

For immediate release:

Okamoto Mitsuhiro

The Dozaemon Exhibition Tokyo 2017

eitoeiko is pleased to present The Dozaemon Exhibition Tokyo 2017 by Okamoto Mitsuhiro. Okamoto Mitsuhiro (b.1968, Kyoto) received his Master of Arts in Education from Shiga University in 1994. In the same year Okamoto moved to New York and studied at the Art Students League of New York. Two years later he was back to Japan and participated in a research program of CCA Kitakyushu in Japan until 1999. And then Okamoto participated some artist-in-residence programs in Germany, Spain and India. In 2004 he moved to Okinawa and lived and worked in there and Taiwan. In 2007, the artist was back in his hometown and opened his artist run gallery Kunst Arzt in Kyoto. Okamoto has exhibited his work internationally in galleries and museums in New York, Los Angeles, Mexico City, Plueschow, Kiel, Berlin, Karlsruhe, Barcelona, Blackburn, Paris, Amsterdam, Taipei. Recent exhibitions include Suizokukangekijou's Luna Park in conjunction with Yokohama Triennial 2017 in Yokohama, Love Love Show 2 at Aomori Museum of Art in Aomori, ARTZUID 2017 in Amsterdam, Rokko Meets Art 2016 in Kobe.

Dozaemon is a work of wordplay. The word 'Dozaemon' means a drowned body. The name came from a sumo wrestler in the Edo period, a drowned body was similar to his body. Just like an old wordplay still lives today, the comic I referred is still popular since the Showa era.

- Okamoto Mitsuhiro, the artist

Fundamentally comics and animation films make us more imaginative and to help the growth of a spirit of freedom. However they will be collected by a huge contents business today. The exhibition is dedicated to the drowning of culture in the twenty-first century, with the highest regard and gratitude. During the exhibition, the social reaction will be exposed at the gallery when it updated.

- Ei Kibukawa, director of eitoeiko

17 years have passed since Okamoto had exhibited his Dozaemon at Kids Art World Aomori. The Dozaemon Exhibition Tokyo 2017 is indeed a long-awaited show. As time goes by, contemporary art scene in Japan becomes copyright business-oriented. From the previously mentioned exhibition, Okamoto continues to raise a question about copyright. I am glad that he has completed a brand-new Doza-work. Within the 17 years, character business also changed to overemphasize its commercial side. Carefully selected the authority and making its drowned body, his attempt succeeds the intention of the original comic writer Fujiko.F.Fujio, who loves irony and satire. The exhibition will be a real collaboration with a national hero and contemporary art.

- Takeshi Kudo, curator of Aomori Museum of Art



Left: Dozaemon, photo courtesy of Haruka Iharada, 2017

Right: Dozaemon, digital imaging by Shuichi Hashimoto, 2017

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December 2 - 23, 2017

YouTube Live from gallery on December 1, 9PM-, by Repo TV

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