

# PORTFOLIO

## Sayo Senoo

HP : <http://www.strikingly.com/sayosenoo>

ONLINE SHOP « Another Language » a collectiv for editorial works : <https://aleditions.theshop.jp>

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# ABOUT

**Sayo Senoo** is a contemporary artist born in 1977, Japanese with Norwegian cultural background, now living and working in Paris.

After studying phenomenology at University of Tokyo (Japan), she studied contemporary art at Musashino Art University (Japan) and Université Paris 8 (France).

She worked mainly on abstract painting until she got a cancer in 2012.

This near mortal crisis pushed her to work in more direct way on the reflection over our body and the perception of the world. Always inspired by phenomenological thinking, her work became polymorphic and more focused on an eye opening angle towards society.

Using raw materials such as condoms thrown away in gay meeting areas, contaminated air from No-go zone in Fukushima, or animal organs dumped by hunters in the Arctic, the artist juggles with visibility and invisibility provoking our belief in our perception.

Treating nature and society as an experimental field of her approach, through original and humorous works, she points out that it is the collective belief of societies or groups of humans that pushes us towards insensitivity.

Her editorial creation started in 2019, both to document her ephemeral works, and as a creative medium in itself. All books and objects are delicately hand-made by artist, limited edition.

Some of them are available at Librairie Mazarine (Paris), Librairie Yvon Lambert (Paris) and 本 \hon\books (by Antoine Lefevbre, Paris).

# EDITORIAL WORKS

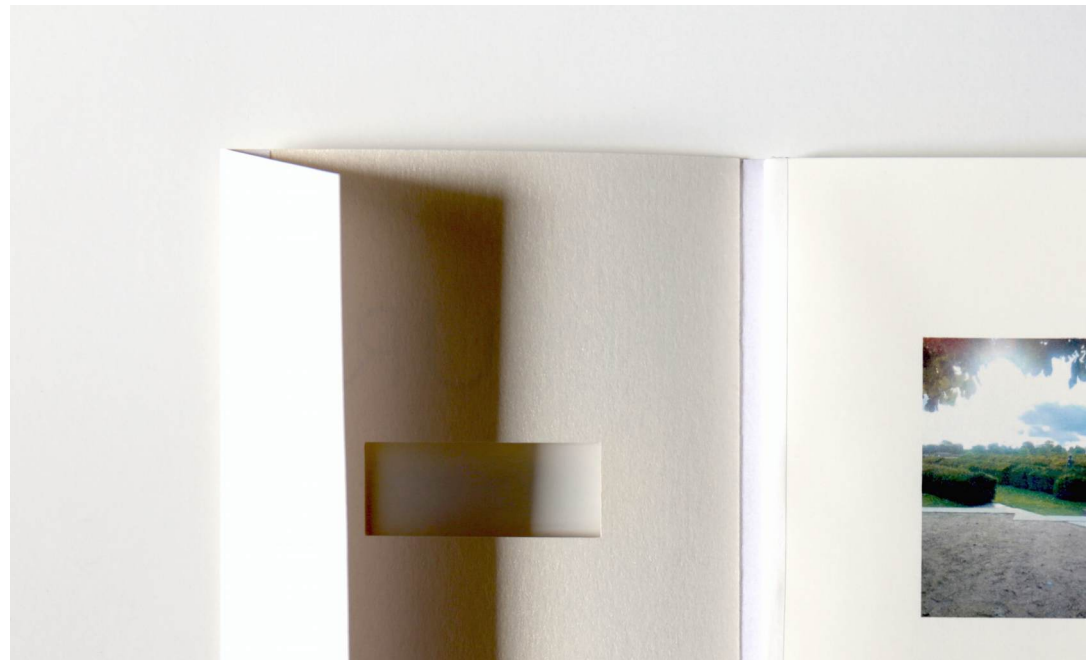
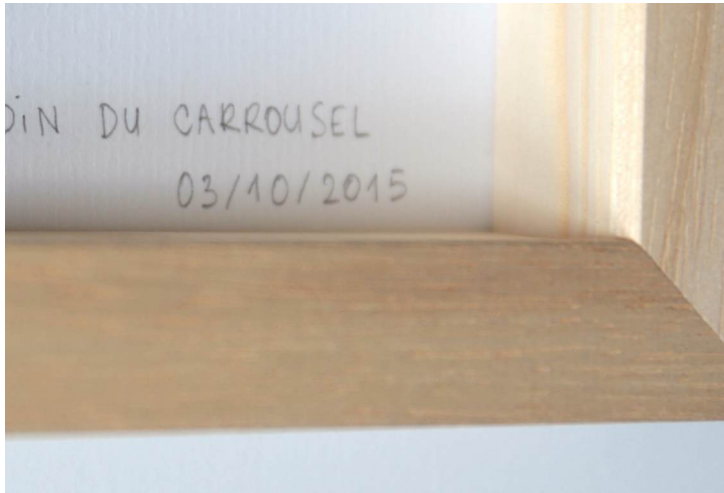
# Fleurs 2019



