



Press Release

Tokyo

28 April 2016



100 anniversary of Dadaism – Festival in Tokyo

Dadaism is a global art movement founded 100 years ago by artists of many nationalities. From its birthplace at the Cabaret Voltaire in Zurich, Dadaism spread throughout the world and remains a source of inspiration for artists, designers and performers around the world. To celebrate the legacy of this unique art movement, various cultural institutions and art spaces in Tokyo and surroundings will join forces to offer special performances, exhibitions and activities during this summer. A press conference will be held in collaboration with the various partners of the festival to introduce the program, including the producers of the most known “Dada” in Japan, Tsuburaya.

Date/Time: May 19 (Thur.) 2p.m. – 4p.m. (Door open: 1:30 p.m.)

Venue: Residence of the Swiss Ambassador in Japan
(9-12, Minami Azabu 5-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-8589)

Content: Explanation on Dadaism 100 anniversary / Introduction of the program in the summer / appearance of the “Dada”.

Contact: For participation, please contact
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Please note your:

- 1) name
- 2) title
- 3) affiliation
- 4) name of the media outlet
- 5) post address
- 6) phone & fax #
- 7) Email address
- 8) Filming request (pls. note should the request be for video or photos)
- 9) schedule for the expected exposure

*Due to the security reasons, please be advised that only personals registered in advance may participate in the event. Please make ensure that the names of all participating members be informed in advance.

Partners of the festival:

Patronage: Ambassade de France au Japon, Botschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, Embassy of Switzerland in Japan

Collaborator: Tsuburaya Production

Supporters: Café Royal (main sponsor), Victorinox Japan, Scrap Pages

Festival Venues: Spiral/Wacoal Art Center, Super Deluxe, Waseda University Aizu Museum, Goethe Institut, Tokyo Image Forum, Dommune, Aichi Triennale 2016, Tsukuba University, Tama Art University, Tokyo Wonder Site, Institut français du Japon, Asakusa Art Space, The Container, Daikanyama Haretara Sora Ni Mame Maite, National Art Center library, DUST BUNNY, Studio 35minutes, Kurashiki University of Science and the Arts and more

Background Information:

<Objective of Dada 100 Festival Tokyo>

- To inspire the Japanese art world with Dada ideas and help bring this interesting art movement closer to the Japanese public.
- The activities will not only focus on the past but also on the relevance of the movement today and highlight the Japanese contribution to the Dada movement.
- The anniversary is open to all art institutions and will be an opportunity to bring together artists and art institutions to collaborate around the Dada theme.

<About Dadaism>

Dada was founded in Zurich by European immigrants and exiles in 1916. The first Dadaists include Tristan Tzara, Hans Arp, Hugo Ball, Emmy Hennings, Marcel Janco, Sophie Taeuber and Richard Huelsenbeck. Dadaism had a decisive influence on the development of art – from modern art to the contemporary art of today. Dada became avant-garde' primal expression without which surrealism, pop art, Fluxus, Bauhaus, mail art or punk would not have seen the light of day and which continues to galvanize artists, writers and designers to this very day.

<The relationship between "Dadaism" and "Dada">

"Dada" has a unique charm among all monsters (kaiju) in Ultraman series. This kaiju, named after Dadaism, has 3 faces in one head; the feature which follows the cubist perspective. It also has artistic design on the body which is visually appealing. "Dada" was created by the two artists; Toru Narita, the designer of Dada, and Ryosaku Takayama, the model sculptor. Dada kaiju was a creation of the extension of Dadaism by these two artists.

<Dadaism in Japan>

In 1923, the movement reached the shores of Japan. The Dada group «Mavo», was founded by Tomoyoshi Murayama and Masamu Yanase. Other prominent artists include Jun Tsuji, Eisuke Yoshiyuki, Shinkichi Takahashi and Katsue Kitasono.

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