



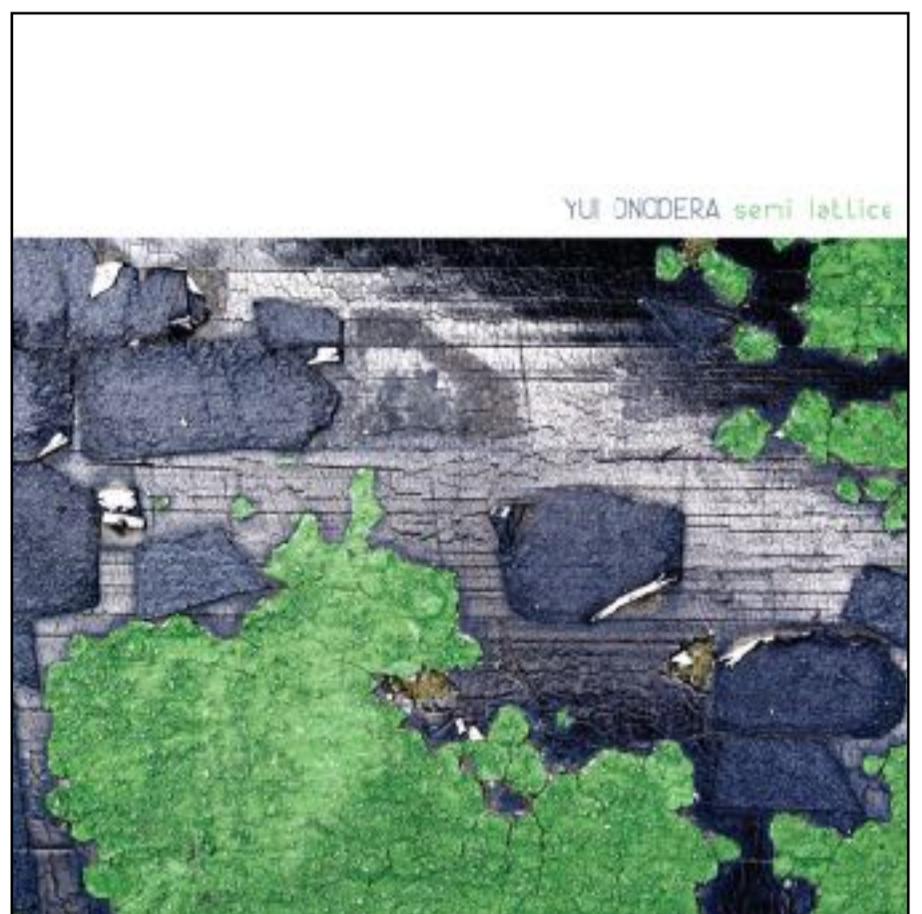
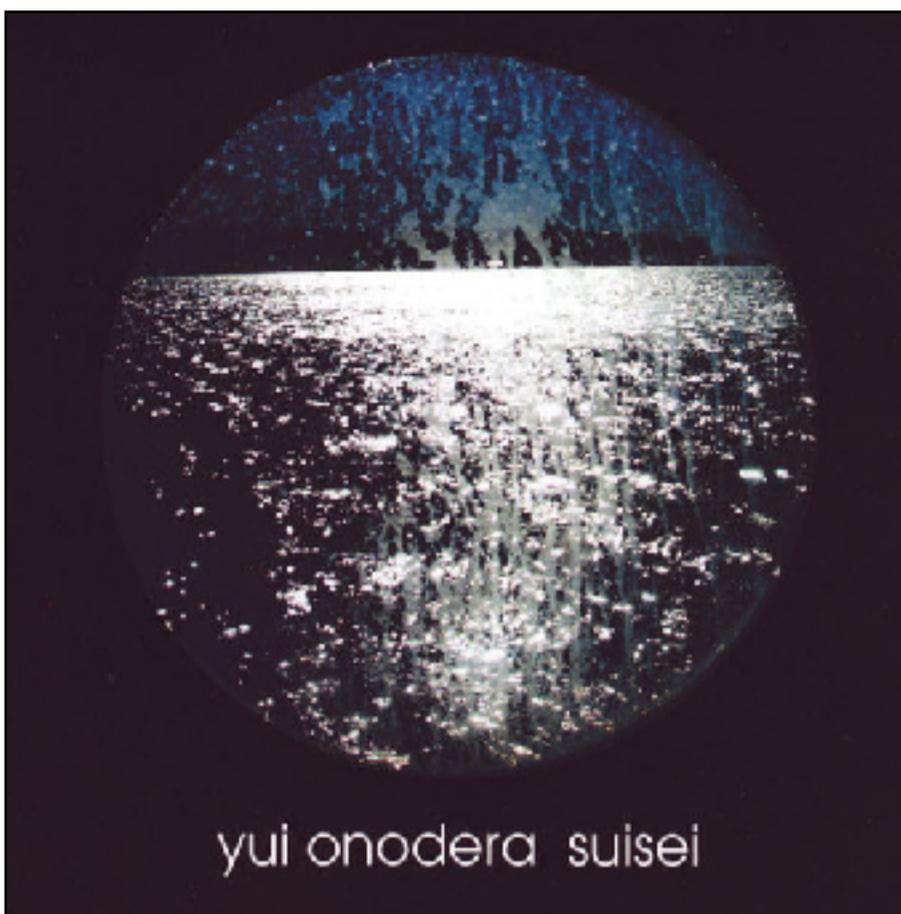
Yui Onodera