*Special Edition* **Fleurs**. 2019.

1x Reversible booklet (photos and text). Inkjet print on paper. Hand-made by artist. 9 pages. H15 x W11 cm. 100ex.

1x Framed object. Used condom, laminated wire, paper, wooden frame. H21 x W16 x D4 cm. 10ex.

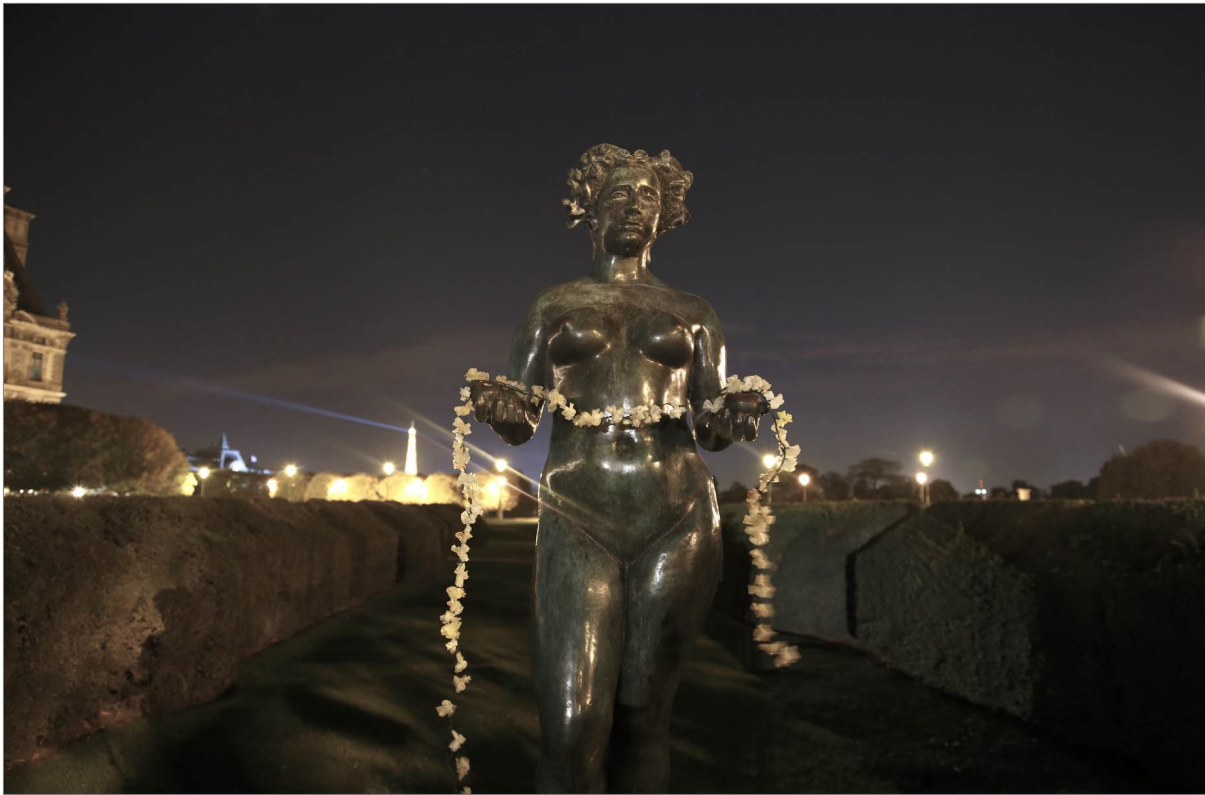


Details of Special Edition **Fleurs**.





Detail of the booklet **Fleurs**. 2019.  
Photos and text about the **project Les Fleurs**. Inkjet print on paper. H15 x W11 cm. Reversible. Hand-made by artist. 9 pages. 100ex.



### About the project *Les Fleurs (The Flowers)*, 2014-2016

These flowers resembling narcissus are made of used condoms, picked up in the hidden space in the shrubberies in the *Garden of the Carrousel du Louvre*, very popular place to the tourist in the day, and to a certain gay population in the night. Creating the flowers from these collected waste, and putting together them in various forms which are directly inspired by their places of origin, she confront visibility and invisibility in the urban space.

Upper left : **Les Fleurs**. On-site installation in the Garden of Carrousel du Louvre, Paris, at Nuit Blanche 2015.

Used condoms, laminated wire. Variable dimensions.

Upper right : Detail of **Les Fleurs**.





*Upper :*  
 Vue of the installation of **Les Fleurs** in the  
 Garden of Carrousel du Louvre, Paris.  
 Nuit Blanche 2015.

*Right :*  
 Reparatory photos for **Les Fleurs**. 2014.

