



Photo: Kiyo Akamatsu

HOTEL NEW OSOREZAN | UMEDA Tetsuya

23 October - 8 December 2013

Live performance by the artist:

Wednesday, 23 October 19:00 - 21:00

Ota Fine Arts is delighted to present new work by Japanese performance, sound and installation artist Umeda Tetsuya, in his first solo exhibition in Singapore entitled "HOTEL NEW OSOREZAN". Umeda's experimental site-specific work explores our fundamental environment of nature, sound, light, energies from atmospheric and water pressure, gravity, and electrical currents. His eccentric, almost scientific exploration of these media is further informed by everyday spaces and quotidian consumer products and electronics.

Written in Japanese characters as "恐山", Osorezan is a great mountain in Northern Japan that remains relatively untouched, retaining its pristine nature. Deeply revered for being sacred ground, people have attached cultural meanings and associations to this mountain, adding further significance to its existence. Impressed by the seemingly fragile yet still strongly rooted balance between humans, their natural environment and man-made

structures, Umeda hopes to bring his own impressions of such a natural phenomenon – Mount Osorezan – into the space of the gallery.

Transforming and enabling the sonic, kinetic and spatial potentials of the white cube gallery, Umeda presents “HOTEL NEW OSOREZAN”. A sort of imaginary hotel, this temporary and artificial living space has its own unique elements, forces, systems and meanings.

The artist frequently works from ideas and inventions he posits directly from the exhibition space at hand, stripping it of ornament or conventional design, and opening up to inspection the elaborate systems and dimensions that are hidden within its walls, ceiling ducts, wiring, and so on. Within the gallery, one is also likely to encounter daily tools or found objects that are rearranged by Umeda and reconstituted in unexpected ways so that the installation is tightly orchestrated – as it were – by chance, improvisation or even chaos. These become incorporated into the artist’s own causal, but nonetheless unpredictable and elaborate systems.

“HOTEL NEW OSOREZAN” poses an opportunity for Umeda’s audience to ponder new, coincidental discoveries within a range of discrete phenomena, and to think of the “art space” in an entirely different way.

About UMEDA Tetsuya | Born in Kumamoto, Japan in 1980, Umeda Tetsuya studied in Osaka, where he is based today. From capturing environments, architectural structures, sound, light and human behaviour, the source of his work ranges widely. Working actively both in and outside of Japan, Umeda remodels installations out of daily products, engages viewers with his interactive performance pieces, and collaborates with musicians using his own originally produced implements. He has held a number of significant solo exhibitions including “Criterium 73: Tetsuya Umeda”, Contemporary Art Gallery, Art Tower Mito, Mito (2008), and “Exhibition as media 2011: Tetsuya Umeda”, Kobe Art Village Center, Kobe (2011). Umeda has also participated in the “1st Aichi Triennale 2010: Arts and Cities”, Nagoya (2010); “Double Vision: Contemporary Art From Japan”, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, Moscow / Haifa Museum of Art, Haifa (2012); and is currently featured at the “Towada Oirase Art Festival 2013”, Towada.

About Ota Fine Arts | Ota Fine Arts is a contemporary art gallery located in Singapore’s new art-complex Gillman Barracks, an initiative jointly developed by the Economic Development Board and the National Arts Council. An extension of its already established presence in Tokyo since 1994, Ota Fine Arts will continue an exciting roster of emerging artists from the “Asian cultural belt”: the Middle East to South, Southeast Asia and East Asia.

Gallery opening hours:

Tuesday-Saturday 12.00-19.00

Sunday 12.00-18.00

Closed on Mondays and Public Holidays

Open late till 21.00 on the first Friday of every month

For more information, or to schedule an appointment, contact: sg@otafinearts.com

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