Contact:

General inquiries: office@critical-path.info



Yui Onodera is a Tokyo-based composer, sounds artist whose works explore the relation between musical forms, architectural acoustics and spatial awareness. As a sounds artist, he has a distinctive figure in the fields of experimental electronic music, modern ambient and electro-acoustic music, working across the spheres of composition and installation work for over 10 years. Exploring notions of perception, memory and sonic affect across a wide array of creative forms, he uses a broad palette of musical instruments, field recordings and electronics to craft provocative listening experiences and creating dense clouds of blurry, hypnotic sound. His works are widely published internationally, he has released numerous works on esteemed experimental labels like KOMPAKT (DE), Serein (UK), Baskaru (FR) and more. In 2017, alongside his musical profession he works as a sound art lecturer at Rikkyo University and Musashino Art University. His work connects the points between a bewilderingly diverse array of genres – a partial list would include sound design, film scores, contemporary composition, electronic/acoustic music, architectural acoustic design and new media art.



His debut album *Suisai* was released in 2007 by experimental and sound art label and/OAR(USA). This approximately 45min-long piece of music is a work composed from field recordings and pump organ. His sound is largely based on environmental sound and various musical instruments (guitar, piano, organ and electric violin, etc.), re-editing techniques, and dedicated software processes, for electro-acoustic, experimental and ambient pieces. Through a process of layering and synthesis, he was create incredibly minimal, yet dense sound textures from very singular materials. He tries to reduce the "material" to its basic aesthetic structure by using digital and analog processing in order to release it from its original meaning and context.



He investigates the politics of perception, through live performance and installation, to create works that ponder subtle transformations of space and ask audiences to become aware of that which exists at the edge of perception. He invites audiences to enjoy impressions of depth, distance and disappearance, and to fathom the qualities of the space around our limits of perception. His concerts at museums, churches, Japanese temples, and other non-traditional performance spaces explore the physicality of sound. He produces installation pieces and live performance, often using multiple speaker systems. Include concerts and installations at prestigious festivals STÖRUNG FESTIVAL (ES), Unyazi Festival (RSA), and HORS PISTES (JP).

He studied music and architecture design, after working as an architectural acoustics designer, his familiarity with both the architectural acoustics and sonic arts resulted in numerous commissions to create sounds and music for specific, tangible locations. Interested in the psychological effects of sound, he identify those work as “environmental music”, the Japanese translation of “ambient” but one that framed it in a new context. They are reminded that how this can define and centre yourself within your own space. One of them, was borne from the corporate benefice of the Japanese airline corporation, designed to be played in their airplane. This project won the Silver Spike Prize at Spikes Asia 2018.



