

Biographical Notes on MITSUAKI TANABE

- 1939 Born in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan.
- 1961 Graduated from the Sculpture Department of Tama University of Arts.
- 1962 Met Isamu Noguchi, the American sculptor and strongly influenced by him.
- 1971-1975 Toured some 50 countries including those in South America, Europe and the Middle East, Greatly inspired by Piazza del Campo in Siena, Italy. Felt deep sympathy with the culture of the Republic of Korea.
- 1976 Produced the first monument, titled [In praise of Yamauchi] in Yokohama.
- 1977 Started on his KONZAI series.
- 1978 Held his first one-man show at Gallery Okabe, Tokyo. Was featured in the West German magazine, "DAS KUNSTWERK".
- 1979 His [KONZAI " あ "] awarded the Giacomo Manzu Special Prize at 1st Henry Moore Grand Prize Exhibition, The Hakone Open-Air Museum, Japan.
- 1980 His [KONZAI (inside " あ " outside)] awarded the Ube Municipal Open-Air Museum Prize at the 7th Kobe Suma RIKYU (Detached Palace) Contemporary Sculpture Exhibition.
One-man Show at Gallery Okabe, Tokyo.
- 1981 His [KONZAI (inside " あ ")] awarded the superior prize at the 2nd Henry Moore Grand Prize Exhibition. The 5th Shun-rai Exhibition held by City of Yokohama.
- 1982 One-man Show at Gallery Seiho, Tokyo.
- 1982-1983 Installed [SAKU] a plaza containing 40m-high formative-art structure in the front garden of the Saku Municipal Museum of Modern Arts.
- 1983 Installed [Fallen leaves playing with peacock feathers] for Totsuka Homes, Yokohama Riverside (facility for severely handicapped people).
- 1984 First encounter with The Yellow River, China. Deeply impressed with the concept of design of the Garden in Suzhou, China.
One-man Show (Tourist Gallery, Yokohama)
One-man Show (Morris Gallery, Tokyo)
- 1985-1987 Installed Part 1 (Sea Shell) and Part 2 (Flowerbeds) out of his 3 part-sculptures with an overall title of [Yokohama, an Object Far Away] on the 1km-long jetty in the port of Yokohama.
- 1985 Exhibition of Footsteps of Contemporary Sculpture-Exhibition of Wood Sculpture Works (Gallery, Kanagawa Municipal Hall).
Exhibited (by invitation) his work at 8th Exhibition of Work by Metal-mould Sculptors (Wako Hall, Tokyo).
- 1986-1987 Selected as one of six foreign artists and installed the "Seoul - Unhulled Rice - Thermal Conductivity" in the National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, the Republic of Korea.
- 1987 Received notices on "Wild Rice" in the Book of Rice.
- 1987 Exhibition of 1st International Open-Air Sculptors Association (Art Gallery, Yokohama).
Created a Monument erected in honor of Renjo Shimooka.
Installed [Human Being] in Yokohama Municipal Minami-Totsuka Junior High School.
- 1987-1988 Installed [Naoetsu] in Joetsu City, Niigata Prefecture.
- 1989 Exhibited (by invitation) his work of [A Drifting Grain of Unhulled Rice] at the Contemporary Japanese Sculpture.
Installed [Beans-Mugen] at Kazusaya in Yokohama.
- 1989 Installed [A Floating Grain of Unhulled Rice].
One-man Show at Gallery Seiho, Tokyo.
- 1990 Installed [Waves became a Forest] and [Meijiku] in Kanagawa Prefecture.
- 1991 Exhibited his work [MOMI-(3) 1989] at Zhejiang Provincial Museum, China (permanent display).
Installed [MOMI-1991] as the theme of Wild Rice for the Research Factory of Yokomori Manufacturing in Iwaki City, Fukushima Prefecture.
- 1992 One-man Show, The theme of Wild Rice at Gallery Seiho and Shuyu Art Gallery (Tokyo).
- 1993 Exhibited his work [MOMI-(10) 1992] at Central Library in Shimizu City, Shizuoka Prefecture (permanent display).
Exhibited his sculpture [MOMI-(8) 1992 Wild Rice] and its drawings at IRRI (International Rice Research Institute), Philippines (permanent display).
- 1994 Invited to IRRI, and installed [MOMI-1994 Wild Rice].
Held an Exhibition of "The World of The Shimizu and Mitsuaki Tanabe".
Exhibited his work on the theme of "Wild Rice on the Japan IRRI Day at Nikkei Hall, Tokyo. Presented his sculpture of [MOMI-(7) 1992 Wild RICE] to Thai Royal Family.
Exhibited his work at the museum of He Mu Du Ruins Museum, China (permanent display).
Thai Royal Family started the project of natural populations of wild rice (in situ conservation) and chose Tanabe as a member of the project.
- 1995 Installed [MOMI-1994] at Itazuke ruins in Fukuoka. As the first execution of Thai Royal Project, decided to use 2-ha in situ conservation for wild rice in Prachin Buri, Thailand (100km northeast of Bangkok).
Exhibited [MOMI-(3) 1992] at Industrial Technical Research Center, Kanagawa Prefecture (permanent display).
Dr. Naoki Takeda published a book of "Sculptor, Mitsuaki Tanabe".
One-man Show at Gallery Seiho, and Shuyu Gallery, Tokyo.
- 1996 Installed [BIRD-Seaside Vegetable Kingdom / Niijima] at Niijima, Tokyo.

