

Shimabuku

Born 1969 1992 BA San Francisco Art Institute, USA
 Kobe, Japan 1990 Osaka College of Art, Japan

Lives and works in
Naha, Japan

Selected solo exhibitions

- 2024 *I Hear Music*, BankART Station, Yokohama, Japan
SHIMABUKU: Octopus, Citrus, Human, Centro Botín, Santander, Spain
- 2023 *Me, We*, MUSEION: Museum of modern and contemporary art, Bolzano, Italy
Moon, Potato, Swan and Sounds, Galleria Zero..., Milano, Italy
- 2022 *Instrumental*, Wiels, Brussels, Belgium
Swan Goes to the Sea / Let's Make Cows Fly!, Air de Paris, Romainville (Grand Paris), France
- 2021 *165meter Mermaid and other stories*, NMNM Nouveau Musée National de Monaco (cat.)
Somethings Happen Twice: An Elephant Comes from the Sea, Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum, Nagasaki, Japan
- 2019 *Sculptures for an octopus - What colour does an octopus like?*, Suma Aqualife Park, Kobe, Japan
- 2018 *For Octopuses, Monkeys and Men*, Centre d'art contemporain d'Ivry - le Crédac, France
Bow to Bow, Amanda Wilkinson, London
Eyes On: Shimabuku, Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado
- 2017 *Bow to Bow*, Galerie Barbara Wien, Berlin
- 2016 *Cuban Samba*, Nogueras Blanchard, Madrid, Spain
The Snow Monkeys of Texas, Freedman Fitzpatrick, Los Angeles, US
- 2015 *Exchange a mobile phone for a stone tool*, Wilkinson Gallery, London
- 2014 *When Sky Was Sea*, Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver, Canada
Sea and Flowers, Galerie Wien Lukatsch, Berlin, Germany
Flying me, Kunsthalle Bern, Switzerland
City in the Sea, Air De Paris, Paris, France
- 2013 *Something that Floats / Something that Sinks*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham
NOTO, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan
- 2012 *Leaves Swim*, Nogueras Blanchard, Barcelona
- 2011 *Man should try to avoid contact with alien life forms*, Centre international d'art et du paysage, Ile de Vassiviere, France (cat.)
On the Water, CAPC – Bordeaux Contemporary Art Museum, Bordeaux, France
 Overbeck-Gesellschaft - Kunstverein Lubeck, Germany
My Teacher Tortoise, Wilkinson Gallery, London
- 2010 *Kaki and Tomato*, Air de Paris, Paris
- 2009 The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2008 *Shimabuku's Fish & Chips*, Nogueras Blanchard, Barcelona, Spain
The Street, Whitechapel Art Gallery, London

- Sea, Sky, Language and so on*, DAAD galerie, Berlin
- 2007 *Shimabuku's Fish & Chips*, Wilkinson Gallery, London
Shimabuku's Fish & Chips, DAAD Galerie, Berlin
- 2005 *From High in the Sky to the Bottom of the Sea*, Nogueras Branchard, Barcelona
Catching Octopus with Self-Made Ceramic Pots, Air de Paris, France
- 2004 *Born as a Box*, Wilkinson Gallery, London
Yoyo on the Moon, Maejima Art Centre/Yume-R, Okinawa
- 2003 *Watching the River Flow*, Shugoarts, Tokyo
Swansea Jack Memorial Dog Swimming Competition, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea, UK (cat.)
- 2002 *Then, I decided to give a tour of Tokyo to the octopus from Akashi*, Gallery Yvon Lambert, Paris
Then, I decided to give a tour of Tokyo to the octopus from Akashi, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK
Frog's Sky, Galerie der Stadt Schwaz, Austria
- 2001 *The Octopus Returns*, Kobe Art Village Center / Suma Rikyu Park, Kobe, Japan (artist book)
Passing through the rubber band, Air de Paris, France
- 1999 *I'm traveling with 165-metre mermaid*, DAZIBAO, Montreal, Canada (cat.)
Christmas in the Southern Hemisphere, Air de Paris, Paris
- 1998 *In Search of Deer*, Ota Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan (cat.)
- 1996 *Shimabukuro-Shimafukurou*, Ota Fine Arts, Tokyo
- 1994 *America*, Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art, Hiroshima, Japan
- 1993 *KONNICHIIWA*, Nagoya City Art Museum, Nagoya, Japan