In addition to his solo activities, he pursues projects with diverse artists for continually see to break new ground. His latest musical project with Mizkami Ryuta is called RESHAFT and is released on Comfortzone (AT).

He has also produced collaboration works with artists from every imaginable genre: sound artists Stephen Vitiello, composer Scanner, sound artists BJ Nilsen, musician/visual artist Robert Lippok, electronic music duo Pjusk, Mariinsky Theatre Orchestra's clarinet and piano soloists Vadim Bondarenko, vibraphone player/composer Masayoshi Fujita, musician Chihei Hatakeyama.

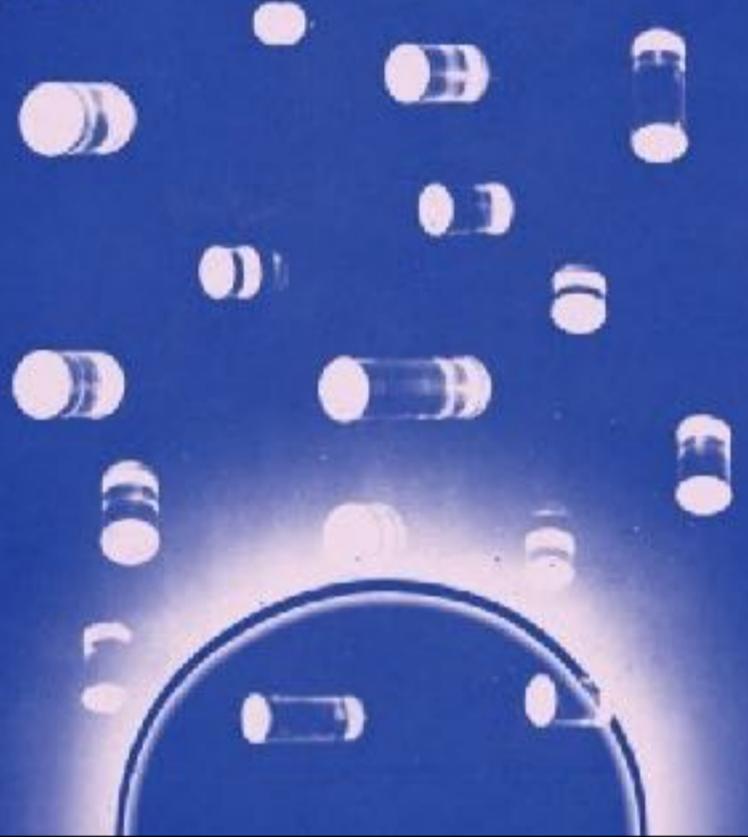
He is also organizing electronic music shows, experiential performances and symposium at concert halls, churches, and art spaces. Those event was responsible for the artists working in the modern electronic music field (Wolfgang Voigt, Carl Stone, Christophe Charles, Pjusk, Chra, to name a few), and bringing to Japanese shores influential artists from abroad.

