

We have decided to extend the application period for the open call for Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale 2021 considering the influence of the COVID-19. The art festival itself may indeed be required to accommodate various changes as it has become difficult for everyone involved such as artists, project staff members, supporters and visitors are unable to move from one place to the other.

Having said that, it doesn't mean that the importance of "site-specific art" highlighting the charms of a place including distinctive local history and culture as well as abundant natural resources will be reduced. Moreover, various relations including humans and nature, society and infrastructure, and life and culture will be reviewed thoroughly after the current situation is settled. I think that the ingenuity of artists and challenges they will take in order to prevent the world from becoming closed are being tested through their works.

It would be most preferable if it is a site-specific installation that can be realised without having to visit a site in some ways while the importance of ideas and video works that are site specific and presented via internet will increase. We are preparing ourselves to distribute supporting documents digitally as it has become difficult to make a physical visit to the region.

Whether the art can play an important role or not is in question as the existing set of values are being reexamined due to the COVID-19 crisis. I very much look forward to receiving your proposals.

Fram Kitagawa, General Director
Echigo-Tsumari Art Triennale 2021