

## COMING UP

The 2018-2019 Soshitsu Sen XV Distinguished Lecture on Japanese Culture



EIKO OTAKE

## *DISTANCE IS MALLEABLE*

FRIDAY 10 MAY 2019, 6PM

Miller Theatre, Columbia University (2960 Broadway, at W 116<sup>th</sup> St)

MacArthur Award-winning dancer/choreographer and interdisciplinary artist, Eiko Otake, was born and raised in Japan and has been based in New York since 1976. Eiko, who worked as one-half of the duo Eiko & Koma for more than four decades, started directing her own solo projects in 2014. For this year's Sen Lecture, Eiko will share her specific notions of body, choreography, performance, practice, politics, time, history, place, and teaching. The event will begin with Eiko's solo performance and will continue as a hybrid talk with videos edited specially for this occasion.



**DONALD KEENE CENTER**  
of Japanese Culture

Supported by the Sen Lectureship Fund for the Donald Keene Center. Free and open to the public. Pre-registration is requested at [www.keenecenter.org](http://www.keenecenter.org). Photo by William Johnston

### Reservations

Eiko is honored to be the guest speaker and performer at the Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture at Columbia University's annual Soshitsu Sen XV Distinguished Lecture on Japanese Culture, presenting on her most recent projects. She will perform, speak, and share special videos made for the event specifically. Join her for this free admission event.

## RECENT NEWS



## **Bodies**

March 29, 2019

Columbia's Lenfest Center for the Arts

Eiko and DonChristian Jones created and performed a movement installation, "bodies," at the public plaza in front of the Columbia University's Lenfest Center for the Arts, curated by Alessandra Gomez.

Their movement started slowly, but built a sense of urgency and emergency quickly, constantly in reference to the place they were in and its history. The performance concluded with the projection of a video onto a cloth Eiko and DonChristian held against the wind. The video combined DonChristian running in the area in bright daylight with interspersed segments of Eiko's solos. The footage of the performance has now been added to that [video](#) so viewers can see the different times they occupied the place and how each contextualize the other.

Read Nora Thompson's (Eiko's assistant) full response [here](#).

Photo by Alessandra Gomez



## **Remembering Fukushima: An Evening with Eiko Otake, Jake Price, and Ralph Samuelson**

March 11, 2019

Cathedral of St. John the Divine

Eiko, Ralph Samuelson (shakuhachi player), and [Jake Price](#) (filmmaker) came together on March 11, 2019 at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine to

commemorate the anniversary of the Fukushima triple disaster in 2011. This is the fourth annual memorial of Fukushima disaster Eiko conceived and directed. Ralph and Eiko performed together, changing their distance and relationship. Eiko recited poems of the victims in Japanese to Jake's film about Fukushima, and Ralph narrated Eiko's film. The three created layers of duets and mourning rituals within the memorial event.

Photo by William Johnston



### **Duet Project showing**

March 4, 2019

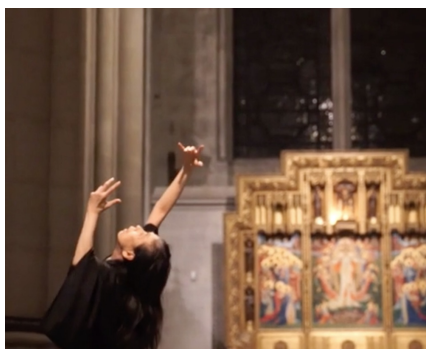
Temple University

Eiko, Alexis Moh, Merian Soto, and David Brick came together to experiment as part of Eiko's [Duet Project](#). This informal, process-oriented showing helped the collaborators to work through their performances and get feedback from audience members.

See their [pre-show video](#) and Eiko and Merian in [rehearsal](#).

Photo by David Brick

## **ONGOING**



### **The Value of Sanctuary**

through June 2019

Cathedral of St. John the Divine

New York, NY

Eiko continues as an artist-in-residence at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine with her participation in their large scale exhibition focused on the intersections of spirituality, contemporary social issues, and human rights. Eiko presents two works as a part of the exhibit: [Soak](#), a video by DonChristian Jones and Eiko; and a [Alone in the Cathedral](#), filmed by Alexis Moh. Eiko is one of 37 artists whose work is on display.

Photo by William Johnston

[More Information](#)

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