# AIR MAIL/ AIR OF FUKUSHIMA 2015-2019

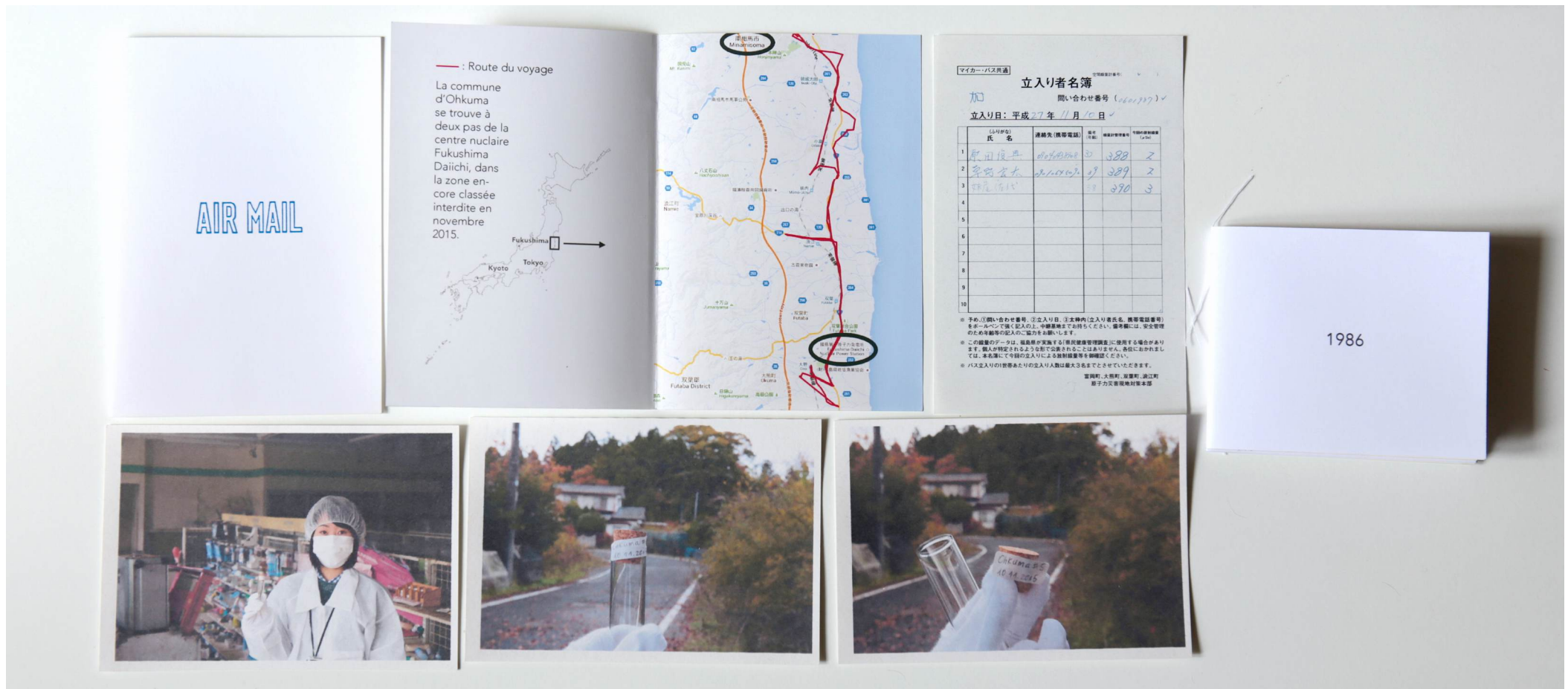


Edition **Air Mail /Air de Fukushima**. 2015-2019.

1x Booklet (map of the trip, photos, certificate, un another small booklet). Inkjet and stamp on paper. H15 x W11 cm. Edition 7ex. /Available 4ex.

