

[OPENING] *Calder: Un effet du japonais*

Thursday, May 30, 2024 - Friday, September 6, 2024 Azabudai Hills Gallery



Installation view of *Calder: Un effet du japonais*, Azabudai Hills Gallery, 2024 Photo: Tadayuki Minamoto
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Azabudai Hills Gallery (Azabudai Hills Garden Plaza A MBF) will host *Calder: Un effet du japonais*—the artist’s first solo exhibition in Tokyo in nearly 35 years and his largest ever in Japan—from Thursday, May 30, 2024 to Friday, September 6, 2024.

Curated by Alexander S. C. Rower, President of the Calder Foundation, New York, and organized in collaboration with Pace Gallery, *Calder: Un effet du japonais* will explore the enduring resonance of the American modernist’s art with Japanese traditions and aesthetics. It will comprise approximately 100 works from the collection of the Calder Foundation that span the 1920s to the 1970s, from signature mobiles, stabiles, and standing mobiles to oil paintings and works on paper. While Calder never traveled to Japan himself, he was embraced by many of the country’s artists and poets during his lifetime. Today, more than two dozen of his works can be found in 18 museums across Japan.

Calder: Un effet du japonais is organized as part of a new curatorial partnership between Azabudai Hills Gallery and Pace Gallery, which will officially open a permanent space in September 2024 in Tokyo’s Azabudai Hills, with special previews from July. Pace has worked closely with the Calder Estate since 1984 and has presented 17 solo and dual-artist exhibitions of Calder’s work at its locations around the world. *Calder: Un effet du japonais* is the eighteenth Calder exhibition that Pace has organized.

AZABUDAI HILLS GALLERY

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Alexander Calder



Calder with *Armada* (1946), Roxbury studio, 1947.
Photograph by Herbert Matter
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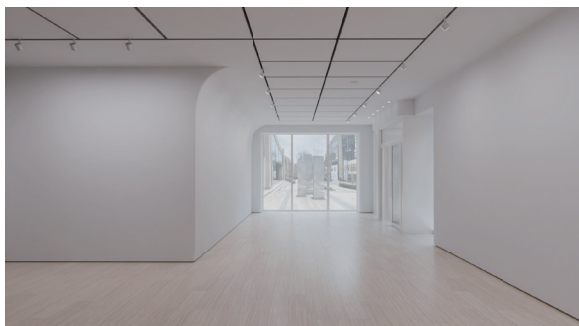
Alexander Calder (b. 1898, Lawnton, Pennsylvania – d. 1976, New York City), whose illustrious career spanned much of the twentieth century, is the most acclaimed and influential sculptor of our time. Born in a family of celebrated, though more classically trained artists, Calder utilized his innovative genius to profoundly change the course of modern art. He began in the 1920s by developing a new method of sculpting: by bending and twisting wire, he essentially “drew” three-dimensional figures in space. He is renowned for the invention of the mobile, whose suspended, abstract elements move and balance in changing harmony. From the 1950s onward, Calder increasingly devoted himself to making outdoor sculpture on a grand scale from bolted steel plate. Today, these stately titans grace public plazas in cities throughout the world.

Alexander S. C. Rower | Exhibition curator

Alexander S. C. Rower is the founder and president of the Calder Foundation and grandson of the artist. Established in 1987, the Calder Foundation has documented more than 22,000 works by the artist and established an extensive archive dedicated to all aspects of his career. Rower has curated and collaborated on over 100 Calder exhibitions worldwide, including projects at the Museum of Modern Art, New York; National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.; the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; Leeum, Samsung Museum of Art, Seoul; and Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris. Rower also supports contemporary artists through the Foundation's biennial Calder Prize, and the Atelier Calder residency program in Saché, France, of which he has served as vice president since 2007.

About Pace Gallery

Pace is a leading international art gallery founded in 1960 by Arne Glimcher. Now led by his son Marc Glimcher, its roster includes legendary 20th century figures and some of today's most influential contemporary artists. The gallery has seven locations around the world including in New York, Los Angeles, London, Geneva, Hong Kong, and Seoul. Pace's new Tokyo gallery in Azabudai Hills, opening in 2024, will be its eighth global location. The gallery spans three floors with interiors designed by Sou Fujimoto.



