



MEDIA RELEASE

MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART TOKYO AND SUNPRIDE FOUNDATION REVEAL FIRST DETAILS FOR 2027 SHOW

The fifth edition of the foundation's acclaimed exhibition series – 'Which Is Why We Invent – Spectrosynthesis V' – explores queer artistic practices within the cultural context of Japan.



Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (MOT), courtesy of the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, photo by Kenta Hasegawa

TOKYO / HONG KONG, August 27, 2026 — The Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo (MOT) and Sunpride Foundation are pleased to announce the title and curatorial framework of their forthcoming exhibition, *Which Is Why We Invent – Spectrosynthesis V*, running from February 6 – May 16, 2027.

Presented as the fifth edition of Sunpride Foundation's *Spectrosynthesis* series, the exhibition is co-curated by **Che Kyongfa**, Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo, and **X Zhu-Nowell**, Director and Chief Curator of Rockbund Art Museum, Shanghai. Drawing on the collections of Sunpride Foundation and MOT, alongside newly commissioned works, loans, and archival materials, the exhibition takes the particular social and cultural context of Japan as a point of departure. This also marks the first time the exhibition series engages with a co-presenting institution's in-house collection.



The exhibition's title, *Which Is Why We Invent*, is drawn from a line in the seminal performance 'S/N' by the Kyoto-based collective **Dumb Type**, first presented in 1994 at the height of the AIDS crisis. S/N, standing for 'signal-to-noise ratio', asks what – and who – is recognized as "signal" and what is relegated to "noise," confronting the systems through which sexuality, identities, illness, and intimacy are named, classified, and made socially legible. Beyond critique, 'S/N' called for other modes of communication, relation, and collectivity across and beyond the boundaries produced by these systems.

Beginning from this tension between crisis and invention, the exhibition turns to what emerges when existing structures of gender, sexuality, the body, intimacy, and belonging prove inadequate to the lives they seek to contain. A particular focus is placed on the artistic practices through which differently situated people have produced and circulated knowledge, articulated desire, rehearsed other relations, and organized collective life. Here, invention names the practice of making otherwise, taking shape across the exhibition through diverse forms and modes of circulation – from performance, moving images, and paintings to zines, gathering places, and informal archives.

Further details, including participating artists, newly commissioned works, and public programmes, will be announced in October 2026.

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About Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo

Established in 1995, the Museum of Contemporary Art Tokyo serves as a hub for the study, collection, preservation, and exhibition of contemporary art. Its collection of over 6,000 works places particular emphasis on post-war Japanese art. The museum also undertakes a wide range of projects that engage with the latest developments across diverse artistic fields to reflect the current state of contemporary practice.

<https://www.mot-art-museum.jp/en/>



About Sunpride Foundation

Sunpride Foundation was launched in 2014 with the mission to embrace and promote the rich creative history of LGBTQ community. The foundation aims to foster a stronger, healthier and more equitable world for LGBTQ people and their allies; and to encourage and inspire a generation of young artists to take action and create positive changes to the LGBTQ experience by exhibiting and preserving art that speaks to the society at large.

<https://sunpride.hk/>