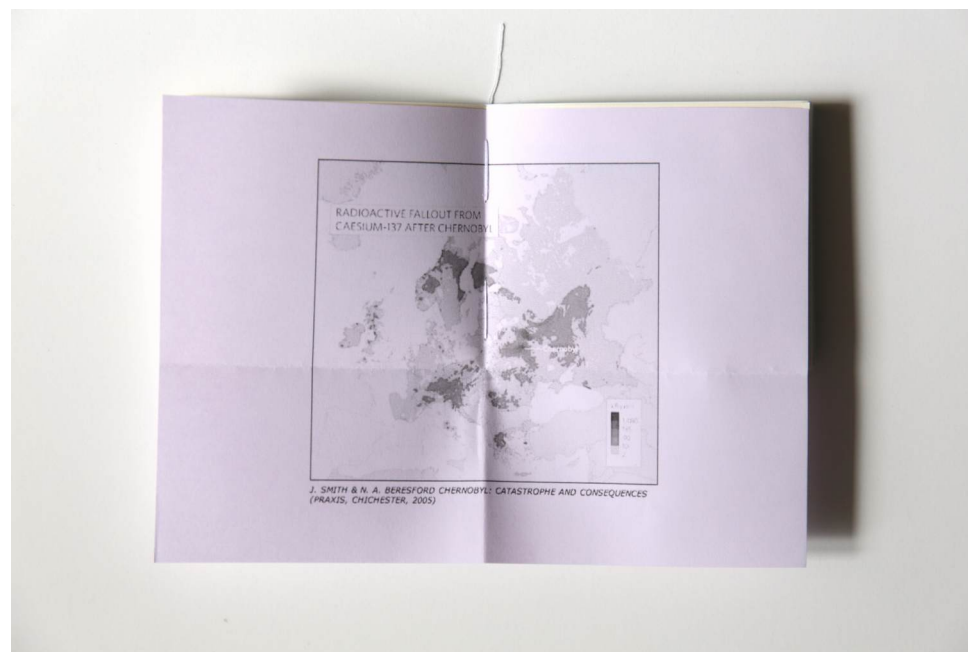
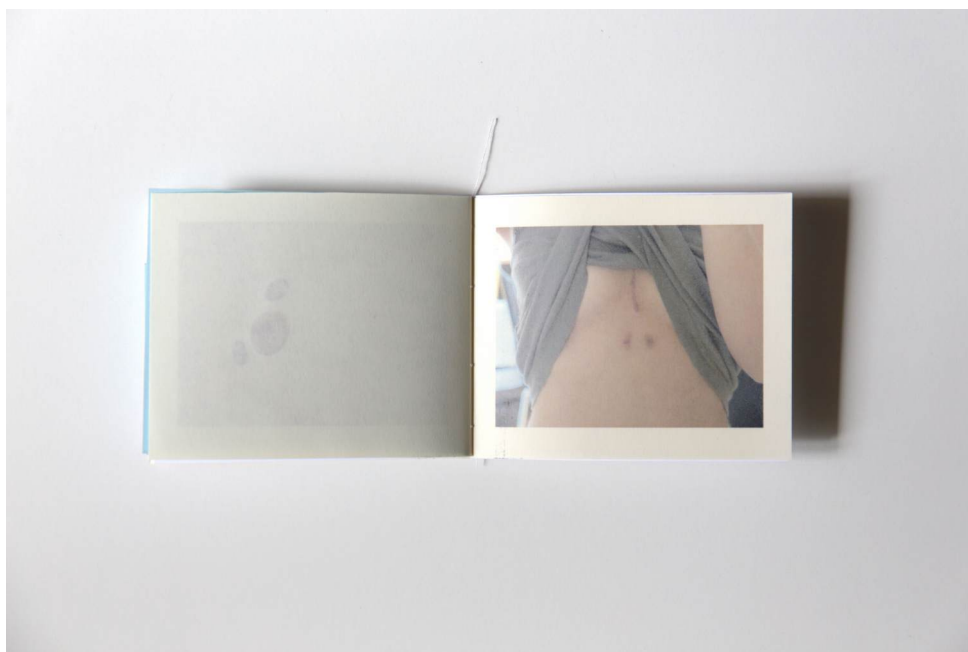
1x Wooden box with the air from the No-go zone of Fukushima in a test tube. H16 x W12 x D4 cm. Edition 7ex. /Available 4ex.





