A woman in a long, flowing pink dress is walking through a digital art installation. The space is filled with a dense, multi-colored rain of petals, primarily in shades of red, pink, and blue, against a dark background. The floor is also covered in these colorful petals, and there are bright, glowing white and blue streaks on the ground. The overall atmosphere is ethereal and immersive.

**Large
Print**

Labels



**Asian
Art
Museum**

The international art collective teamLab writes about their own work, describing the imagery, how it changes over time, and its interactive elements. *teamlab: Continuity* was designed to be experienced without reading labels and without a map. These pieces of text about the artworks you just experienced offer teamLab's descriptions and make connections to the group's key concepts.

All works are lent to the Asian Art Museum by teamLab. All photos courtesy teamLab and Pace Gallery.

teamLab's interactive project *Sketch Ocean* is installed in the Shriram Experiential Learning Center, located off the museum's Bogart Court.



Life Survives by the Power of Life II

2020/2021

By teamLab (Japanese, est. 2001)

Calligraphy by Sisyu (Japanese)

Single-channel video, 60 min.



Forest of Flowers and People: Lost, Immersed and Reborn

2017/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

Seasons change gradually across the installation space. Flowers blossom throughout a year of changing seasons, and the places where they grow gradually migrate across the gallery.

Against a background of the metallic leaf squares used in Japanese screen painting, the flowers bud, grow, and blossom before their petals begin to wither and eventually fade away. The cycle of growth and decay repeats itself in perpetuity. If viewers stay still, the flowers surrounding them grow and bloom more abundantly. If viewers wave a hand over or step on the flowers, they shed their petals, wither, and die all at once.



Sharing Stone, Transcending Space

2019/2021

Interactive digital installation

A stone floats in the space of *Forest of Flowers and People: Lost, Immersed and Reborn*. It moves around the space and sinks into the wall. Then the stone transcends the physical space of the museum itself, reappearing in another exhibition currently on view in another part of the world — *teamLab Borderless* in Shanghai.

When people hold a hand over the stone, it shines with a red light. When it sinks into the wall, the light born from this interaction flows into the stone jutting out in another location. When the stone sunk in the wall glows with a blue light, that means that somewhere in the world, someone is interacting with the sunken portion of the stone.



***Crows are Chased and the Chasing Crows are
Destined to be Chased as well, Transcending Space***

2017/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation; 4:20 min.

***Crows are Chased and the Chasing Crows are
Destined to be Chased as well, Flying Beyond Borders***

2018/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

***Crows are Chased and the Chasing Crows are
Destined to be Chased as well – Black in White***

2014/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Five-channel video; 4:20 min.

Three-legged *yatagarasu* crows, symbols of divine intervention, are rendered in light as they fly around the space. They leave light trails that show their pathways and create spatial calligraphy. The crows chase one another and in turn are chased themselves. When crows crash into one another, they scatter, turning into flowers. The crows attempt to fly around people in the space, but when they crash into a viewer, they scatter, turning into flowers in the same way.

From certain vantage points within the installation, the boundary between the wall and the floor disappears, the real space dissolves, and eventually viewers become immersed in the artwork's world. The lines drawn by the trails of the crows appear to be drawn in three dimensions in the space.



The Way of the Sea, Transcending Space – Colors of Life

2018/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

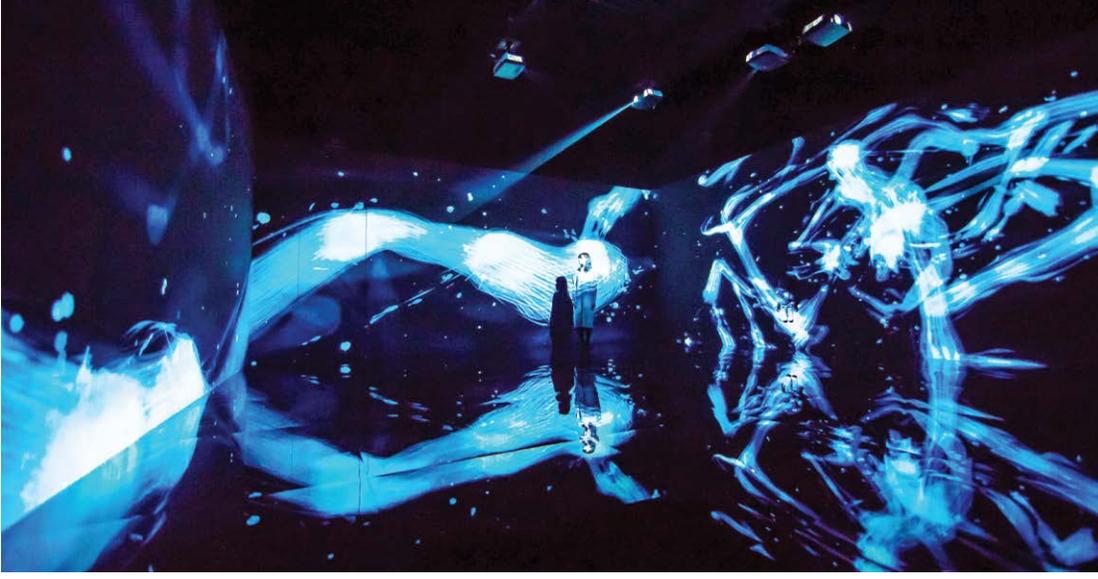
The Way of the Sea, Flying Beyond Borders – Colors of Life

2018/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

The movement of thousands of fish is beautiful and mysterious, like a single giant life form. The school of fish has neither a leader nor mutual consensus, but moves on the simple rule, “if my neighbor moves, then I move too.” The biological mechanism that causes hundreds of fish to move at the same time is enigmatic. In these artworks, tens of thousands of fish swim in schools, parting and redirecting based on visitors’ movements. The coloring of the fish is not predetermined: each person in the space transmits a color that is received by the nearby fish. The surface becomes an unintentional, complex, and beautiful coloration, created by the movement of each fish obeying some kind of primal rule.