Pjusk Solstuv

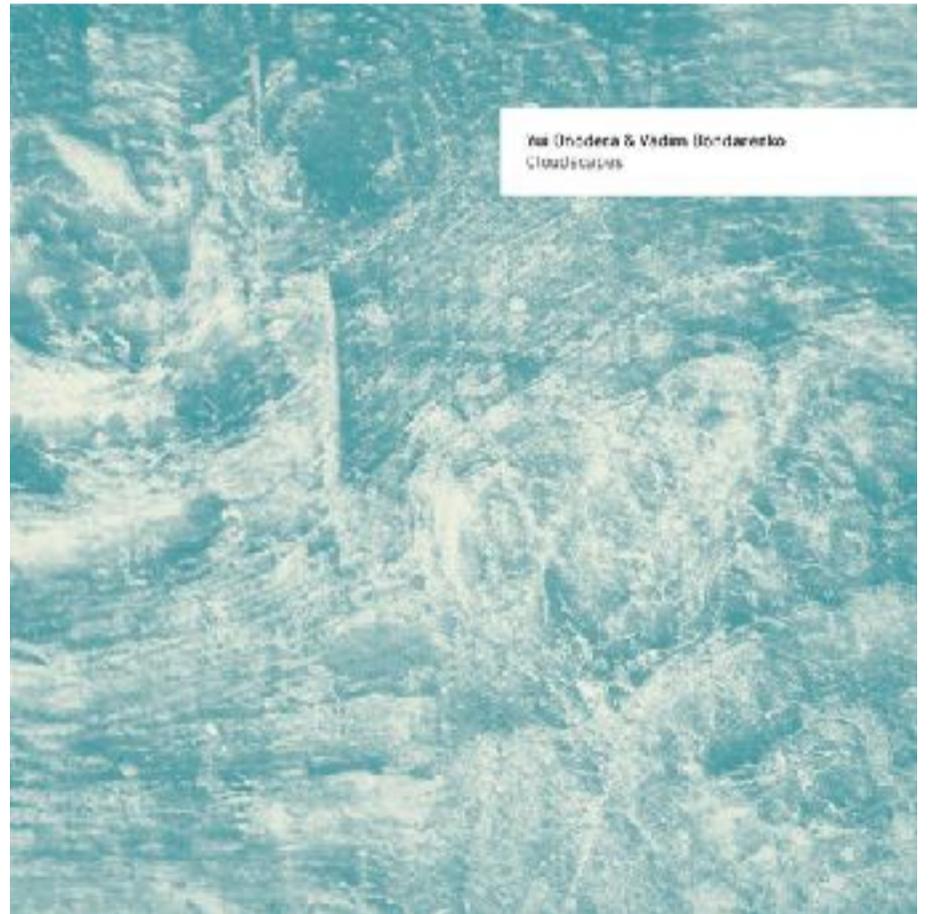
30.46.05

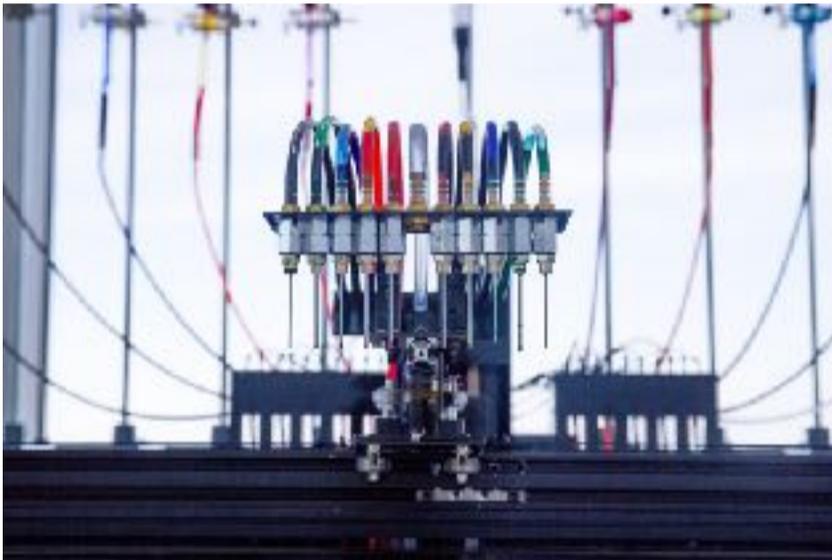


Orbital Planes
& Passenger Trains
Vol. 1

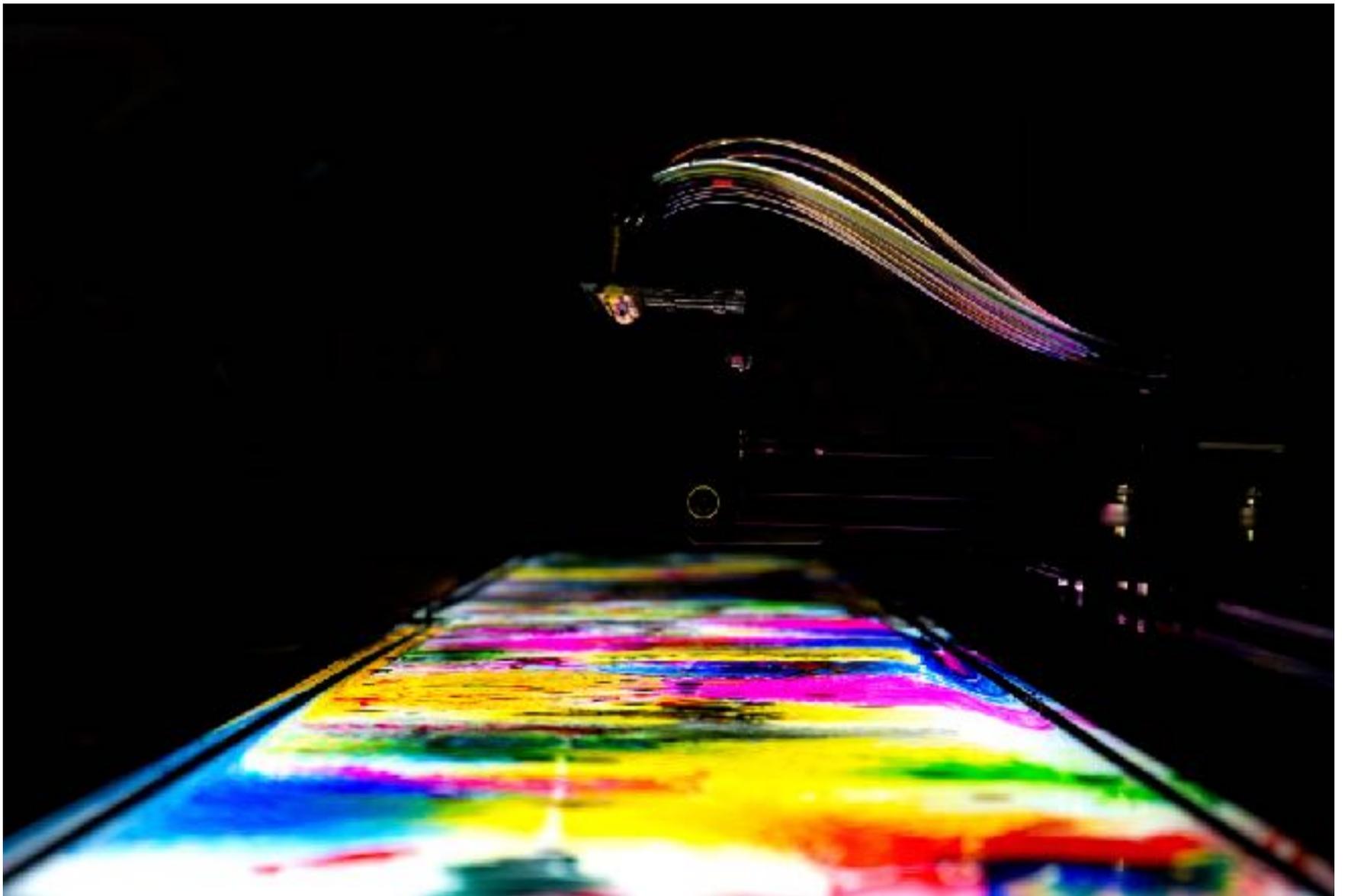


Vai Onodera & Vidim Bondarenko
Cloudscapes





In parallel to his music career he works on art/media installations. He is a founding member of the art collective "nor" whose ethos is centered around the production of multidimensional work through sound, visual and Installation art. In recent years, his work has been exhibited at international festivals and museums including Media Ambition Tokyo, MUTEK.JP and NTT inter communication center [ICC].