Detail of booklet **Air Mail /Air de Fukushima**. 2015-2019.

Map of the trip to the No-go zone in Fukushima, photos of the place the air was picked up, certificate of the passing the gate to the zone, un another small booklet **1986/2012**). Inkjet print and stamp on paper. H15 x W11 cm. Edition 7ex. /Available 4ex.



Detail of mini-booklet **1986/2012**. (included in **Air Mail/Air of Fukushima**.) 2019.  
 Photos of artist's childhood and she in the hospital, map of Europe, bulletin of hospitalization.  
 H10 x W5 cm. Inkjet printed on paper. Hand-made. Edition 7 ex./Available 4ex.



## About the project *AIR MAIL/ Air of FUKUSHIMA*, 2015

Sayo Senoo lived in Scandinavia just after the Chernobyl disaster (1986). And, she got a cancer several years ago (2012). During her convalescence she could not stop asking to herself about a relation between the radioactive contamination and what happened on her body. Having got any clear answer even after her long possessed researches, these questions multiplied her fear.

These airs, which she collected in 2015 at different places in the No-go zone around 5 km from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, induce to us such kind of hung questions about the contamination, the safety or the confidence.

By the invisibility of the radioactivity and the air, the artist reproduce the mechanism of the fear which is, the people who touched by the disasters have got.

*Upper left* : The artist collecting air at a store around 5 km from Fukushima Daiichi. 2015. Photo by Ryouta Kusano.

*Upper right* : **Air-selling performance** by the artist in a easy NBC suit distributed by the Japanese government at the gateway to the No-go zone in Fukushima. Groupe exhibition *Ringono*, La Générale (in the program the COP21), Paris 2015.



