

# Art with an artist 2023 Fall held at Ookayama Campus

Student Success Support Section, Student Support Center



The in-person version of the Art with an Artist seminar with painter and poet Zuse Meyer returned to Tokyo Tech on November 15, taking place on Ookayama Campus for the first time. Twenty from diverse backgrounds - ten are Japanese and ten are international students --participated in the event to gain new perspectives while discovering themselves through creative ways of expression.

The Student Support Center's Student Success Support Section, which hosts the event every spring and fall, welcomed back Zuse Meyer, who is a graduate of the Berlin University of the Arts and a former lecturer at the Institute. Joining the participants, roughly half of whom were master's program international students, another half was under graduate students. It was a great opportunity to interact or students from various background.

## Artist Zuse Meyer (Painter and poet)

A graduate of the Berlin University of the Arts, painter and poet, Meyer is a former lecturer at Tokyo Tech. She is currently based in both Berlin and Tokyo for conducting creative activities, and runs an art school and art workshops in both Europe and Asia



Ms. Meyer is talking to students diligently



Students are focusing on the lecture

As it is tradition, the event included a lecture by Meyer followed by a hands-on session of sketching by the students. After that, Meyer gave feedback to every student.



## Part1 Lecture - HumanBeing and Space

The theme of this seminar was "Human Being and Space." In the lecture Meyer showed European paintings from 16th to 20th century as examples how in all centuries the masters used human figures and space to express certain narratives and to create atmosphere. The single figures were not just objects in a specific architecture, but through skillful use of color, perspective etc, expressing the emotions of the depicted beings, space and humans form an active relationship. Meyer explained the essential vital elements of the paintings and their meaning and power.

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## Part2 Practice session



Friendly atmosphere in the workshop room

### Warm-up activity: Single-stroke sketching

To warm up, students were requested to create a sketch using only one ongoing single pencil line. On small sketch papers, the students practiced drawing people around them in one continuous stroke. Ms. Meyer said, "If your hand stop, hesitation might arise. It is important to keep just drawing. The students obtained new experience from this practice."

### Drawing people around with non-dominant hand by using pencils

The next task was to draw people on a larger sketch paper with the non-dominant hand. "Your dominant hand is always thinking and tries to control. Try to draw according to your own intuition and sensitivities with the non-dominant hand." With warm encouragement from Ms. Meyer, each student completed a unique work.



Students look having fun drawing



Ms. Meyer is answering questions from the student

### Painting freely with water colors

The final task was to paint the other participants within the surrounding space with water colors, choosing freely the colors they like. The Students were released from all the restrictions and just enjoyed painting.



Students were listening to Ms. Meyer diligently

### Part3 Giving feedback in pairs

After every student has done the work, Ms. Meyer let the students make pairs and give feedback to each other. Each work was so unique and fantastic, said Ms. Meyer, and the students were all ears.



Ms. Meyer's lecture was full of energy

## 参加した学生の声

○自由に描くのが楽しかったです。セミナーの後に先生とお話する時間があり、個々に絵への感想を伺えて嬉しかったです。英語で他の学生とコミュニケーションをとるのがとても楽しかったです。

○今回のセミナーは自分の好きな芸術的思考方をもとに、絵画を描く初めての体験となりました。そのため、今後のセミナーでもより平面的になっていく芸術とともに様々なイベントがあると嬉しいと感じました！

○I really enjoy this seminar and learned a lot

○今までにないくらい自由になって、絵を描くことができました。とても気に入っています。ありがとうございました。

○It deepen my interest in art and I think it's meaningful to feel the presence of human in the space and express it through drawing and colouring directly.

○普段使わない感覚、触れることがない分野なので、非常に感化されました。それぞれのお題と目的をもう少し分かりやすく（例えば口頭だけでなく、スライド・資料などで示すなど）していただければ良かったです。描く対象を勘違いして進めてしまっている人や、自分自身もお題を描いた後の種明かしのものを期待してしまっていたので。



学生の作品の一例-どれも素晴らしいアート作品に仕上がった

次回のアートセミナーは、2024年5月に大岡山で開催を予定しています。

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