Selected group exhibitions

- 2024 *The Open World*, Thailand Biennale, Chiang Rai
- 2023 *De leur temps. Un regard sur des collections privées*, Frac Grand Large, Dunkerque, France
Dans l'air, Hangar Y, Meudon, France
40 ans du Frac !, Frac Île-de-France, Les Réserves, Romainville, France
- 2022 *DO WE DREAM UNDER THE SAME SKY*, Okayama Art Summit, Okayama, Japan
Aller contre le vent : performances, actions et autres rituels, Frac Franche-Comté, Besançon, France
Playmode, CCBB – Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil
Les Eaux Composées, École européenne supérieure d'art de Bretagne, France
- 2021 *And the flowers too*, Museo Orto Botanico, Rome, Italy
The Imaginary Sea, Villa Carmignac - Porquerolles Island, France
St. Elmo's Fire, Rodeo, Piraeus, Greece
July, August, September, Cologne, Germany
- 2020 *gerlach en koop Was machen Sie um zwei? Ich schlafe*, GAK Gesellschaft für Aktuelle Kunst, Bremen

- La vie des tables*, Centre d'art contemporain d'Ivry – le Crédac, France
- Amuse-bouche. The Taste of Art*, Museum Tinguely, Basel
- I Love Art 15 – Living Tokyo*, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
- 2019 *Etrange! (Variations en vrac)*, Château Chasse Spleen, Moulis-en-Médoc
- More*, Air de Paris, Romainville
- The Sorcerer's Burden, Contemporary Art and the Anthropological Turn*, The Contemporary Austin
- Creatures: When Species Meet*, CAC – Contemporary Art Center, Cincinnati
- Narcisse, ou la floraison des mondes*, FRAC Nouvelle-Aquitaine MÉCA, Bordeaux
- Texture of Life*, Reborn Art Festival, Ishinomaki, Japan
- Sur les ailes du désir*, Musée du Château des ducs de Wurtemberg, Montbéliard
- Kodomo No Kuni – Replay*, FRAC Grand Large – Hauts de France
- Small Between the Stars, Large against the Sky*, Manif d'art 9 – The Quebec City Biennial, Quebec, Canada
- Sensing Nature From Within*, Moderna Museet Malmö, Sweden
- The Sorcerer's Burden: Contemporary Art and the Anthropological Turn*, The Contemporary Austin, Austin, USA
- Playmode*, MAAT Museu de Arte, Arquitectura e Tecnologia | Museum of Art, Architecture and Technology, Lisbon
- Sur les ailes du désir - on flying artistic objects*, Le 19, Centre régional d'art contemporain, Montbéliard, France
- Liquid Crystal Display*, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, UK
- 2018 *Liquid Crystal Display*, Site Gallery, Sheffield, UK
- Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale*, Tokamachi city, Japan
- Kodomo No Kuni*, L'Onde, Vélizy-Villacoublay, France
- Animals & Us*, Turner Contemporary, Kent, UK
- In Tune with the World*, Foundation Louis Vuitton, Paris
- 2017 *When Sky Was Sea*, Lyon Biennale, Lyon
- Reborn Art Festival Touhoku Oshika*, Miyagi, Japan
- Futures*, Vilnius Contemporary Art Centre, Lithuania
- 57th Venice Biennale *Viva Arte Viva* curated by Christine Macel
- Offshore: artists explore the sea*, Ferens Art Gallery and Hull Maritime Museum
- AQUA: Contemporary Artists and Water Issues*, Geneva
- While I was also listening to David, Eleanor, Mariana, Delia, Genk, Jean, Mark, Pierre, Shima, Simon, Zin and Virginie*, La Crieé Centre for Contemporary Art, Rennes, France
- A Landscape*, Wilkinson, London
- 2016 *FOOD–Ecologies of the Everyday*, Triennale Kleinplastik Fellbach
- The Animal Mirror*, ISCP, New York
- Echo of untouched matter*, Lothringer13 Halle, Munich, Germany
- Ecce Homo*, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
- 2015 *Äppärät*, The Ballroom Marfa, Texas, US