# PREVIOUS WORKS



# Greetings, 2013-2015





The series *Greetings* is made in the Arctic and in Africa from animal organs collected from local hunters and slaughterhouses. This series, particularly representative of the artist's work, explores the impact of symbols in our society. By recreating a heart from these organs, the artist demonstrates the difference that remains between the origin of things and their representation.



Previous page, upper left :  
 upper right :  
 lower left :  
 lower right :  
 This page, upper :

**Greeting.** 2014. Ephemeral installation made with organ of moose. Kongsberg, Norway. 2014.  
**Greeting.** 2015. Ephemeral installation made with organ of goat. Ziniaré, Burkina Faso. 2015.  
**Greeting.** 2015. Ephemeral installation made with organ of guinea fowl. Ziniaré, Burkina Faso. 2015.  
**Greeting.** 2013. Ephemeral installation made with organ of seal. Svalbard, Norway. 2013.  
**Greeting.** 2013. Ephemeral installation made with organ of seal. Svalbard, Norway. 2013.



# Radioactive Landscapes 2012.



Detail of **Radioactive Landscape #2.**

2012. Downloaded digital photos inkjet-printed on back of photo paper. 29 x 21 cm.



Left: **Radioactive Landscapes N°7**. 2012. Downloaded digital photos inkjet-printed on back of paper. 29 x 21 cm.

Center: **Radioactive Landscapes N°1**. 2012. Downloaded digital photos inkjet-printed on back of paper. 29 x 21 cm.

Right: **Radioactive Landscapes N°4**. 2012. Downloaded digital photos inkjet-printed on back of paper. 29 x 21 cm.



This series is created from propaganda photos released by the Japanese government to reassure the public about the treatment of huge piles of debris that the tsunami left near to Fukushima after the earthquake in 2011. By inverting a classic photo paper in the printer, the artist recreates the marks of a horrible and invisible world to the eyes of whole population. According to the artist : « *These debris may be contaminated or not. This invisibility induce our doubt of the security and the confidence and our fear.* »

Right :

**Radioactive Landscape N°1-8.** 2012.

Downloaded digital photos inkjet-printed on back of paper, hand-made frame. 29 x 21 x 1 cm.



# Air Mail 2014-

In this series the artist sells for a laughable price the air brought back from her trips in the Arctic, Europe, China, Africa or in the no-go zone of Fukushima. Involved with the complementary paradox of the visible and the invisible, the artist confronts us a reality by a purely allegorical work.

Online shop : <http://airmail.theshop.jp>

*Right:*

**Air Mail**, 2014 -.

Tubes of air from the Arctic, Fukushima, Diébougou, Ouagadougou, Amsterdam, stamped envelope.

Tubes: 27x35x5cm. Envelope: 2,5x11cm





The artist picking up the air in Svalbard (left), Diébougou (center), and in a store located 5km from Fukushima-Daiichi.



# Travel of Driftwood

2004

**Travel of driftwood**  
2004.  
Editorial work on going.



# Painted and drawn matters

## Mt Fuji

2011.

Color pencils on paper, frame with cracked glass. H52 x W42 x D2 cm.

(Private collection)



