

Atsuro Terunuma

Atsuro Terunuma has consistently developed works based on his own experience of congenital low vision, exploring the theme of “seeing / not seeing.” Within his artistic universe appear two contrasting characters: Mieteru Nozomu, who longs to see the world, and Mienai Nozomi, who, overwhelmed by the harsh realities of society, chooses to close her eyes and live in rejection of seeing. Through their perspectives, Terunuma portrays contemporary society with satire and humor. Working across diverse media—including drawing, painting, animation, and sculpture—his practice often reveals the influence of 16th-century Flemish painters such as Bruegel and Bosch. His sharp words and gazes, interwoven with wit, lend his work both poignancy and irony. In recent years, through artist-in-residence programs and international exhibitions, he has expanded his activities, presenting Mieteru Nozomu and Mienai Nozomi in diverse settings such as the “Human Department Store” and classical animation devices, unfolding narratives in which these characters traverse various worlds.

Atsuro Terunuma — CV

Born

1983, Chiba, Japan

Education

2007 B.F.A., Oil Painting, Department of Painting, Tama Art University, Tokyo

Solo Exhibitions

2025 Paradox of Vision, Wada Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan

2024 The Endless Beginning Dream, FRINGE, Saitama, Japan

2023 Seimei no Kaiten, Wada Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan

Report from Gwangju Residency: The Methodology of Mieteru Nozomu & Mienai Nozomi, Site-A Gallery, Kanagawa, Japan

2015 Edge of Sense, Project dnF — Ichiro Fukuzawa Prize Exhibition, Ichiro Fukuzawa Memorial Museum, Tokyo, Japan

2014 How to Walk in Dreams, Shinjuku Ophthalmology Gallery Space M, Tokyo, Japan

2013 Omnibus: Destruction and Regeneration, Gallery Jin Projects, Tokyo, Japan

Atsuro Terunuma Exhibition, Isetan Shinjuku Main Building 5F Art Gallery Window,

Tokyo, Japan

2011 Unexpected Visual Records, Gallery Jin Projects, Tokyo, Japan

2009 Flat Paint & Anime Exhibition, Gekkoso, Tokyo, Japan

Endless Coffee Cup Exhibition, 55cafe, Kanagawa, Japan

2006 Anime Exhibition, Yarimizu Youth Art Museum, Kanagawa, Japan

Selected Group Exhibitions

2025 Idea Note Exhibition, Morooka Seisakusho, Saitama, Japan

After Tokyo Gendai 2025, Wada Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan

Tokyo Gendai, PACIFICO Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan

Individual Perspectives, Wada Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan

2024 Drawings Today, Morioka Studio, Saitama, Japan

The Constitution of Japan 2024, Mujinto Production, Tokyo, Japan

Group Exhibition of Artists from Tokyo Gendai, Wada Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan

Tokyo Gendai, PACIFICO Yokohama, Kanagawa, Japan

ART SG, Marina Bay Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Singapore

2023 First Visit of 2023 Exhibition, Art Studio I'm Here, Kanagawa, Japan

Takamatsu Art Museum Collection Exhibition, Takamatsu Art Museum, Kagawa, Japan

The Sharing Exhibition (Deljenje), District, Novi Sad, Serbia

2022 WITH 6 ARTISTS, Wada Fine Arts, Tokyo, Japan

OVERLOAD, Space Ppong, Gwangju, Korea

Inside Asia: World Perspectives, Jeonnam Building 245, Gwangju, Korea

10 Years of Morioka Studio and Surrounding Artists, Morioka Studio, Saitama, Japan

2021 黄金町バザール 2021 (Koganecho Bazaar 2021), Yokohama, Japan

IAG Awards 2021, Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Tokyo, Japan

2020 2nd Collection Exhibition, Takamatsu Art Museum, Kagawa, Japan

Tapei Dangoan 2020, Taipei, Taiwan

2019 Takamatsu Contemporary Art Annual Vol.08: Dissecting Society, Takamatsu Art Museum, Kagawa, Japan

ACT Art Award Exhibition 2019, The Artcomplex Center of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

2018 Rokko Meets Art 2018, Rokko Alpine Botanical Garden, Hyogo, Japan
Remembering, or Forgetting, Arario Gallery, Seoul, Korea

2017 Yokohama Triennale 2017, Yokohama Red Brick Warehouse No.1, Kanagawa, Japan
VOCA 2017: The Vision of Contemporary Art, The Ueno Royal Museum, Tokyo, Japan

2016 Tokyo Wonder Wall Public Competition 2016, Tokyo Wonder Site Shibuya, Tokyo, Japan
Arts Challenge 2016, Aichi Arts Center, Aichi, Japan

2015 Artist-in-Residence Noboribetsu (n-air), Hokkaido, Japan
Toride Art Project, Toride Station Underpass Gallery Road, Ibaraki, Japan

2014 3331 Chiyoda Arts Festival “Independents”, 3331 Arts Chiyoda, Tokyo, Japan
The Power of Art, Isetan Shinjuku, Tokyo, Japan

2013 CONSTELLATIONS, Blare Gallery, Philippines

2012 Emerging Directors Art Fair ULTRA 005, Spiral Garden, Tokyo, Japan
Koganecho Bazaar 2012, Yokohama, Japan

2011 14th Taro Okamoto Award for Contemporary Art (TARO Award), Taro Okamoto
Museum of Art, Kanagawa, Japan

2010 Winter Session 2010, Gallery Jin Esprit+, Tokyo, Japan
Fantasy Fifth Eye Exhibition (two-person show), Kawaguchi Art Gallery Atrium,
Saitama, Japan

Workshops (Selected)

2023 Paper Animation Workshop, Takamatsu Art Museum, Kagawa, Japan
2018 Cutout Animation Workshop, Yokohama University of Art & Design, Kanagawa, Japan
2013 Clay Animation Workshop, Yamato Citizens' Hall, Tokyo, Japan
2012 Cutout Animation Workshop, Komorebi Hall, Tokyo, Japan
2011 Clay Animation Workshop, Komorebi Hall & Tanashi Public Hall, Tokyo, Japan

Screenings & Broadcasts

2024 Break Zenya – The Next Generation of Artists, BS Fuji, Japan (Interview & Works)
2017 Sunday Art Museum, NHK, Japan (Feature on Yokohama Triennale 2017)

2009 Yokohama International Festival of Image 2009 (CREAM Selection), Kanagawa, Japan

2008 Digital Stadium, NHK BS, Japan (Timeline)

3rd Sapporo International Short Film Festival, Hokkaido, Japan

Laputa Animation Festival 2008, Tokyo, Japan