

Looking Back on 2021 and Wishes for 2022



Looking back on 2021, I am again thankful to so many friends for keeping me engaged with work and friendship, old and new. I am truly grateful that I could travel, perform, and teach. We all hope we can continue our activities but let us stay vigilant. Eiko's team and the Otake family send you much needed wishes for 2022.



Photos of Eiko in Wyoming by William Johnston taken during her UCross residency in August thanks to the UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance (CAP)

2021 Highlights

Performances

Early in the year, I travelled to Tokyo and performed *Projecting Fukushima* and *A Body in Tokyo: Carrying Fukushima* as part of the Tokyo Real Underground (TRU) Festival. In May, the U.S. premiere of my performance *A Body with Fukushima* in collaboration with David Harrington of Kronos Quartet was presented at Wesleyan University. A shorter video piece was presented online at Kronos Festival 2021.

Over the summer, I performed *A Body in a Cemetery* in Maplewood Cemetery in Durham, NC. These performances were presented by American Dance Festival.





Photos by Ben McKeown

Something completely new for me was that I created and performed two monologues pieces:

[They did not hesitate](#) for a Hiroshima and Nagasaki memorial event at the Henry Moore Nuclear Energy Sculpture Plaza in Chicago.

[Slow Turn](#) for the 20th anniversary of 9/11, performed with David Krakauer.

Teaching

I also taught a lot this year, both over Zoom and also back in studios. I loved every class, connecting with so many intensely beautiful and thoughtful participants.

I taught courses at Wesleyan University, NYU, Colorado College, and intensives at University of Colorado Colorado Springs, University of Tokyo, and the Royal Institute of Art in Stockholm.

Collaborations



Video still from a collaboration with Merián Soto

I so enjoyed working with my collaborators, artist friends whom I respect deeply. This year, Merián Soto and I collaborated again on [a series of videos](#) during a residency at Northwestern University.

Jacob's Pillow commissioned filmmaker Liz Sargent and me to create *[rock is broken](#)*, a short film commemorating the Doris Duke Theatre, which was lost to a fire in November 2020. *rock is broken* was selected for kNOWBOX dance Film Festival 2021. Liz also brought her team to shoot a new piece during my UCross residency in Wyoming. I am very excited about the footage.

Danspace Project invited Joan Jonas and me to create *[With the Earth at My Waistline](#)* at St. Mark's Church as part of Platform 2021: The Dream of The Audience.

In June, *[A Body in Fukushima](#)*, a book of photographs and essays created as a result of my ongoing collaboration with William Johnston, was published by Wesleyan University Press. A feature-length film of *A Body in Fukushima* was also completed this year. Bill and I also worked together in [Wyoming](#).

A documentary film collaboration with Wen Hui on our time together in China at the beginning of 2020, *No Rule is Our Rule*, is nearly finished.

I truly loved working with these amazing artists and friends. Thanks to my collaborators and presenters.

— Eiko

UPCOMING EXHIBITION IN 2022

I Invited Myself, Vol. 1 School of the Art Institute of Chicago Galleries

February 4 - February 5



Photo by William Johnston

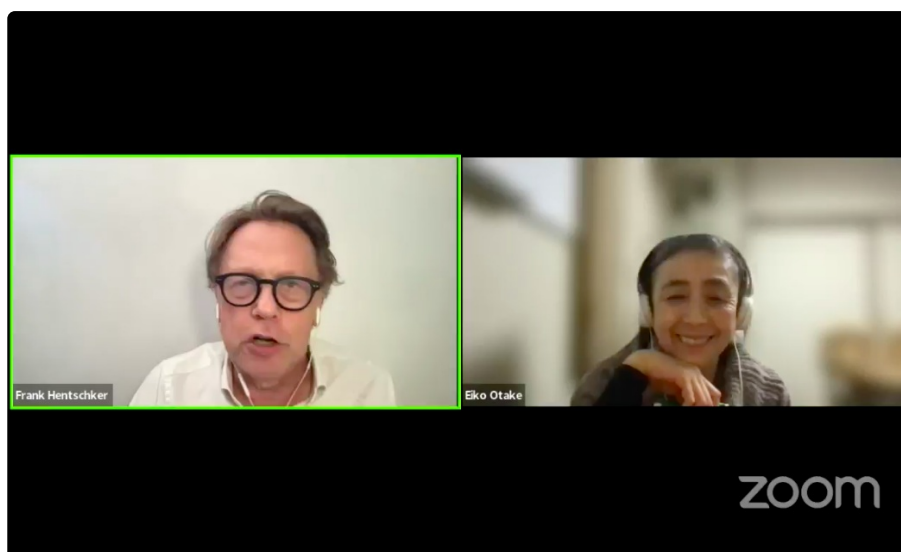
[Link to Event](#)

Working closely with co-curator Elise Butterfield, Eiko will use the entire Lower Level 1 Galleries to explore new possibilities of exhibiting her performance-based practice together with my media works, which includes works created with her *Duet Project* collaborators.

INTERVIEWS

Segal Book Talks: *A Body in Fukushima*

[Watch Here](#)



Eiko joined Frank Hentschker, Director of the [Martin E. Segal Theatre Center](#), to discuss her and William Johnston's book *A Body in Fukushima* as part of the Segal Center's Fall 2021 Book Talk Series. Segal Talks are an open-access, free live-stream available for viewing on the [HowlRound Theatre Commons](#).

Wesleyan University Arts & Humanities News: Dance, Performance Art, and Special Feature Interview

[Read Here](#)



Photo by William Johnston

Eiko was interviewed by [Wesleyan Arts & Humanities News](#) about her Bessie-nominated piece *A Body in a Cemetery*, her teaching at Wesleyan, her 2021 publication *A Body in Fukushima*, and her performance of *Slow Turn*.

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