PROJECT DESCRIPTION

„NAMI MULTIFRAKTAL"

Research project with exhibitions, Artist Talks and Artist residence
Status: 07.03.2015

Auspices:

Das Generalkonsulat der Bundesrepublik Deutschland Osaka-Kobe
後援：大阪・神戸ドイツ連邦共和国総領事館

ドイツと日本
Zukunft gestalten
ともに未来へ

Consulate General of the Netherlands in Osaka/Kobe
在大阪・神戸総領事館

Kingdom of the Netherlands

Artists:

- Hannah Reber,
  born 1983 in Kassel (D), lives and works as an independent artist in Berlin. Online-Portfolio: www.hannahreber.de
- Gert-Jan Akerboom,
  born 1978 in Gouda (NL), lives and works as an independent artist in Berlin. Online-Portfolio: www.gertjanakerboom.com

Time period:
15th of April 2015 until 15th of Mai 2015

Residency/Host:
Studio Kura,
Artist in Residence Program in Fukuoka,
Itoshima City, Nijo Masue 586, 819-1613, Japan
http://studiokura.info/en/

Curator: Hirofumi Matsuzaki

Schedule:

- 14 days Fukuoka, Residency in Studio Kura (please find information below)
- 7 days Tokyo
- 7 days travel by train through Japan

Exhibitions:

- Exhibition and Artist Talk at Studio Kura, Fukuoka
- Further enquiries ongoing (Tokyo Wonder Site, Institute of Contemporary Arts and International Cultural Exchange, CCA - center for contemporary art Kitayushu in Fukuoka and others)
- The exhibition dates will be announced as they are confirmed.

Exposé

The title „Nami Multifraktal“ refers to fractal geometry on one hand, which was primarily described by Benoit Mandelbrot. Today fractal geometry plays an important role in physics, chaos research and computer programming. On the other hand „Nami“ (english: wave) refers to one of the most popular works of Katsushika Hokusai titled 'The Big wave off Kanagawa' (jap. 神奈川沖浪裏 *Kanagawa oki nami ura*“), a Japanese woodcut created around 1830.
The Japanese artist has been gaining attention from artists and scientists around the world because of his intuitive use of fractal geometry long before it was mathematically described by Mandelbrot. Mandelbrot writes in his fundamental work „The fractal geometry of nature“ (1983, 109) about this particular work of Hokusai:

> “It demonstrates, that Turbulence is necessary foreign to the spirit of the 'old' physics that focussed upon the phenomena of having well-defined scales. But this same reason makes the study of turbulence of direct interest to us.”

Hannah Reber and Gert-Jan Akerboom share a common interest in fractal Geometry but approach it in different ways.
Both artists understand their work to be mainly “explorative”. Process plays a central role in the conception of their art. Exchange and dialog - between cultures, disciplines and positions - offers them the possibility to find new perspectives, new perceptions and a new understanding of fundamental questions.
While Hannah Reber's conceptual multimedia work focusses mainly on the mathematical and philosophical side of fractal geometry, Gert-Jan Akerboom explores fractal geometry in the motives for his ink drawings as well as in his specially developed drawing technique.
The precise lines of his architectural and spatial structures are strongly influenced by euclidean geometry and the Golden ratio and they find themselves in strong contrast to the chaotic fractal structures that result from mixing ink with water. Fractal geometry caused a turnaround of our understanding of space and time as well as dimensions in general and gave us another access to artistic, natural and social processes. This research journey through the home of Hokusai's “Big Wave” offers the artists an opportunity to deepen their dialogical art practice, exhibit their work in Japan and find cultural exchange.