

hayate kobayashi Solo Exhibition: Polyparole

2024.6.26 (Wed) – 7.21 (Sun)



Greeting

hayate kobayashi' s solo exhibition, "Polyparole" will be held in June. Based on keywords such as "immigrant" and "queerness," kobayashi will present works through apparatuses, video, multilingual poetry, and podcasts.

BUG, operated by Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd., will present "Polyparole," a solo exhibition by hayate kobayashi, opening June 26th (Wed.), 2024. After completing his graduate school at Tokyo University of the Arts, kobayashi received a scholarship from the Ezoie Memorial Recruit Foundation in 2020 and was able to realize his study in Berlin. In the meantime, he has won several awards in Japan and is a promising artist in the future. To encourage kobayashi' s upcoming career, BUG will hold his largest solo exhibition to date, including new works.

The title of this exhibition, "Polyparole," is a word coined by kobayashi, combining "poly-," meaning "multiple," and "parole," which in linguistics means "an act of speech performed by an individual in a specific situation."

The pandemic of the COVID-19 infection that occurred at the same time as his study abroad deepened racial divisions and conflicts. kobayashi was temporarily unable to return to his home country and experienced a state of exophony* (German for "state of being outside the mother tongue") in an unknown land, which led him to think about the "stranger."

One of the works in the exhibition, "Space-in-translation," was created in response to a conversation with a poet from China' s Sichuan Province who defected to Berlin. The poet describes his exile as "I ran(我跑了)." kobayashi uses these words as words that resonate with different contexts and attempts to stitch the "strangers" together.

In this exhibition, through the exhibited works and events held during the period, you will hear the murmur of several people, based on the keywords that have interested kobayashi in recent years: "exophony," "immigrant," and "queerness." kobayashi, who was exposed to the murmur of people with diverse backgrounds in Berlin, conveys a simple yet powerful message, "The personal is political," through works created in a variety of media, including apparatuses, video, multilingual poetry, and podcasts.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who in any way supported the operation of this exhibition.

*Yoko Tawada, "Exophony: Bogo no soto e deru tabi" , 2012, Iwanami Gendai Bunko

hayate kobayashi


Artist / researcher / filmmaker.

Born in 1995. Lives and works in Berlin, Germany. Recently graduated from Art and Media at the Berlin University of the Arts. Based on his local research of image studies and media archaeology, kobayashi explores a new form of narrative with moving images and self-made apparatuses. His recent works focus on exophony and its narrative in perspectives of translation and identities.


He completed a Master Program in Film and New Media Studies at the Graduate School of Film and New Media, Tokyo University of the Arts. His work was selected for the New Face Award of the Art Division at the 24th Japan Media Arts Festival in 2021. His recent solo exhibition include: How to Relume Your Mind, Imageforum Cinematheque, Tokyo, Japan (2020); and his work has been included in group exhibition such as: MORE STRANGE THINGS, silent green, Berlin (2024).




Interview
(22'53")




Photography and video are permitted.
(Some works are NG)





DO NOT touch
the artworks.



Security camera in
operation.

Date : 2024.6.26 (Wed) – 7.21 (Sun)

Organized by BUG

Sponsorship : KUMA Foundation

Curated by Yuki KOBAYASHI, Maaru HIYAMA (BUG)

Production : Yuumi IINO (BUG)

PR : Chisato KUWAMA (BUG)

