



Mori Art Award 2026 Grand Prize Exhibition: Katayama Mari Opens Saturday, October 31, 2026, at Mori Art Museum



tree of life #001 (2024) C-print (hand-printed) Courtesy: Galerie Suzanne Tarasieve, Paris; Yutaka Kikutake Gallery, Tokyo

The Mori Contemporary Art Foundation (MoriCAF) and the Mori Art Museum will hold an exhibition showcasing the work of **Katayama Mari**, winner of the Mori Art Award's inaugural Grand Prize, from Saturday, October 31, 2026, to Sunday, March 28, 2027.

The biennial Mori Art Award was established in May 2025 by the MoriCAF. The Japan-based Nomination Committee first creates a shortlist of mid-career Japanese artists, or artists with strong connections to Japan, based on exceptional exhibitions and works from the previous two years. The International Jury selects four finalists after reviewing the shortlisted artists' submission materials and determines the Grand Prize winner following an in-person screening process. The Grand Prize recipient is awarded ¥10 million and the opportunity to hold a solo exhibition jointly organized by the MoriCAF and the Mori Art Museum. The other three finalists receive prize money of ¥1 million each.

The International Jury highly praised Katayama Mari's work for the compelling ways it expands the boundaries of her own body. She achieves this through analogue photography and handicraft practices such as embroidery and needlework. She is expected to achieve further success on the international art scene. This exhibition will feature an installation that includes the "tree of life" series (2024-), Katayama's recent work that is now part of the collection at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London and served as a key reason for her selection.

Exhibition Overview

Title: *Mori Art Award 2026 Grand Prize Exhibition: Katayama Mari*

* Held concurrently with *Mariko Mori: All That Shines* at Mori Art Museum

Co-organized by Mori Contemporary Art Foundation and Mori Art Museum

Curated by: Tokuyama Hirokazu (Senior Curator, Mori Art Museum)

Venue: Small Exhibition Gallery, Mori Art Museum (53F Roppongi Hills Mori Tower, 6-10-1 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo)

Exhibition Period: 2026.10.31 [Sat] – 2027.3.28 [Sun]

Hours: 10:00– 22:00 | Tue: 10:00– 17:00 | Open until 18:00 on Tuesday, November 3, 2026. | Open until 22:00 on Tuesday, February 23, 2027.

* Admission until 30 minutes before closing. | * Open every day.

General inquiries: +81-(0)50-5541-8600

Exhibition website: <https://www.mori.art.museum/en/exhibitions/moricaf2026>

Admission:

Admission is included with tickets to *Mariko Mori: All That Shines*, held concurrently at Mori Art Museum.

Admissions for *Mariko Mori: All That Shines* at Mori Art Museum

	Weekdays		Sat. Sun. & Holidays	
	On-Site	Online	On-Site	Online
Adults	¥ 2,800	¥ 2,600	¥ 3,000	¥ 2,800
Students (University/High School)	¥ 1,700	¥ 1,600	¥ 1,800	¥ 1,700
Children (Jr. High Students and under)	Free (across the board)			
Seniors (Ages 65 and over)	¥ 2,400	¥ 2,200	¥ 2,600	¥ 2,400

Artist Profile

Katayama Mari

Born in 1987 and currently based in Gunma

Using hand-sewn objects as a starting point, Katayama creates self-portraits, video works and installations that serve as lenses reflecting multilayered social structures, roles, and the landscapes where they harmoniously resonate. Through these combinations, she questions normative societal concepts and boundaries, such as nature, artifice, and correctness. In addition to her art practice, she launched the *High Heel Project* in 2011 to advocate for the freedom of choice. Wearing high heels custom-made for prosthetic legs, Katayama is active in a wide range of fields, including singing, modeling, and public speaking. Major exhibitions include *Flesh and Bones: The Art of Anatomy* at the ArtScience Museum (Singapore, 2026), *Photography Now: The Parasol Foundation Women in Photography Project* at the Victoria & Albert Museum (London, 2025–27), *Performer and Participant* at the Tate Modern (London, 2023), *Home Again* at the Maison Européenne de la Photographie (Paris, 2021), the 58th Venice Biennale (2019), and *Roppongi Crossing 2016: My Body, Your Voice* at the Mori Art Museum (Tokyo). Her monograph, *Synthesis*, was also published in 2025. <https://marikatayama.com/>



| Mori Contemporary Art Foundation (MoriCAF)

To promote and further develop Japanese contemporary art's status in the international art community, the MoriCAF organizes a residency program for overseas curators to Japan and an award for mid-career artists.

Website: <https://mori-caf.jp/en>

Instagram: @moricaf.jp

| Mori Art Museum

The Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, opened in 2003 with the aim of becoming a contemporary art museum of international importance, symbolic of the status of Roppongi Hills in Tokyo as "Cultural Heart of the City." The Museum with a global outlook is committed to presenting cutting-edge visual arts, architecture, design and other modes of creative practice from around the world, from a unique viewpoint informed by its ongoing dedication to the "contemporary" and "international." Above all, it plays an especially vital role as a center for contemporary art from Japan and the wider Asia-Pacific, by focusing on the art of the region, decoding individual cultural backgrounds and positioning emerging trends within a broader global context. Last but not least, the Mori Art Museum is committed to the principle of "Art + Life," encouraging to realize an enriched, vibrant and well-rounded society where art relates to all aspects of life.

Website: www.mori.art.museum

Press inquiries on the Mori Art Award and MoriCAF:

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