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Contemporary Arts Practice and Outer Space: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach (4)

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COSMOS AND ART IN OUR LIVES: DEVELOPING INTO A LOCAL COMMUNITY

Abstract

People have been participating in space activities and developing technologies that have been applied in various ways in contemporary art practice. However, these practices have not yet arrived at a deeper awareness of the meaning of the cosmos and art. People were more conscious of the idea of the cosmos and art hundreds of thousands of years ago. For instance, around eight century to the modern ages in Japan, the idea of the cosmos, which includes everything in the universe with both visible and invisible cause and effect, were widely referenced in literature and art. In comparison, today we have become so unconscious as to be unaware of a truth. This truth exists within our everyday lives, along with the rhythm of the universe.

From the perspective of cosmology, which is based on the philosophy of life, we are originally born to live and die repeatedly with the rhythm of the universe. Life can be interpreted as one of the expressive forms of the cosmos. Further, it also indicates that our body and mind exist to find the essence of the cosmos to survive. Despite this, some misinformation has spread over the years, which has made us lose our sense of life as a cosmic being. Therefore, taking the philosophy of life into consideration, we will answer the following questions: how can the cosmos and art be interconnected in artistic expressions? How can people's minds become aware of the cosmos and art? To answer these questions, we will show how art practice can work in our lives beyond theory.

For the purpose of fusing the local and universal through cosmic art, we will conduct an art project in a local community. Specifically, in the form of a festive art event in Tanegashima, a small island in the south of Japan. In collaboration with JAXA and the local resident, the artwork will be created by the cosmic art research committee, including an artist, a designer, and a curator.

In this paper, we will present our insight of the process of the practice of cosmic art. Furthermore, we will present the cosmology with the philosophy of life, which leads to our concept of cosmic art, the artwork with its detailed form and structure. Finally, the future direction of our project will be discussed.