Selected reviews

The Sounds within aspire to the dreamtime electronica of Lawrence English, Biosphere, BJ Nilsen and plenty of others on Touch. Onodera doesn't pretend that his field recording techniques enjoy the pristine fidelity of Chris Watson or a Douglas Quin, rather his mottled sounds embrace the abstraction produced through contact microphones and consumer-grade dictation mics. Sustained drones from his pump organ buttress the quiet hypnosis of these field recordings, thanks to the instrument's woozy oscillations. – **THE WIRE (UK)**

The three albums he churned out in 2007 alone would have fueled the career of other artists for at least a decade. The accuracy of his vision is astounding: In the best of Japanese traditions, his compositions are the most immediate realisation of a single idea imaginable. Onodera is constructing a greater picture from these small-scale miracles as well. As the market becomes saturated, artists like Yui Onodera are thus becoming ever-more important. His work always goes that one decisive step deeper. – **TOKAFI (Germany)**

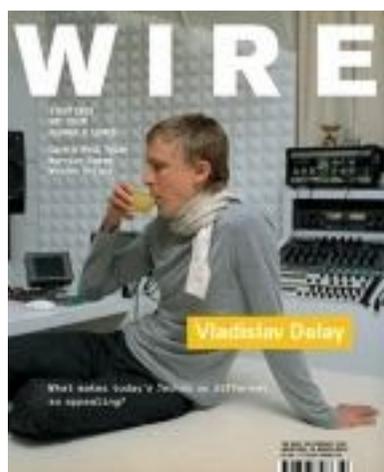
Great album of processed instrumental drones by Yui Onodera. I'd be happy to align Yui Onodera with a number of other genius Japanese solo creators such as Ryoji Ikeda who are capable of creating fully-realised, self-sufficient universes in sound, then leaving them for others to explore and chart while they set off across the horizon in their strange sky-boats. And he creates a world more tolerant of human passions than the strictly-demarcated tones of Ryoji Ikeda, that ruthless architect of enormous sci-fi virtual palaces in digital sound. – **THE SOUND PROJECTOR (UK)**

Imprints such as Touch, 12k and Baskaru have made their names with music such as this, but the constructs of Tokyo's Onodera possess enough poise and finesse to rank them alongside works by Christian Fennesz, Lawrence English and Ethan Rose. Like those aforementioned artists, Onodera is a sculptor in total control of his materials, deploying the timbre and tempo (or absence thereof) of a minimalist palette for maximum effect. – **RECORD COLLECTOR (UK)**

Onodera has created a set of seemingly minimal sound structures out of complex interactions that will effortlessly transform any room, while the details of their intriguing inner architectures only begin to become apparent through focused listening. – **THE QUIETUS (UK)**

A master at extracting audio gold from lead, Onodera can make the thinnest octave resonate brighter than a thousand supernova. Operating at bracingly abstract levels, and using only bare essentials (piano, voice, and processed electronics) he constructs Ikeda-like oscillations that appear to leach out of the universe's atomic structure. – **SIGNAL TO NOISE (USA)**

"Suisei" is a gorgeous album of darkly textured drones with parallels to Thomas Koner's isolationist compositions or Keith Berry's precious deconstructions. Wind, rain, and water all make themselves known in the collection of field recordings, as does the pump organ, which reveals itself in harmonic sustained tones with a spectral timbre (e.g. Niblock, Radigue, Chalk, etc.). These crunching textures situate humbly next to a hypnotic wash of compressed static and melancholic shadowy drone, which sublimely shift into a slippery crescendo of grey massed sound. Very, very well done! – **AQUARIUS RECORDS (USA)**



Discography (selection)