Rendering of Pace Gallery, Tokyo.
© DBOX for Mori Building Co., Ltd - Azabudai Hills

Exhibition Design

In the spirit of Calder's collaborations with the greatest architects of his time, New York-based Stephanie Goto—longtime Calder Foundation collaborator—has created a bespoke exhibition design rooted in the geometry of a 3:4:5 triangle that features elegant and modern references to Japanese architecture and materials.

The exhibition is organized around two central pavilions, placed in retrospect to the triangular diagonal. The square plan recalls that of the teahouse and the Noh theater stage, anchoring the plan's heart center. A perception of space is punctuated by the concept of *ma*, which means a "pause" that gives an idea of space, including the concept of time. Traditional Japanese materials—wood, paper, plaster—enhance this pause and absence, adding a tactile human quality further defined by the pavilion's ceilings, clear planes of light in the form of illuminated zigzag overhanging eaves.



Installation view of Calder: *Un effet du japonais*, Azabudai Hills Gallery, 2024 Photo: Tadayuki Minamoto
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Stephanie Goto | Exhibition design

A longtime Calder Foundation collaborator, Japanese architect Stephanie Goto has become a leader in creating truly unique and integrated experiential spaces that embrace the relationality between architecture, culture, art, gastronomy, and hospitality. Goto founded her multidisciplinary practice in 2004, and notable commissions include the Calder Foundation's Project Space; scenography design for Calder exhibitions at Hauser & Wirth, Los Angeles, and Pace Gallery, New York; Caesarstone Experience Center in Georgia; multisensory experiential design for Dom Pérignon; and in 2023, Goto's first project in Japan for Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten at the Shinmonzen, Kyoto.

Exhibition Overview

Exhibition Title:	<i>Calder: Un effet du japonais</i>
Organizer:	Azabudai Hills Gallery in collaboration with Pace Gallery
Curated by:	Alexander S. C. Rower, President, Calder Foundation
Exhibition design:	Stephanie Goto Architecture
Exhibition Period:	Thursday, May 30, 2024 - Friday, September 6, 2024
Closed Days:	Tuesday, June 4 / Tuesday, July 2 / Tuesday, August 6
Venue:	Azabudai Hills Gallery (Azabudai Hills Garden Plaza A MBF, 5-8-1 Toranomon, Minato-ku, Tokyo)
Opening Hours:	Monday to Thursday, Sunday 10 AM–6 PM (Last Admission at 5:30 PM) Friday, Saturday, Days preceding national holidays 10 AM–7 PM (Last Admission at 6:30 PM)
Website:	https://www.azabudai-hills.com/azabudaihillsgallery/sp/calder-ex/
Inquiries:	azabudaihillsgallery@mori.co.jp

General Admission Tickets

General admission tickets will be available for sale from Thursday, May 30, 10 AM through Friday, September 6, 0:30 PM

Prices: Adults	JPY 1,500- (JPY 1,300-)
College Students	JPY 1,200- (JPY 1,000-)
High School Students	JPY 1,000- (JPY 800-)

* Prices in parentheses are for advance online reservation.

* Tickets can also be purchased at the counter only if online tickets are still available.

* Admission is free for junior high school students and younger (student ID required).

* Individuals with disability certificates and their caregivers (up to one person) are eligible for a 50% discount on general admission fees. No reservation is required. Please present your disability certificate at the information counter upon arrival to purchase tickets.

* Tickets are also available for purchase at Lawson Ticket. If you purchased at Lawson Ticket, please bring the ticket issued at Lawson Ticket on the day of the event.

Tickets will be available for sale from Thursday, May 29, 11:59 PM through Friday, September 6, 9 AM.

* Pace Publishing will release a new catalogue in English and Japanese for sale from July 2nd to accompany the exhibition. It is available for purchase from website.

<https://www.pacegallery.com/publishing/>

Links

Azabudai Hills Gallery social media accounts


 **Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/azabudaihillsgallery/>

 **TikTok** https://www.tiktok.com/@az__gallery

Calder Foundation social media accounts

 **Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/calderfoundation/>


 **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/calderfoundation/>

 **X (formerly Twitter)** <https://x.com/calderfdn/>

Pace Gallery social media accounts

 **Instagram** <https://www.instagram.com/pacegallery/>

 **Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/pacegallery/>

 **X (formerly Twitter)** <https://x.com/pacegallery/>

Press Inquiries

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