

MAM PROJECT 010: TELLERVO KALLEINEN AND OLIVER KOCHTA-KALLEINEN

28 NOVEMBER, 2009 – 28 FEBRUARY, 2010 MORI ART MUSEUM



MAM PROJECT IS A SERIES BY THE MORI ART MUSEUM TO SUPPORT THE ACTIVITIES OF PROMISING YOUNG ARTISTS

The Helsinki-based artist unit Tellervo Kalleinen and Oliver Kochta-Kalleinen started the “Complaints Choir” series in Birmingham, United Kingdom, in 2005. After assembling a choir from the general public, they collected complaints and gripes from the choir members, arranged them to music, and then had them perform the pieces in a public space. Since then the project has been held in Helsinki, Hamburg, Pennsylvania, Melbourne, Singapore, Vancouver, Hong Kong and other locations around the world. And now, for the first time an official “Complaints Choir” — with the participation of the two artists — will be held in Japan and sung in Japanese as part of “MAM Project 010.”



Complaints Choir of Helsinki 2006 Photo: Petri Summanen

As Tellervo and Oliver were walking through Helsinki on a winter's day, complaining about the cold, they suddenly wondered whether the massive amount of energy people expend everyday on complaining could not be harnessed in a more positive way. In Finnish, there is a term “valituskuoro,” which refers to the condition of everyone complaining at the same time. It translates literally as “chorus of complaints.” The two artists decided to make such a choir for real.

In the various manifestations of the “Complaints Choir,” each of which is made up of locals from particular locations, humorous complaints and all manner of sorrows have been set to music and transformed into lyrics. The content of the complaints varies widely, from personal and everyday gripes to general dissatisfaction with globalization or myriad political issues. In addition to informing viewers about the kinds of issues current in the area where the work is made, it also allows sympathies to be shared across borders, making us recognize the commonality of mankind's sensibilities and emotions and also their ability to transcend culture and race. In the current age, many people have lost sight of where they should even direct their dissatisfactions. “Complaints Choir” will develop into a unique and deeply thought-provoking art project, that shows us a new way of communication.

The Tokyo “Complaints Choir,” assembled through notices on Mori Art Museum leaflets and the museum website, will perform in public and a documentary video of their performance will be shown in the gallery along with videos of “Complaints Choirs” from other cities.

Organizers: Mori Art Museum

Venue: Mori Art Museum 53F Roppongi Hills Mori Tower, 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-6150 Japan

Tel: 03-5777-8600 (Hello Dial) **Website:** www.mori.art.museum

Open Hours: 10:00–22:00 (Tue: 10:00–17:00) Open until 22:00 on 12/22 & 12/29(Tue).

*Admission until 30 minutes before closing. Open everyday.

Admission: Adult: ¥1,500 University/Highschool student: ¥1,000 Child (4 years to Junior Highschool student): ¥500

*Ticket also valid for “Medicine and Art: Imagining a Future for Life and Love” and Tokyo City View observation deck (Tokyo City View opening hours differ to Mori Art Museum) *Additional entrance fee to the Sky Deck is required: ¥300

EXHIBITION CATALOG

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