Touki

Fukumo Touki develops, produces, and distributes original ceramic works while consistently adopting the perspective of pottery itself, pursuing innovation from the viewpoint of clay. Recent solo exhibitions include Heaven Souvenirs, Hell Souvenirs, YIRI ARTS, Taipei, 2025, The Art of Uselessness, Pakupakuan, N's Collection, Daikanyama Tsutaya Books, Tokyo, Kagawa, Tokyo, 2025, The Liar Festival, Akane Lounge, Tokyo, 2024, Cave of the Brain Excursion, YIRI ARTS, Taipei, 2023. In April 2025, The Art of Uselessness: Fukumo Touki was published by Daifuku Shorin.

### Takehito Fujii

Born in Aichi, 1967. Received his B.A. from Nihon University College of Art, 1990. Won the second prize at the 8th Taro Okamoto Memorial Award for Contemporary Art, 2005. Awarded the Aichi Prefectural Cultural Encouragement Award for Emerging Artists, 2008. Recent exhibitions include Cherry Blossom Party, eitoeiko, 2023, CATastrophe, QiPO, Mexico City, 2023, eitoeiko, 2022, and Art with Emperor, KUNST ARZT, eitoeiko, 2020.



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1: Okamoto Mitsuhiro, Safety Myth 3, 2026

2: Risa Marina Komiya, Made in Occupied Japan(excerpt), 2023

3: Midori Mitamura, 365 Encyclopedia, June 14, 2021, Milking, Cherry blossoms, Zazen, 2021

4: Takehito Fujii, AA, 2008

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Hours: 12–7 pm | Closed Sundays, Mondays, and national holidays