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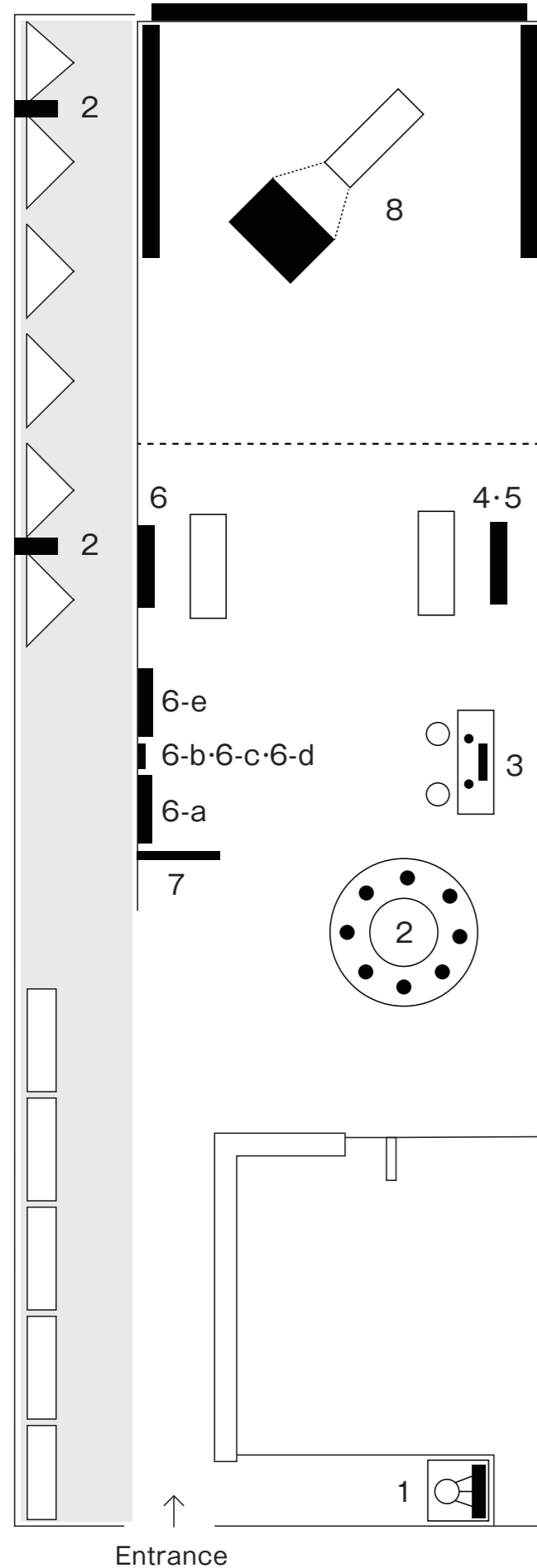
Venue shooting : Eiri MOTOYOSHI

Interview,venue video shooting : Masahiro NISHINO

Venue Installation : HIGURE 17-15cas

List of Works

Work List For each work, title/year/medium/size are noted. All works are in the collection of the artist.



1
Condensed Coffee
 2021
 Single channel video/Dimensions variable

This practice was inspired by the Three Cs declarations of the Governor of Tokyo at the time of the pandemic. The practice focuses on the Shibuya Crossing, a busy intersection despite the declaration of a state of emergency. The human traffic is converted into drips, and the car traffic is converted into coffee powder. The apparatus that brew a large amount of coffee at the end represents the ridiculousness of "density". The monitors at the venue show live images of Shibuya. The city appears as dense as ever, both under the declaration of the state of emergency and now. The video is shown at the BUG Cafe.

5 No photography or video recording allowed
Tracing You
 2022
 Single channel video / 5min 9sec

kobayashi's habit of watching home videos of families uploaded on YouTube has led him to create an animation in which he draws and traces home videos in order to digest queer films within himself. The artist's own life and environment are contrasted with those families, who live an ordinary life under heteronormative norms and feel nothing out of the ordinary.

In the latter half of the film, the artist and his friend are shown conversing in their daily lives. The differences and misunderstandings in the conversation suggest not only communication between individuals, but also gaps in the wider society.

I was thinking of making a trivial + personal queer film by comparison of tracing heteronormative vlogs and queers' conversations.

