

Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo

MOT Collection: Past Light, Present Sight

September 19, 2026 – January 6, 2027

The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo is home to around 6,100 works of primarily postwar art, and each MOT Collection exhibition presents a selection of these works, from a different perspective. The latest, “Past Light, Present Sight,” focuses on the themes of light and time, and features a wealth of new acquisitions.

Whether it be light emitted many thousands of years ago by distant stars, sunlight that shifts amid the sands of time, the ethereal glow of moonlight, the glare of electric lamps illuminating their surroundings, or the evanescent flickering of fireflies, light in its myriad permutations features heavily in our day-to-day lives. Seeing, viewing, observing these diverse manifestations of light can also conjure up moments from the past, or scenes from a particular time, and one could say that the “now” we are living is shaped by the layering and linking of time, passed down along with light. Through works by artists including KOSEMURA Mami, TSUCHIYA Kimio, KUMAGAI Arisa, and TOYA Shigeo, “Past Light, Present Sight” turns its attention to the past inherent in the present, and contemplates the stratified nature of time.

Artists

KUSAMA Yayoi, KUMAGAI Arisa, KOSEMURA Mami, SHINOHARA Ushio, SUGIMOTO Hiroshi, SEKINE Naoko, TATEISHI Koichi, TSUCHIYA Kimio, TOYA Shigeo, NAKAMURA Hiroshi, FUKUSHIMA Hideko, FUJII Hikaru, MATSUMOTO Yoko, YAMAGUCHI Katsuhiko, YOKOO Tadanori, YOSHIDA Hiroshi, YOSHIMURA Masunobu, Dan FLAVIN, Agnes MARTIN and more.

Information

Exhibition Period: Saturday, September 19, – Wednesday, January 6, 2027
Closed: Mondays (except Sep 21, Oct 12, Nov 23), Sep 24, Oct 13, Nov 24, Dec 28 – Jan 1
Opening Hours: 10 AM – 6 PM (Tickets available until 30 minutes before closing)
*Open until 8 PM on Fridays in November.
Admission: Adults – 500 yen / University & College Students – 400 yen / High School Students, 65 and over – 250 yen / Junior High School Students & Younger – free
Venue: Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, Collection Gallery
Organized by: Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo operated by Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture
Curated by: ISHIKAWA Tatsuhiko, FUJII Aki (MOT)

Also on view

• *Tada Minami—Still, shimmering light* August 29 – December 6

• *Synchronic Constellation: Cross-Boundary Perspectives in Art* September 5 – December 13

To request publicity images, please contact our Public Relations team with the number of the preferred image.



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1. TSUCHIYA Kimio, *Absence*, 1992
Photo: toshiyukiudagawa
2. KOSEMURA Mami,
Flowering Plants of the Four Seasons, 2004–06
3. TOYA Shigeo,
Death of the Kiln of the Elephant of the Woods, 1989
Photo: Tadasu Yamamoto
4. KUMAGAI Arisa, *Say yes to me*, 2023
5. MATSUMOTO Yoko,
Regarding Living Beings, 2010
6. SHINOHARA Ushio, *Oiran*, 1968
7. YOKOO Tadanori, *Destiny*, 1997

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* All Programs are subject to change.