- Mountains with a Broken Edge*, Biennial de la Havana, Havana
- The Way Things Go*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco
- A Climate Fictionalism*, Hong-Gah Museum, Taipei
- #catcontent*, Kunstpalais, Erlangen, Germany
- 2014 *A History*, Pompidou Centre, Paris
- The Great Acceleration: Art in the Anthropocene*, Taipei Biennial 2014 curated by Nicholas Bourriaud, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, Taiwan
- City and Nature*, Sapporo International Art Festival, Sapporo, Japan
- Manners of Matter*, Salzburger Kunstverein, Salzburg, Austria
- Underwater Worlds*, Museum Kunst der Westküste, Föhr, Germany
- 2013 *Aquatopia: The imaginary of the ocean deep*, Tate St Ives, UK
- Aquatopia: The imaginary of the ocean deep*, Nottingham Contemporary, UK
- Le Pont*, Musée d'art contemporain, Marseille, France
- Sharjah Biennial 11, Sharjah, UAE
- How to write I*, Wien Lakatsch, Berlin, Germany
- 2012 *FOOD*, Musée Ariana, Geneva, Switzerland
- Wide Open School*, Hayward Gallery, London
- Mount Fuji does not exist*, Plateau, Frac Ile-de-France, Paris
- 2011 *Impossible Community*, Moscow Museum of Modern Art
- Our Magic Hour – Yokohama Triennale 2011*, Yokohama Museum of Art, Japan
- 2010 *Somewhere Else*, Nogueras Blanchard, Barcelona, Spain
- Convivio*, Micro-Onde, Vélizy-Villacoubaly, France
- Kaza Ana / Air Hole: Another Form of Conceptualism from Asia*, The National Museum of Art, Osaka, Japan
- Aichi Triennale, Aichi, Japan
- Still Vast Reserves*, Gertrude Contemporary Art Spaces, Melbourne, Australia
- Extra Ordinary*, Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool, UK
- Negotiation - Today's Documents 2010*, Today Art Museum, Beijing, China
- Eating the Universe. Food in Art*, Galerie im Taxispalais, Innsbruck
- NEANDERTHALIAN NIGHTS: The world is not at home*, Galleria Zero, Milano
- 2009 *Eating the Universe*, Kunsthalle Dusseldorf, Germany
- LINK - Flexible Deviation*, KOBE Biennale 2009, Kobe, Japan
- Platform*, SAMUSO, Seoul, Korea
- Hundred Stories About Love*, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Japan
- Mash Up*, ARTSPACE, Auckland, New Zealand
- The Grand Illusion*, National Chang Kai Shek Cultural Centre, Taipei, Taiwan
- Laughing in a Foreign Language*, Hayward Gallery, London
- 2008 *All Our Everyday*s, Gallery VER, Bangkok, Thailand
- Florescendo: Brasil – Japao O seu lugar*, Toyota Municipal Museum of Art, Toyota, Japan
- Between Art and Life*, Centre d'Art Contemporain Geneve, Switzerland
- Experimenta FOLKLORE*, Frankfurter Kunstverein, Frankfurt, Germany

- 2007 *Opening Show*, Okinawa Prefectural Museum of Contemporary Art, Okinawa, Japan
Tomorrow, Artsonje Center + Kumho Museum of Art, Seoul, Korea
Beautiful New World: Contemporary Visual Culture from Japan, Long March Project + B.T.A.P. + Inter Arts Center, Beijing
Oriente e trópico, Instituto Cultural Usiminas, Ipatinga, Brazil
How to live together, MAC: Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Santiago, Chile
Oriente e trópico, Palácio das Artes, Belo Horizonte, Brazil
The Door into Summer: The Age of Micropop, Art Tower mito, Japan (cat.)
- 2006 *How to Live Together*, 27th Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil (cat.)
International 06, Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool, UK (cat.)
Empieza el juego, La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain (cat.)
ANSTOSS BERLIN, Haus am Waldsee, Berlin, Germany (cat.)
Berlin-Tokyo Tokyo-Berlin, Neue Nationalgalerie, Berlin, Germany (cat.)
I Love Art 8, Watari-Um, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan
- 2005 *Circa Berlin*, Nikolaj, Copenhagen Contemporary Art Centre, Denmark (cat.)
- 2004 *Video Dictionary*, La Casa Encendida, Madrid, Spain
Utopia Station, Haus der Kunst, Munich, Germany
Expat-Art Centre, ICA, London
MixMax, Artsonje Centre, London
- 2003 *Time After Time*, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, USA
25 Hrs, International Video Art Show, Barcelona, Spain (cat.)
Utopia Station, 50th Venezia Biennale, Italy (cat.)
Spread in Prato 2, Prato, Italy (cat.)
U-Topos, Tirana Biennale 2, Tirana, Albania (cat.)
Biennale of Ceramics in Contemporary Art 2nd edition, Riviera Ligure, Italy (cat.)
- 2002 *C'est pas du cinema!*, Le Fresnoy, Studio National, Tourcoing, France (cat.)
art in the home, Edinburgh, UK
Radiodumb, Zero Arte Contemporanea, Italy
la part de l'autre, Carre d'Art, Nime (cat.)
Upstream, Amsterdam/Hoorn, Netherlands (cat.)
Busan Biennale, Busan, Korea
- 2001 *Encounter*, Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan (cat.)
The Beginning of Things – The 6th Kitakyusyu Biennale, Kitakyusyu Municipal Museum of Art, Kita Kyusyu, Japan (cat.)
Ikiro-be alive, Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo, Netherlands (cat.)
Traveller's Tale, (web project), Institute of International Visual Arts (inIVA), London, UK
Mega Wave, Yokohama 2001: International Triennale of Contemporary Art, Yokohama, Japan (cat.)
Facts of Life, Hayward Gallery, London, UK (cat.)

