

EIKO AT ASIA SOCIETY, NYC

An Artist of Rebellion and Rejection: Otake Chikuha



Fall of the Castle by Chikuha Otake (1902)

Asia Society Theater
Sat, Nov 18 at 6:30PM
Tickets: \$15

Eiko returns to Asia Society for a performative dialogue to reflect on the life and work of her grandfather Otake Chikuha, whose painting *Fall of the Castle* (1902) is currently on view as a part of *Meiji Modern: Fifty Years of New Japan* at the Asia Society Museum.

By performing with his painting created 121 years ago, does she get to know her grandfather whom she never met? With projections of his artwork, family photos, and writings, Eiko will share episodic knowledge about her grandfather's life and work in the context of her own journey as an artist. Photographer, historian, and collaborator William Johnston will join Eiko onstage in reimagining Chikuha within the rapid social, cultural, and political changes that occurred during the Meiji (1868–1912) and ensuing Taisho (1912–1926) eras for today's audiences.

[More Info and Tickets](#)

No Rule Is Our Rule

[Watch the Trailer](#)



Video still from *No Rule Is Our Rule*

Asia Society Theater

Sat, Dec 9, 2023 | 3-5PM

Tickets: \$8 Members, \$15 Non-Members

A documentary film about friendship between two fiercely independent, interdisciplinary female dance artists Eiko Otake and Wen Hui filmed in China in January of 2020 when the surge of COVID-19 became first known to the general public.

The film screening will be followed by a discussion with the artists themselves. Yiru Chen, who joined Eiko and Wen Hui in editing, will also participate in the conversation, which is moderated by Zhen Zhang, Professor in the Department of Cinema Studies at NYU Tisch and founding Director of the Asian Film and Media Initiative. This event marks Wen Hui's first return to New York since 2018.

[Tickets](#)

[Read a Review](#)

EXHIBITIONS IN PHILADELPHIA

I Invited Myself, vol. III: Duets



Photo by Eiko Otake

The Fabric Workshop and Museum (Philadelphia, PA)

I Invited Myself, vol. III: Duets at FWM highlights Eiko's collaborative projects with artists of different races, identities, cultures, disciplines, and ages. Read Eiko's artist statement [here](#).

Nov 9, 2023 – Mar 24, 2024
Gallery Hours: Wed–Fri 12–6PM, Sat–Sun 12–5PM

Co-curated by DJ Hellerman,
Curator at The Fabric Workshop and Museum

[More Info](#)

For this exhibition, Eiko created two new pieces: *Fools*, a collaboration with Merián Soto, and *Ahhh*, in which Eiko addresses her late friend Kyoko Hayashi.



Fools



Ahhh

I Invited Myself, vol. III: Curators' Tour



Photo by Constance Mensh

Asian Arts Initiative & The Fabric Workshop and Museum Sat, Nov 18 at 2PM Free, Suggested Donation \$5

Experience this co-presentation of Eiko's celebrated works across two venues. Led by **DJ Hellerman**, Chief Curator & Director of Curatorial Affairs at FWM, and **Joyce Chung**, Curator at the Asian Arts Initiative (AAI), this tour begins with AAI's presentation, *A Body*, which features Eiko's lone body moving within different landscapes and absorbing what they hold. The group will then head down the street to FWM to view *Duets*, Eiko's dance for camera works created in collaboration.

Please note the exhibition at AAI closes on December 9, 2023. Visit both while you can.

RSVP

A NOTE FROM HOUSTON



**By Salome Kokoladze, Curator at Aurora Picture Show
(Houston, TX)**

The morning after November 7, when Eiko Otake performed *A Body with Fukushima* at the University of Houston's Dudley Recital Hall, a Houston-area chemical plant caught on fire and sent a cloud of toxic smoke into the sky. On November 8, one person was reported injured, a local highway was closed, and residents of Shepherd, Texas were asked to take shelter.

Technological accidents, as Eiko Otake and William Johnston reiterate, are not caused by technical glitches or human error, but are inherent to the human-made systems themselves and must be anticipated. It felt important to hear this message in Texas, a state that has experienced Hurricane Harvey, multiple power grid failures, and leakages of abandoned oil wells releasing toxins into crucial ecosystems.

In the age of information, witnessing a disaster through images or videos isn't always enough. We need face-to-face encounters. Eiko showed up. She was present in Houston. Eiko brought Fukushima with her. She reminded us that after witnessing a disaster, forgetting isn't a choice. *A Body with Fukushima* awakened an overwhelming sense of shared responsibility as we imagined and saw together the world we are creating and the world we are losing.

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