Wishing all of you health and happiness in the new year!

In 2020, Eiko and her collaborators were to premiere performances of *The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable* which were postponed because of the Covid-19 pandemic. After two years, we are excited that these performances are finally happening and being made possible by the Dance Center at Columbia College Chicago and NYU Skirball.

IN CHICAGO

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

February 4 – February 5



Photo by Tatsuhiko Nakagawa

Link to Event

From January 31 to February 5, 2022, Eiko occupies one entire floor of the SAIC Galleries. Working closely with her co-curator Elise Butterfield, Eiko will use this rare access to gallery space, approximately 15,000 square ft, to explore new possibilities of her performance-based practice together with her media works.

Approaching 50 years as a working artist, Eiko has amassed a vast catalogue of video and film work. Her project at SAIC is an active inquiry into how she can share this trove of material moving forward. She will develop an exploratory and relational choreography of the gallery space, media works, her body now and past, and her viewers. Visitors will see her as a narrator, conversationalist, and performer, who from time to time, betrays or sabotages her own choreography.

During her 10 days in the public incubator of the gallery, Eiko will be present during all open hours. This experimental residency is in the spirit of her ongoing Duet Project: Distance is Malleable. In addition to the duet of co-curation, Eiko will duet with landscape, artist partners, and camera. Ultimately, Eiko's presence will be a dance with each viewer's gaze.

Eiko's project will be accessible to the SAIC community only from Monday, January 31 to Thursday, February 3, 2022. It will be open to the public on Friday, February 4 and Saturday, February 5, 2022. On those 2 days, Eiko will be hosting performative tours at 1 pm and 4 pm. To visit Eiko's project during gallery hours, please make an appointment here.

The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable The Dance Center at Columbia **College Chicago** February 11 - February 12

Photo by Ben McKeown

Link to Event

The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable is an interdisciplinary, intergenerational series of duets between Eiko Otake and a diverse group of collaborating artists, living and dead. Collaborators come from different places, times, disciplines, and concerns. These duets will investigate how two artists collide, converse, and express what they care about.

The performances at the Dance Center will include choreographer and performer Ishmael Houston-Jones, trans performance maker, writer, and artist Iris McCloughan, and interdisciplinary artist, singer/songwriter, and producer DonChristian Jones as duet partners with Eiko. Their encounters reaffirm that distance is indeed malleable.

There will be a post-performance discussion following the Friday, February 11 performance.

IN OAKLAND

An Evening with Eiko Otake, film screenings and discussion **Mills College**

February 18



Photo by Tatsuhiko Nakagawa

Link to Event

This rare screening of works created during the pandemic will be followed by a conversation with Eiko. She will present three of her evocative short films at Mills College's historic Marilyn McArthur Holland Theater in Lisser Hall on February 18 at 7pm PST, followed by a conversation between her and artist/scholar Sheldon Smith.

The films to be screened, all created during the pandemic, include *A Body in a Cemetery* (15 min), an edited recording of her September 2020 performance in Brooklyn's Green-Wood Cemetery, mourning the dead from the pandemic as well as from past centuries; and *Projecting Fukushima* in Tokyo (35 min), which captures Eiko performing throughout Tokyo's streets and underground locations, marking the 10-year anniversary of the Fukushima nuclear meltdown. Eiko will conclude the evening with a report on her new work, *Slow Turn*, which includes a monologue performed on the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks along the Hudson River near where the Twin Towers once stood.

This screening marks Eiko's first public event after turning 70 and the beginning of her next 10-year project: *Eiko Invites Herself*.

IN NYC

The Duet Project: Distance is Malleable NYU Skirball

April 15 - 17



Photo by Ben McKeown

Link to Event

This cross-disciplinary project explores the ever-changing nature of distance, shared place, loss, survival, and memory.

The New York premiere at NYU Skirball will include Eiko's duets with choreographer/improviser Ishmael Houston-Jones, painter/rapper/organizer Don Christian Jones, world-renowned avant-garde pianist Margaret Leng Tan, and poet/performance maker Iris McCloughan.

PODCAST

Museum of Dance Podcast: To Never Look Away





Listen Here

Eiko was interviewed for the third season of <u>Museum of Dance</u>'s podcast, which features female choreographers. The episode focuses on how Eiko & Koma have been pushing the edges of how dance movement is defined.

Join Eiko as she relays her entry into the world of dance, her process, and her philosophy for making dances. Eiko discusses the work she created with Koma, her emergence as a solo artist, and the challenges of making performance art in public or in sitespecific environments—specifically sites that hold complicated and dark histories, like her most recent work with historian and photographer William Johnston—at the Fukushima site in Japan.