- 2000 *Rendez-Vous No.3*, Collection Lambert, Avignon, France
Elysian Fields, Centre Georges Pompidou, France (cat.)
Counter-Photography, Moscow (international touring exhibition) (cat.)
As it is, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK (cat.)
Transformer, Raum aktueller Kunst Martin Janda, Vienna, Austria
it digital (web project), Kassel, Germany
Gift of Hope, Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan (cat.)
- 1999 *And / Or*, Grazer Kunstverein, Graz, Austria
Space, Witte de With, Rotterdam, Netherlands
Ivresse, Ateliers d'Artistes de la Ville de Marseille, France
Extra et Ordinaire, Printemps de Cahors, France (cat.)
Empty Garden, Watari-Um, Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, Japan (artist book)
- 1998 11th Biennale of Sydney: *every day*, Australia (cat.)
Memorealism, Museum City Fukuoka, Fukuoka, Japan (cat.)
La Table, Air de Paris, France
Donaiyanen!, Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France (cat.)
- 1996 *Displacement – 31st Today's Artist*, Yokohama Citizens' Gallery, Yokohama, Japan (cat.)
Public Art Project – Sound Art, Iwakura, Aichi, Japan (leaflet)
Survival Tool, Sakura City Museum of Art, Chiba, Japan (cat.)
The Stream from the South, Kaseda, Kagoshima, Japan
Place for Survival, Kurumi Kindergarten, Shizuoka, Japan
- 1995 *Rolywholyover a Circus John Cage*, Art Tower Mito, Mito, Japan (cat.)
From Duchamp to Duchamp, Kita Kanto Museum Of Fine Arts, Gunma, Japan
- Publications
- 2021 *La Sirène de 165 mètres et autres histoires / The 165-meter mermaid and other stories* (exhibition catalogue)
The Kitchen Studio: Culinary Creations by Artists, Phaidon Press
Le livre des tables, (exhibition catalogue), Credac, Les presses du réel
- 2020 *Cuban Samba Remix (Remix by Kassin with Arto Lindsay) / Sculpture for Octopuses: exploring for their favorite colours / With Octopus*, Fanny Drugeon, Collection Conférences, Fond régional d'art contemporain de Franche-Comté
- 2018 *L'envol ou la rêve de voler, la maison rouge*, éditions Flammarion, Paris
The Lulennial II: A Low- Hanging Fruit, Mousse Publishing, Milan
- 2017 *AQUA - Les artistes contemporains et l'enjeu de l'eau*, Art for the world, 2017, pp. 66-67
- 2014 *Une histoire. Sous la direction de Christine Macel*, Centre Pompidou, ed. Flammarion, Paris, p.147
Shimabuku: Noto, 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, 2014
- 2013 *Shimabuku in the U.K.*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham
- 2011 *Shimabuku: 2011*, Centre international d'art et du paysage, Ile de Vassivière/