- Installed [MOMI-(2) 1996] at Yokohama Suiran prefectural high school. Invited to Pathum Thani Rice Research Center [D, O, A,] in Thailand, installed [MOMI-1996 PATHUM THANI].
- Installed [BIRD-Wild Plants / Hiyoshi] in Yokohama.
- 1995-1997 Installed [MOMI-1997 (Wild Rice) In Situ Conservation] at Pathum Thani Rice Research Center [D, O, A,] in Thailand.
- 1998 Exhibited his work [MOMI-(4) 1992] at Central Rice Research Institute in India.
Installed [MOMI-1989] at Gokurakuji Temple in Yokohama.
- 1999 Installed [MOMI-(4) 1992] at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Maryland, U.S.A.
Exhibition of Tanabe Mitsuaki held by Kanagawa Arts Foundation.
- 2000 Installed [The Reptiles] in front of the Information Center of National Government Building Tower 1 at Saitama Shintoshin.
Also installed [Spider] and [Buprestid] at center of Fujino Workshop for Art in Kanagawa.
- 2001 Installed his work consists of 3 parts [Wild Rice], [Interior] and [Rain Fed Paddy] at Kamigata Ukiyoe Museum, Osaka.
Exhibition of Tanabe Mitsuaki was held by Toro Museum of Shizuoka.
- 2002 Installed [MOMI-2000] at Central Rice Research Institute (CRR) in India.
Exhibited [Drawing of a Wild Rice] and 41 photographs at International Conference of Wild Rice in Katmandu, Nepal.
Installed [Mekong River] in Yokohama Municipal Shimoda Elementary School.
- 2003 Exhibited [MOMI-In Situ Conservation 2003] at Osaka Prefecture Museum of Yayoi Culture.
Installed [UNIVERSITY] at Shizuoka University.
Promoted project at Koufukuji Temple in Yokohama
- 2004 Exhibited [MOMI-(9) 1992] at Window on the Wetland Visitor Center in Darwin, Australia.
Installed [The Reptiles] at Matsunokawa Ryokudou in Yokohama.
Exhibited [MOMI-2004] at Expocuba Exhibition Center in Cuba (permanent display).
Installed [MOMI-2004] at Koufukuji Temple in Yokohama.
- 2005 Installed [The Centipede] at Koufukuji Temple in Yokohama.
Installed [MOMI-2000 Wilde Rice-Situ Conservation • Reptiles] at Gonohe-Heights in Aomori.
Installed [MOMI-2000 Snake] at Shingoumura. One-man Show at Akita Prefectural Museum in Japan.
- 2006 Participated in Adelaide Festival at the Multicultural Arts Center in Adelaide, Australia.
- Shown MOMI 2006 in Green Sense Gallery, Korea.
Installed [The Reptiles • MOMI-2006] at Mareeba Wetland in Australia.
Exhibited public art in the Museum of Contemporary Art, Sapporo and Setagaya Art Museum, Tokyo.
- 2007 One-man Show [MOMI MITSUAKI TANABE TAIWAN 2007-Hoping the Restoration of Wild Rice Populations Taiwan] at Notional Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts.
Installed [MOMI-2007] at Tama-Plaza branch of Kanagawa Agricultural Cooperative in Kanagawa.
One-man Show at Notional Taiwan University.
- 2008 Installed [A Seed of Wild Rice • MOMI-2008] for Global Crop Diversity Trust at FAO in Roma.
- 2009 Installed [The Seed-2009 • IN SITU CONSERVATION] in North Pole • The Svalbard Seed Vault.