7
To all the 1,344,900 mouth,
 2022
 Single channel video / 2min 48sec

On December 1st, 2021, kobayashi was unable to return to Japan from Berlin due to flight restrictions. For the first time, he learned that he would be classified as an "overseas Japanese". Feeling an inexpressible sense of anxiety and at the same time a sense of solidarity with the overseas Japanese who must be there somewhere, kobayashi composed a poem for all overseas Japanese (1,344,900 people) and read it out loud using a mask-shaped apparatus he had made himself. "I will shout out, in our true language, our true feelings, in their entirety." How would you feel when you were to be categorized as something you are not?

2
Podcast series 《Süß》
 2024
 Podcast



A series of podcasts about casual mutters, featuring mutters with several people. The title 《Süß》 means "sweet" in German. We hope you will enjoy it as if you were listening to the radio while eating a snack. More mutters will be added during the exhibition. In the listening zone of 《Süß》, visitors can bring their own drinks from the café.

6
《Space-in-translation》 main video
 2023
 Single channel video, Multilingual poetry
 8min 19sec

This work is about exophony (meaning "state of being outside the mother tongue"). The work is based on an interview with Liao Yiwu, a poet from Sichuan, China, and from the translation process, he then created multilingual poems in verse. During the transition process, several languages (Chinese, Japanese, and English) were intermingled, and different meanings and interpretations were created through automatic translation and re-translation through discussion. The artist tries to capture in a positive way the words that cannot be translated and the discrepancies between words that are created in multiple speaking engagements.

3
dailylog
 2020-22
 Single channel video / 19min 33sec

Soon after kobayashi moved to Berlin, entry and exit was restricted due to the pandemic. The irrepressible sense of anxiety and bottled-up emotions due to the restrictions on his activities in Berlin are vented in his native language, which he cannot communicate in Germany. It is also a record of kobayashi's mutterings, in which he talks about events in his own life at various places, such as the different atmosphere of vaccination and the depressing lack of daylight hours in Berlin.

6-a
《Space-in-translation》 interview
 2023
 Single channel video / 52min 45sec

An interview with Liao Yiwu, a poet from Sichuan, China. The entire interview was conducted in Chinese.

It includes a conversation about Liao Yiwu's exile and his writing technique that floats between fiction and factual, based on his novel "Wuhan: A Documentary Novel".

6-b
《Space-in-translation》
Auto-transcription in Chinese
 2023
 Single channel video / 60min 34sec

The audio of the interview with Mr. Liao Yiwu was transcribed into Chinese using video editing software.

8
Appeartus
 2024
 Bicycle-shaped apparatus, video installation / Dimensions variable

This work is about the migrating identities of Asian migrants living in Berlin. kobayashi rides a bicycle equipped with a mask-shaped apparatus that functions as a headlight, and rides through the city at night. The light turns on in conjunction with his speech, and the image of his lips is projected on the ground. As he cycles frantically while talking continuously and desperately, his words become scattered. Poetries based on the words that fall out while cycling are projected on the walls on either side.

4 No photography or video recording allowed
Exophonifesto #1
 2023
 Single channel video / 4min 15sec

A recitation of Virginia Woolf's "A Room of One's Own" on the streets of Towada, on the concourse of Shinagawa Station, in front of the National Diet Building, and in the living room of his parents' house. kobayashi, who has a male body, is strikingly reflected in the way he sometimes seems to take in the fact that he cannot be a party to the problems faced by the opposite sex.

6-c
《Space-in-translation》
Chinese→English automatic translation
 2023
 Single channel video / 11min 21sec

Using automatic translation software, Chinese was translated into English.

6-d
《Space-in-translation》
Extracting poems from the text
 2023
 Single channel video / 15min 12sec

kobayashi composing a poem using the transcribed words.

6-e
《Space-in-translation》 discussion
 2023
 Single channel video / 55min 43sec

After translating the Chinese into English using automatic translation software, kobayashi and his friend Zhang Qingyun from Yunnan Province, China, discuss how to make the translation more suitable. The poem was written based on this manuscript.

I tried a translation that embraces both accuracy and the pain of the Asian immigrants.