year	artist	title	format	label	
album					
2018	yui onodera	substrate / the garden	digital	dragon's eye recordings (USA)	
2015	yui onodera	semi lattice	cd	baskaru (France)	
2015	yui onodera	sinkai	cd	arctic tone (Japan)	
2009	yui onodera	entropy	cd	trumn (Japan)	
2007	yui onodera	suisei	cd	and/oar (USA)	
2007	yui onodera	rhizome	digital	gears of sand (USA)	
2007	yui onodera	synergetics	ep	drone records (Germany)	
collaboration					
2018	yui onodera + stephen vitiello	quiver	cd	mikroton (Russia)	
2015	yui onodera + vadim bondarenko	cloudscapes	cd	serein (UK)	
2014	reshaft	decon	cd	comfortzone (Austria)	
2011	yui onodera + the beautiful schizophrenic	night blossom	cd	whereabouts records (Japan)	
2009	yui onodera + celer	generic city	cd	two acorns (USA)	
2011	yui onodera + the beautiful schizophrenic	radiance	cd	basses frequences (France)	
year	artist	track	title	format	label
contributions					
2018	yui onodera	cromo3	pop ambient 2019	cd/2lp	kompakt (Germany)
2017	yui onodera	prism	pop ambient 2018	cd/lp	kompakt (Germany)
2017	yui onodera	nine chains to the moon	pop ambient 2018	cd/lp	kompakt (Germany)
2016	yui onodera	cromo2	pop ambient 2017	cd/lp	kompakt (Germany)
2016	yui onodera	cromo1	pop ambient 2017	cd/lp	kompakt (Germany)
2016	yui onodera + scanner	locus solus	pop ambient 2017	cd/lp	kompakt (Germany)
2016	yui onodera + chihei hatakeyama	solaris	orbital planes & passenger trains	cd/2lp	serein (UK)
2014	pjusk	skimt	solstøv	cd	12k (USA)
2014	yui onodera	anonymous soundscape	the acoustic city	book + cd	jovis (Germany)
2013	yui onodera	blue planet sky	vernacular	2cd	whereabouts records (Japan)
2009	the beautiful schizophrenic	alba	erotikon	cd	crónica (Portugal)

Exhibitions & Concerts (selection)

year	artist			venue	
concerts & festivals					
2017	yui onodera	wolfgang voigt, and more.		trunk (hotel)	(Japan)
2016	reshaft			super deluxe	(Japan)
2016	yui onodera	pjusk, and more.	experimental room		(Japan)
2015	yui onodera		hors pistes japon 2015	kyoto cinema	(Japan)
2015	yui onodera		störung festival 10		(Spain)
2014	yui onodera	cristian vogel, and more.		kosmos lane gallery	(Japan)
2013	yui onodera		störung festival 8		(Spain)
2013	yui onodera	w/ carl stone + christophe charles		super deluxe	(Japan)
2012	yui onodera	brandt brauer frick, and more.	musa	unit	(Japan)
2011	yui onodera	w/ celer		yougenji	(Japan)
2010	yui onodera	machinefabriek, and more.	moire	super deluxe	(Japan)
2009	yui onodera	yves de mey, and more.		ottomainzheim gallery	(Japan)
2009	yui onodera		tokyo is...	hotel claska	(Japan)
exhibitions					
2018	nor	dyebirth & specimens	mutek japan	USN gallery	(Japan)
2018	w/ Mischa Kuball	res 'o 'nant	res 'o 'nant	Jewish Museum Berlin	(Germany)
2018	nor	dyebirth	media ambition tokyo	roppongi hills	(Japan)
2017	nor	herering	open space 2017	NTT inter communication center [ICC]	(Japan)
2016	nor	shoes or	art hack day 2016	3331α	(Japan)
2014	w/ carl stone	listening room	unyazi festival 2014		(South Africa)
2009	+LUS	flex acoustics	experimental sound, art & performance festival	tokyo wonder site	(Japan)
2008	w/ kenichi kanazawa	oto no kakera	oto no kakera	kawagoe city museum	(Japan)
year	artist	title			
film					
2017	giuseppe carrieri	hanaa	cape town international film festival	best documentary film	(Italy)

Selected interviews

The Quietus [2017]

<http://thequietus.com/articles/21534-yui-onodera-interview>

Tanzgemeinschaft [2016]

<http://www.tanzgemeinschaft.com/interview-yui-onodera-4006>

Chain D.L.K. [2016]

<http://www.chaindlk.com/interviews/yui-onodera/>

Cyclic Defrost [2013]

<https://www.cyclicdefrost.com/2013/08/yui-onodera-taking-the-critical-path-by-christopher-mann/>

Awards

Spikes Asia 2018 | Radio & Audio : Silver Spike

AD STARS 2018 | Data Insights : Crystal

ALIFE 2018 | ALife Art Award : Honorable Mention prize

Cape Town International Film Festival 2017 | Best documentary film

Art Hack Day 2016 | Top prize

Employment History

Lecturer, Rikkyo University, Department of Body Expression and Cinematic Arts [2017]

Lecturer, Musashino Art University, Department of Imaging Arts & Sciences [2017]