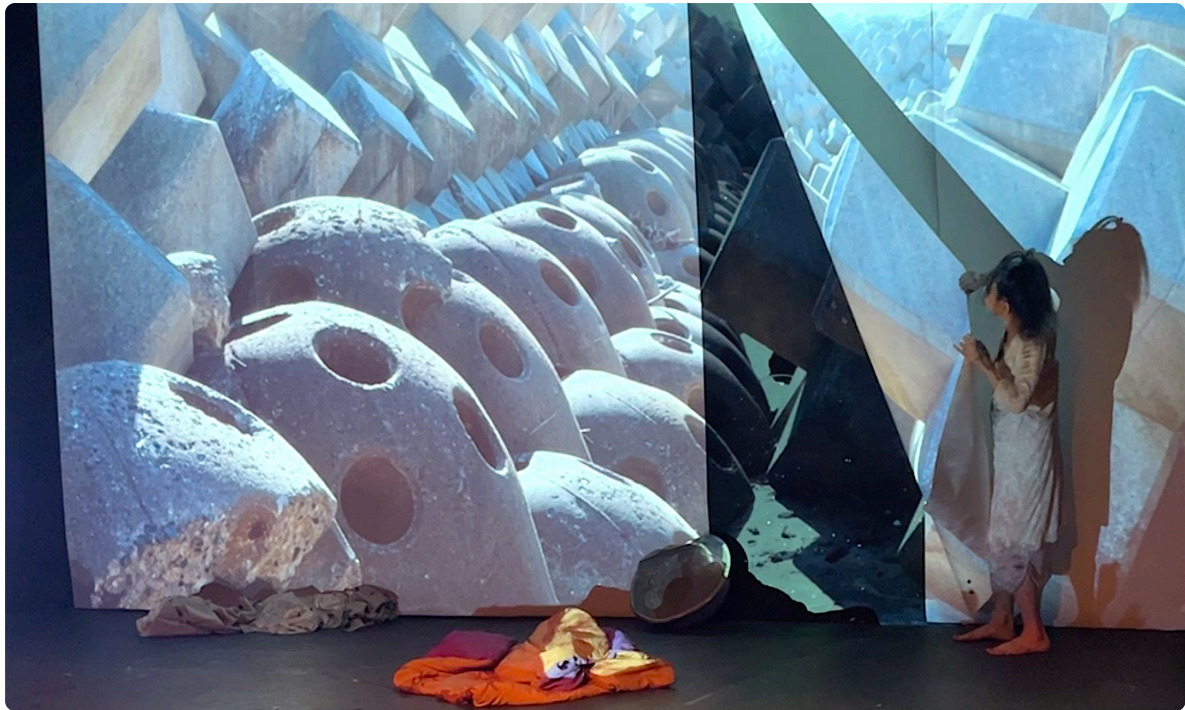


Reflections on UT Austin



Eiko was very grateful to attend the conference "Disarming Toxic Empire" at the University of Texas at Austin's School of Law and close by performing with her *A Body in Fukushima* film. She found great pleasure in not only performing but also presenting video lectures.

A huge thanks to Rosemary Candelario, who collaborated with Eiko in all of her presentations and to all the great helpers and departments' faculty and conference organizers. Below is a fresh note from Rosemary, a longtime friend and scholar at UT Austin:

I have known Eiko since the fall of 2006 when I was a first year graduate student at UCLA and she was teaching her first full-term courses at a university on atomic bomb literature and dance as an offering. Over the last 18 years I have been a student, teaching assistant, archival fellow, and scholar of Eiko & Koma and Eiko's solo work. Though we have presented together at events and published a couple of interviews, until last week I had never produced Eiko's performance, nor had we had the opportunity to engage publicly together over the course of four intense days in classes, public talks for the Center for East Asian Studies and Performance as Public Practice, and Eiko's performance of *A Body in Fukushima*. Although Eiko could have certainly presented solo, she suggested that we use the three public events as collaborative opportunities to reflect on how different aspects of our relationship intersect with key moments and questions in her work, such as the atomic bomb, or what it means to invite oneself. Reflecting on our five days together after she left, I realized that we could think of that work as a non-danced addition to Eiko's Duet project, an "evolving series of experiments in collaboration" in which she and another person seek to "maximize the potentials of their encounters."