Reversible Rotation – Cold Light

2019/2021

Single-channel video

Reversible Rotation, Flying Beyond Borders – One Stroke, Cold Light

2019/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Digital installation

Reversible Rotation, Flying Beyond Borders – Continuous, Cold Light

2018/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Digital installation

Reversible Rotation is Japanese calligraphy (*sho*) drawn in space. The artwork reconstructs strokes of white ink in three-dimensional dark space to express the depth, speed, and power of the brushstroke. That three-dimensional ink is then flattened using the logical structure teamLab calls ultrasubjective space — a philosophy of composition that incorporates multiple perspectives and draws on historical Japanese art practices. The spatial calligraphy rotates in the artwork's visual space, every element rotating in the same direction. Because of the special characteristics of ultrasubjective space, it can appear to rotate either clockwise or counterclockwise.



Flutter of Butterflies Beyond Borders, Ephemeral Life

2015/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

The Void

2016/2021

Digital work

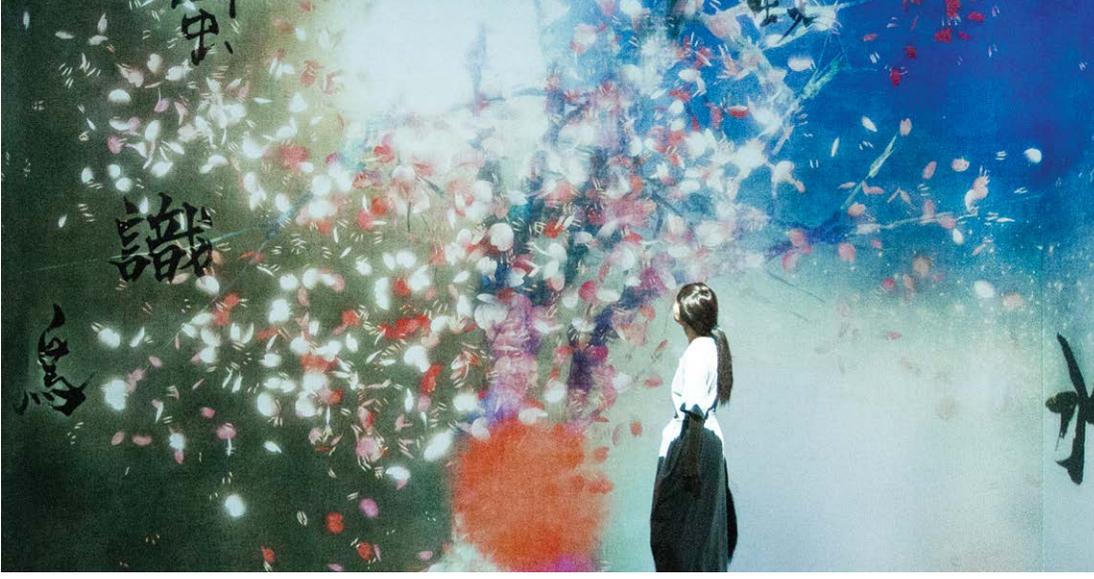
Flutter of Butterflies Beyond Borders, Transcending Space

2019/2021

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

The butterflies in *Flutter of Butterflies* dance in the space, but if people reach out to these jewel-toned insects, the butterflies die. Their flapping wings fold down and the lifeless butterflies fall to the ground, disintegrating or disappearing instantly. The butterflies are animated in the original sense of the word — lively and lifelike, and a bit chaotic. Although they are protected from human influence when they remain on flat screens, they inevitably fly from the screens to the walls, then transcend the boundaries of their own area, entering and flying around in other artworks.



Born From the Darkness a Loving, and Beautiful World

2018/2021

By Sisyu (Japanese) and teamLab

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

When a person places a hand over a kanji character, the world that ideographic character embodies will appear, and a new world will be created that draws on its meaning. The images released from the characters go on to influence one another in this new world. Behind the world of projected interactive images, there is a 360-degree, computer-generated space. The objects born from these ideographic characters are placed within that space, and the physical influences and connections between the objects are calculated in real time—developing into a complex and interconnected world. When the wind blows, it physically affects flowers and snow. Birds alight in trees, and butterflies are attracted to flowers. As in nature, no two moments are repeated. The passing moments of the world are never exactly the same and new vistas are constantly being created.



Sketch Ocean

2020/2021

By teamLab (Japanese, est. 2001)

Sound by Hideaki Takahashi (Japanese, b. 1967)

Interactive digital installation

The fish drawn by everyone swim into this exhibition from *Sketch Ocean*, currently on view in the Shriram Experiential Learning Center in the museum.

Color in a fish on the paper provided in *Sketch Ocean*. See the picture you have drawn come to life and swim out into the ocean in front of you, swimming together with the fish drawn by other people. If you touch the swimming fish, they will swim away.

Sometimes, the fish leave the room, transcend the boundaries between artworks, and begin to swim between the galleries.