

## Leading Project Gets Underway ahead of the “Cultural Programme” for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo

Arts Council Tokyo develops a variety of programs to encourage the creation and dissemination of arts and culture and to promote Tokyo as an international city of artistic and cultural attractions.

Starting this year, one of our key programs will be the large-scale Leading Project, which Arts Council Tokyo is undertaking in partnership with the Tokyo Metropolitan Government. **Utilizing a diverse array of human and cultural resources, the Leading Project will serve as the lead-in to the “Cultural Programme” of the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.**

### ■ The “Cultural Programme” of the Olympic and Paralympic Games

While the Olympic and Paralympic Games are a festival of sport, they are also a cultural festival. The Olympic Charter of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) contains a provision concerning the “Cultural Programme”, which states, “The OCOG (Organising Committee for the Olympic Games) shall organise a programme of cultural events which must cover at least the entire period during which the Olympic Village is open. Such programme shall be submitted to the IOC Executive Board for its prior approval.” (Chapter 5, Rule 39)\* In the case of the Tokyo Games, this program will be held before the sporting contests, **over the four years from the end of the Rio Games in 2016 through 2020.**

**The Leading Project will be launched as the Tokyo Metropolitan Government’s model program for the “Cultural Programme”.**

\*Reference: International Olympic Committee, Olympic Charter (in force as from August 2, 2015)

## 1. Tokyo Caravan

Devised by playwright, director, and actor Hideki Noda, this new movement aims to gather together the diverse artistic scenes of Tokyo and the rest of Japan, in order to spread the word about them. Featuring contributions from a variety of artists assembled by Noda and his partners in this initiative such as, sculptor Kohei Nawa and contemporary artist Katsuhiko Hibino. Tokyo Caravan will start out from Rio de Janeiro during the 2016 Summer Olympics before popping up in various locations both within Japan and overseas to present a “Grand Cultural Circus,” while continuously endeavoring to promote exchange that transcends the boundaries between countries and regions.

This year, as part of the Leading Project ahead of the “Cultural Programme” for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo, the general public will have the chance to see how the process of producing performances actually works.

### Message from the General Supervisor, Hideki Noda

*Perhaps you could call Tokyo Caravan an “art brigade” or “cultural circus” that pops up unexpectedly in your town to present a spectacle. Anyways, it’s an art caravan like nobody’s ever tried before.*

*From October 8 to 10, we’ll hold a workshop as a kind of experimental presentation, where people can see what we’re working on while we’re in the middle of it.*

*We’d also like to get people’s feedback so we can work out how the project should evolve as we go forward. Then we plan to get underway in full swing next autumn.*

*I hope that the 2020 Tokyo Olympics will further transform TOKYO into a city of culture, and that our “art brigade/cultural circus” will survive beyond 2020 as part of its legacy. That’s my vision for Tokyo Caravan.*

*In terms of the content of this Tokyo Caravan workshop...well, it’s something suitable for a brigade, taking as its starting point the concept behind Tokyo Caravan – that “culture is traffic” – and featuring the motifs of exchange, travel, and transport.*

*Artists who support the intentions behind Tokyo Caravan will create everything.*

*The places where Tokyo Caravan will appear and the programs that it will feature will differ each time, and my dream is that they’ll gradually get bigger and more ambitious in scope.*

### ■ Overview of Tokyo Caravan

- Period: FY2015 – FY2020
- General Supervisor: Hideki Noda (playwright, director, actor; Artistic Director of the Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre)
- Assistant Supervisor: Katsuhiko Hibino (artist; Professor, Department of Intermedia Art, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts)
- Artistic Supervisor: Kohei Nawa (sculptor; Professor, Graduate School/Art and Design Studies at Kyoto University of Art and Design; Director, SANDWICH)
- Organizers: Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
- Cooperation: Kyoto University of Art and Design

## ■ Tokyo Caravan Public Workshop

- Workshop Period: Thursday, October 8 – Saturday, October 10, 2015
  - \*Canceled only in the event of heavy rain; time to be announced later on the official website.
- Workshop Showcase: Around 18:00 on Saturday, October 10, 2015 (will commence after sunset; due to last about an hour)
  - \*Prior application required for seating.
  - \*Viewing time may change, depending on the circumstances. We request your understanding in this matter.
- Venue: Rubber Baseball Field, Komazawa Olympic Park General Sports Ground
  - \*Event will coincide with Tokyo Sports Expo 2015.
- Entry: Free
- How to Apply to Attend the Workshop Showcase:  
Complete the application form at the official website (<http://www.tokyocaravan.jp>) or call the Tokyo Caravan Public Workshop Office (03-5459-1137; 10:00 – 18:00, closed weekends and public holidays)
  - \*Seating only available during the Showcase.
- Application Period: Wednesday, September 16 until 18:00 on Friday, October 2, 2015
  - \*Application period may end earlier if all available places are booked.

## 2. TURN

TURN is an art program that will bring people of different backgrounds together, generating a variety of uniquely individual encounters and artistic expressions.

This year, the first time that the event is taking place, we will aim to create programs in which the general public – including people who need welfare-related support – can participate, incorporating a blend of figurative and physical forms of expression and dialogue on the subject of diversity. Specifically, we will hold the 1st TURN Festival, which will feature programs that facilitate interaction between artists and social welfare facilities.

In the second year (FY2016), we will launch a model project in the form of the TURN Center, a venue for year-round exchange among a diverse array of people through the medium of art. Furthermore, we plan to hold the 2nd TURN Festival, which will showcase the fruits of these activities.

### Statement by General Supervisor Katsuhiko Hibino

*There are lots of people.*

*But*

*I am only me.*

*Can you see me?*

*The me in you.*

*The you in me.*

*When I met you*

*and we shared the innate strength that each of us has,  
I TURN toward you.*

*When you looked at me*

*and noticed the innate strength that each of us has,  
you TURN toward me.*

*Spaces in which lots of people are trying different ways to TURN  
will TURN into TURN FES.*

### ■ Overview of TURN

- Period: FY2015 – FY2020
- General Supervisor: Katsuhiko Hibino (artist; Professor, Department of Intermedia Art, Faculty of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts)
- Coordination: Riko Okuyama (TURN Coordinator, Arts Council Tokyo; Curator, Mizunoki Museum of Art)
- Organizers: Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

## ■ 1st TURN Festival

This festival will feature an exhibition put together with the participation of artists and people from diverse backgrounds, presenting the fruits of the interaction between them. It will also include a symposium to examine, discuss, and communicate the concept of TURN from multifaceted perspectives.

Exchange among diverse individuals through the medium of art will lead to insights and messages about the “innate strength that each of us has.”

- Festival Period: Friday, March 4 – Sunday, March 6, 2016
- Venue: Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum (8-36 Ueno-Koen Taito-ku, Tokyo)
- Organizers: Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
- Cooperation: Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

### ● Arts Council Tokyo

Arts Council Tokyo develops a variety of programs to encourage the creation and dissemination of arts and culture and to promote Tokyo as an international city of artistic and cultural attractions. In order to improve the infrastructure and environment for new artistic and cultural creation, Arts Council Tokyo plays a key role in Tokyo’s cultural policies by implementing programs that explore Tokyo’s originality and diversity, promoting international cultural exchange, and providing opportunities for promising young people who engage in a variety of artistic and cultural pursuits. Furthermore, Arts Council Tokyo will carry out major cultural projects to prepare for the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.

[www.artscouncil-tokyo.jp/en](http://www.artscouncil-tokyo.jp/en)

\*Please note that performers and program content may change due to unavoidable circumstances.

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