The impetus for bringing Eiko to UT Austin was the Disarming Toxic Empire conference sponsored by the Rapoport Center, which featured artists,

academics, and activists working on issues of nuclear power and weapons, including many from front-line communities in the Pacific Islands, Navajo Nation, Japan, Ghana, and many other places. Eiko's performance was the culmination of the conference, and after a day and a half of talks, offered a way for participants and community members to engage differently with issues they know deeply. It was a powerful reminder that performance does something both unique and utterly necessary.

Eiko ended the night with her newest video work, and her first work to feature only words and voice, no images. In the three-minute piece, addressed to Hayashi Kyoko, Eiko at one point says, "I live differently because of you." Although I've known Eiko for almost 20 years, and have written a book and many articles and chapters about her work and Eiko & Koma, after this week together in Austin, I find myself challenged to live differently because of Eiko.



Screenings of *No Rule Is Our Rule* with Wen Hui

**Duke University
Rubenstein Arts Center
2020 Campus Dr. (Durham, NC)
Thurs., 3/28 | 7PM
*Free Admission***

NO RULE IS OUR RULE

(Wen Hui and Eiko Otake, 2023, 75 min, China/USA, Chinese and English w/ English subtitles, Digital)



A collaborative documentary film about the friendship between two fiercely independent, interdisciplinary female dance artists, Eiko Otake and Wen Hui.

Artist-directors Eiko Otake and Wen Hui in attendance.

Q&A moderated by Prof. Jingqiu Guan, Duke Dance Program.



北京
當代藝術
基金會
Beijing
Contemporary
Art
Foundation



american dance festival

**FREE SCREENING
THURSDAY, MAR 28, 7PM
RUBENSTEIN ARTS CENTER**

[More Info](#)

**Wesleyan University
Powell Family Cinema
301 Washington Terrace (Middletown, CT)
Tue., 4/9 | 7:30PM
Free Admission**

FILM SCREENING AND DISCUSSION WITH ARTISTS

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7:30pm

Powell Family Cinema, Jeanine Basinger Center for Film Studies
Wesleyan University | 301 Washington Terrace | Middletown, CT
Free admission

No Rule is Our Rule.

2023 | China/United States | 76 min

Documentary

Directed and Produced by **Eiko Otake** and **Hui Wen**
Edited by **Yiru Chen**, **Eiko Otake**, and **Hui Wen**

This is a story of friendship between two independent female artists and the body memories each willingly carry. In January 2020, New York-based, interdisciplinary performing artist Eiko Otake arrived in Beijing to visit Wen Hui, a Chinese choreographer and filmmaker. Eight years apart in age, Eiko grew up in postwar Japan and Wen in China during the Cultural Revolution. *No Rule is Our Rule* was selected for the Munich New Wave Film Festival and won Best Feature Documentary at Japan International Film Festival last year.

Co-sponsored by Wesleyan University's Allbritton Center, Center for the Arts, College of Film and the Moving Image, College of East Asian Studies, Dance Department, Fries Center for Global Studies, and Office of International Student Affairs. Hui Wen's travel to the United States was supported in part by the Beijing Contemporary Art Foundation.

No Rule is Our Rule



Wesleyan University
Office of International Student Affairs



[More Info](#)

Yale University
MacMillan Center Council on East Asian Studies
53 Wall Street (New Haven, CT)
Wed., 4/10 | 4PM
Free Admission

Wednesday April 10 | 4pm | Auditorium 53 Wall Street

NO RULE IS OUR RULE

2023 | China/United States | 76 min

Directed and Produced by Eiko Otake and Wen Hui

**FILM SCREENING FOLLOWED BY Q&A
WITH EIKO OTAKE & WEN HUI**

A story of friendship between two independent female artists and the body memories each willingly carries. In January 2020, New York-based interdisciplinary performing artist Eiko Otake arrived in Beijing to visit Wen Hui, a Chinese choreographer and filmmaker. Eiko Otake grew up in postwar Japan, and Wen Hui in China during the Cultural Revolution.

No Rule is Our Rule was selected for the Munich New Wave Film Festival and won "Best Feature Documentary" at the Japan International Film Festival last year.



Duke
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Council on East Asian Studies

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A Body in Fukushima
8th Yokohama Triennale
Yokohama Museum of Art
3/15 – 6/9



Photo by William Johnston

[More Info](#)

Eiko Otake
info@eikoandkoma.org



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