

INTERNATIONAL JAPAN TOUR Tokyo & Aichi | Sep 2025

Hosted by the Biennale of Sydney Benefaction Program
Tuesday 9th - Sunday 14th September 2025



Okie Junko, *Anthology*, 2023. Fuji Textile Week. Photograph by Kenryou Gu.

HOOR AL QASIMI

Artistic Director of Aichi Triennale 2025 and 25th Biennale of Sydney (2026)

Experience an exclusive, bespoke art tour to the Aichi Triennale this September, curated by Hoor Al Casimi, the Artistic Director of both this year's Aichi Triennale and the upcoming 25th Biennale of Sydney in 2026. As President and Director of the Sharjah Art Foundation, Hoor is a globally respected curator shaping contemporary art dialogues across the Middle East, Asia and beyond.

This carefully crafted journey offers our valued patrons and supporters an exclusive first look into her curatorial approach and artistic interests in the region ahead of her work in Sydney. With privileged access to exhibitions, behind-the-scenes insights, and curated encounters with artists and curators, this intimate tour promises a unique and deeply immersive experience of contemporary art in Japan.



Tomiyasu Yuma, *The Doom*, 2021. Photograph by Masanobu Nishino. Courtesy of Art Front Gallery.



AICHI TRIENNALE (2025)

A Time Between Ashes and Roses

The **Aichi Triennale** (13 September - 30 November 2025) draws inspiration from *A Time Between Ashes and Roses*, a poem by Adonis. Reflecting its themes and imagery, this edition explores time through a geological lens—one that transcends immediate, national, or territorial perspectives to reveal the deep entanglements between humanity and the environment. Rather than focusing on apocalyptic doom or utopian hope, the Triennale embraces the complexities of environmental justice, shedding light on both responsibility and complicity. It navigates the delicate space between destruction and renewal, illustrating how human and environmental forces are intricately woven together.

Bringing together artists and collectives from around the world, this edition presents both known and unexpected narratives of the environments we inhabit. The curatorial approach draws upon Aichi's rich ceramic heritage—particularly *Setomono*—an industry deeply embedded in the region's identity. Historically, the blackened skies from ceramic production symbolised prosperity rather than pollution, challenging conventional notions of industrialisation and environmental impact. Could such histories offer new ways of thinking about our relationship with the natural world?

A Time Between Ashes and Roses invites us on a journey through these shifting perspectives. By embracing the in-between—the spectral, the layered, the uncertain—the Triennale disrupts fixed hierarchies and assumptions, opening space for new possibilities.

How can withered trees blossom?

A time between ashes and roses is coming

When everything shall be extinguished

*When everything shall begin again**

Copyright © 2024 Daisuke Igarashi All Rights Reserved.



TRIP ITINERARY

Tuesday 9th - Sunday 14th September 2025

DAY	DATE	CITY	SCHEDULE
Day 1	Tuesday 9th September	Tokyo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome• Artizon Museum Tour of <i>Echoes Unveiled: Art by First Nations Women from Australia</i>• Lunch• Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo
Day 2	Wednesday 10th September	Tokyo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• (Morning) Mori Art Museum Visit - guided by Mami Kataoka• Artist Studio Visits• Lunch• Hosted event at the Australian Embassy• Japan-based Friends of the Biennale of Sydney Dinner
Day 3	Thursday 11th September	Tokyo - Nagoya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Travel Day• Fast train departing Tokyo station at 11am, arriving Nagoya at approx. 12.30pm (Biennale will book tickets)• Aichi Triennale Vernissage/pre-opening events
Day 4	Friday 12th September	Nagoya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aichi Triennale: Reception & Opening Weekend Events
Day 5	Saturday 13th September	Nagoya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aichi Triennale: Seto and Prefectural Ceramics Museum• Lunch
Day 6	Sunday 14th September	Nagoya	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aichi Triennale: Opening Weekend Events• Farewell Dinner

Detailed itinerary to be sent closer to date of departure.

Inclusions:

Museum and Private Art Collection Visits and Entry Fees
Guided Tour of Commercial Galleries, Tokyo
3 x Restaurant Lunches (as per final itinerary)
2 x Restaurant Dinners (as per final itinerary)

Exclusions:

Return Airfares*
Travel Insurance

Accommodation and breakfast in Tokyo, Japan

Accommodation and breakfast in Aichi, Japan

Meals other than those stated in itinerary.

Luggage transfer is available and encouraged from Tokyo to Aichi, guests are encouraged to arrange this through your hotel.

*Australians traveling to Japan do not require a VISA, however all passports must have a minimum of 6 months validity

Available Trip Add-ons (not hosted by Biennale)

- [Expo Osaka](#) – running from Sunday April 13 to Monday 13 October 2025
- Setouchi Triennial & Arts Islands - [Setouchi activities in September](#)





Black Grace, *Paradise Rumour*, 2023. Photograph by Toaki Okano.



Sam Jones | Head of Development
E: samantha.jones@biennaleofsydney.com.au
M: +61 423 471 157