- Silvana Editoriale, France
- 2010 *Shimabuku: Opening the Door*, Little More, Tokyo
- 2008 *Shimabuku: Tomato Dipper*, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
Shimabuku: Tomato and Elephant, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
Shimabuku: Elephant Planet, The Watari Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo
Legende, (exhibition catalogue), Sternberg Press, Berlin
- 2007 *Tomorrow*, (exhibition catalogue), SAMUSO, Seoul
Anecdote, Edited by Claire de Ribaupierre, JRP/Ringier, Zurich
Ice Cream, Phaidon, London
- 2005 Tacita Dean and Jeremy Millar, *Lieu*, ed. Thames & Hudson, Paris, pp. 156-157
Do it (extended edition), Edited by Hans-Ulrich Obrist, Revolver/e-flux, Frankfurt/New York
- 2003 *Swansea Jack Memorial Dog Swimming Competition*, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea
- 2002 *C'est pas du cinéma*, (exhibition catalogue), Le Fresnoy, Le Havre
- 2001 *Facts of life: Contemporary Japanese Art*, (exhibition catalogue), Hayward Gallery, London
Mega-Wave, International Triennale of Contemporary Art, Yokohama
Shimabuku 2001, Kobe Art Village Center, Kobe
Ikiro-be alive, (exhibition catalogue), Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo, Netherlands
6th Kitakyushu Biennale, (exhibition catalogue), Kitakyushu Municipal Museum of Art, Kitakyushu
- 2000 *Encounter*, (exhibition catalogue), Tokyo Opera City Art Gallery, Tokyo
Mitsuda, Yuri, *Michihiro Shimabuku*, Counter-Photography-Japan's Artists Today, The Japan Foundation, p.64
Kermode, Deborah, *As It Is*, (exhibition catalogue), Ikon Gallery, Birmingham
- 1999 Macel, Christine, *Extra et Ordinaire*, (exhibition catalogue), Printemps de Cahors, p.80
- 1998 Kiho, Mikito, *11th Biennale of Sydney: Everyday*, (exhibition catalogue), The Biennale of Sydney Ltd, p.200
Maestro, Lani & Shimabuku, *I'm traveling with a 165-metre mermaid*, Dazibao, Montréal
I'm traveling with a 165-metre mermaid, brochure, Museum City Fukuoka, Fukuoka, Japan

Selected projects

- 2014 Extinction Marathon: Visions of the Future, Serpentine Galleries, London
- 2013 Open Work: Shimabuku "Souvenir from Noto", Wednesday 5 June 2013, Open Work, Stockholm
- 2004 Zero Gravity Art Centre, 4 page project for Japanese film magazine 'CUT'
Writing monthly essay for Japanese newspaper 'Asahi Shinbun'
- 2001 Moon Rabbit, web project, Dia Center for the Arts, New York

- 1999 Continuing research for 'Mountains and valleys never meet, but people do'
Netherlands – Kyusyu, Japan
- 1996 Shimabukuro-Shimafukurou (Hitch Hike travel across Japan from the south to
the north to see the big owl named Shimafukuru)
- 1994 Christmas in the Southern Hemisphere, Suma, Kobe
- 1993 Gorill'a, Kanazawa Sunny Land, Ishikawa
- 1992 Souvenir, Iwatayama Monkey Park, Kyoto
- 1991 Octopus Rd. Project (Walking from Koshienhama to Maizuru, carrying an
octopus)

Awards / Residencies / Professorships

- 2021 Guest Professor at Kyoto University of the Arts
- 2014–2015 Guest Lecture at ZHdK: Zurich University of the Arts, Switzerland
- 2010 Guest Lecture at Ecole des beaux-arts Bordeaux, France
- 2005–2006 Guest Professor at Braunschweig School of Art, Germany
- 2004 Invited to Berlin by DAAD Berliner Künstlerprogramm
- 2002 Banff Center, Canada, with a grant from Shiseido
- 1999 Capacete Project, Rio de Janeiro, with a grant from the Pola Art Foundation
- 1998 Ateliers d'Artistes de la Ville de Marseille (2 months), with a grant from the
French Government
- 1997 ARCUS Project, Artist-in-residence program (4 months), Japan, with a grant
from the Japan Foundation

Public collections

Irish State Art Collection, Tate Modern, London
Fondation Louis Vuitton, Paris
FRAC Île de France, Paris, France
FRAC Corsica, Corte, France
FRAC Franche Comté, Besançon
FRAC Pays de la Loire, Carquefou
MNAM, Centre Pompidou, Paris, France
Nouveau Musée National de Monaco, Monaco
Kunstmuseum, Bern, Switzerland
M+, Hong Kong
MOT, Tokyo
National Museum of Osaka
Kanazawa 21st Century Museum
Hyogo Prefectural Museum