MoriCAF
森現代芸術財団
Mori Contemporary Art Foundation

October 30, 2026

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



Installation View: *Mori Art Award 2026 Grand Prize Exhibition: Katayama Mari*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo, 2026-2027
Including works commissioned by the V&A Parasol Foundation Women in Photography project with support from the Parasol Foundation Trust.
Photo: Kato Ken

The Mori Contemporary Art Foundation (MoriCAF) and the Mori Art Museum open 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.

Through hand-sewn objects, photography, video and installation, Katayama has presented compelling possibilities for expanding the boundaries inherent in society — such as those between the self and the other, and between the artificial and the natural. Her practice was highly praised by the Mori Art Award, and she is expected to achieve further success on the international art scene.

This exhibition will present twelve works, including large-format photographs, hand-sewn objects, and wall-based works, centered on her recent series "tree of life" (2024–), works from which have also been acquired by the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. In "tree of life," Katayama depicts our existence not as closed individual entities, but as beings situated within institutions and histories—formed within relationships and mutually shaping one another. "The body is shared, and gains strength within a network," Katayama writes. Through the body reflected in mirrors and the hand-sewn objects extending across space, she explores the relationship between the body and the world that surrounds it.

A talk program with the artist will also be held during the exhibition period, with details to be announced. Alongside the exhibition, video interviews with the Mori Art Award 2026 finalists, Katayama Mari, Koizumi Meiro, 目[mé], and Yamashiro Chikako will be screened on a monitor.

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 (Last admission 30 minutes prior to closing)

* Tuesdays until 17:00, except Tuesday, Nov 3, National Holiday until 18:00, Friday, Nov 27 until 17:00, and Tuesday, Feb 23, National Holiday until 22:00.
* Extended until 6:00 a.m. , the following morning on Saturday, October 31, 2026, due to Roppongi Art Night 2026.
* Open daily during the exhibition.

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

Admissions	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



photo by H

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 *I'm So Happy You Are Here: Japanese Women Photographers from the 1950s to Now*, International Center of Photography（ICP）(New York, 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.

Website: 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: https://www.mori.art.museum/en/

Contact

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