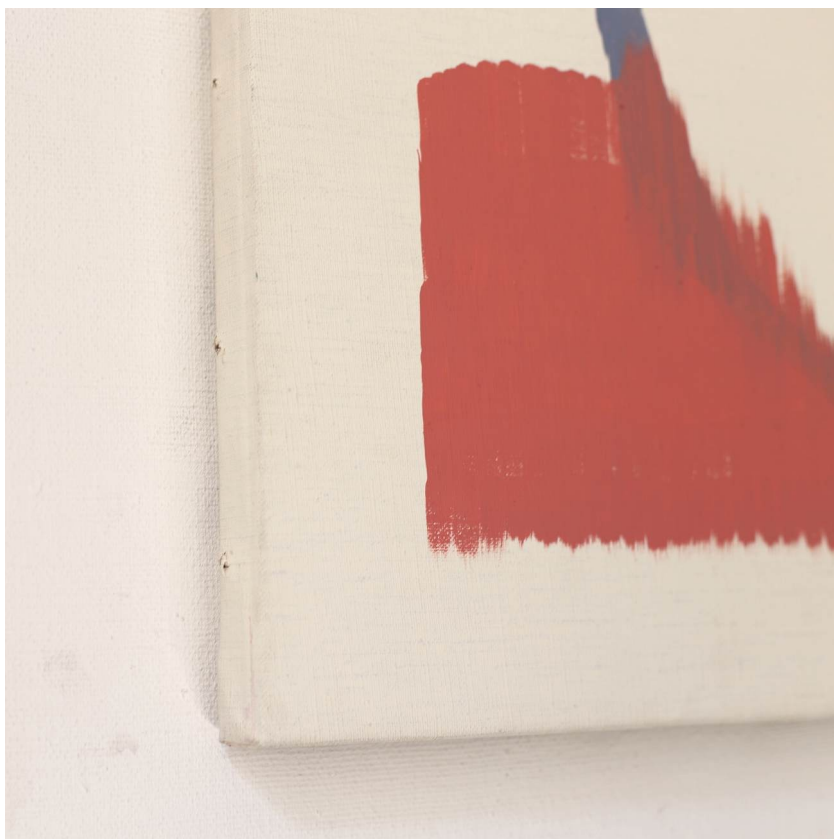


**A tooth / Selfportrait**

2011.

Oil on canvas.

H53 x W44 x D2 cm.



# CV

## Sayo SENOO

Born in 1977 Tokyo, Japan

Graduated UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO (Japan), MUSASHINO ART UNIVERSITY  
(Tokyo, Japan), UNIVERSITE PARIS 8 (France)

Lives and works in Charenton-le-Pont

### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

#### **2019**

"WIELS Art Book Festival", Wiels Contemporary Art Centre, Brussel, Belgium (upcoming)  
Salon, "Couper Décaler - Micro Edition", le Tetris, Le Havre, France

#### **2017**

Group exhibition, "Balade Invisible II", Galerie Planète Rouge, Paris  
Works in progress, "Les fleurs", Jardin du Carrousel, Paris

#### **2016**

Works in progress, "Les fleurs", Jardin du Carrousel (Nuit Blanche 2016), Paris  
Group exhibition, "Une nuit pour Fukushima", la Maison de l'Arbre, Montreuil

#### **2015**

Works in progress, "Les fleurs", jardin du Carrousel (Nuit Blanche 2015), Paris  
Group exhibition, "RINGONO", Confluences, Paris  
International Art Festival, "Nyama Nyama 2015 - Semaine Artistique de Diébougou",  
Burkina Faso

#### **2012**

Group exhibition, "EN TETE", 6B, Saint-Denis, France

#### **2011**

Solo exhibition, Lagalerie, Paris  
Group exhibition, "EN TETE", 6B, Saint-Denis, France

#### **2010**

Solo exhibition, Galerie Bansard, Paris

#### **2009**

Solo exhibition, La Miroiterie, Paris

#### **2008**

Group exhibition, "NOVEMBRE A VITRY", Galerie Municipale, Vitry-sur-Seine, France  
Group exhibition, "NAC", La Maison de la Culture du Japon, Paris

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### PRIZE/ RESIDENCY

#### **2013/2014**

Residency, Galleri Svalbard, Longyearbyen, Norway

#### **2010 - 2011**

Residency, Cité Internationales des Arts, Paris

#### **2009**

Grant, *Prize of Paris*, Musashino Bijutsu Art University, Tokyo

#### **2006**

*Prize of the Laboratory*, Musashino Bijutsu Art University, Tokyo

### WORKSHOPS

#### **2015**

Workshop for children, « Collectiv Drawing », Diébougou, Burkina-Faso

#### **2011-12**

Workshop for children (onece in two weeks) « Atelier Passage Molière », Paris

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**2012-2019** Assistant of the artist Jean-Michel Othoniel, Othoniel Studio, Pairs

# CONTACT

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