

Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD

Headpieces or sculptures?

Exploring the creative genius of Katsuya Kamo



Courtesy of CHANEL,
Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu

Exhibition title	Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD
Date	Sun 30 June 2024 - Mon 23 September 2024
Closed	Mondays (except 1, 15 July, 5, 12 August, 2, 16, 23 September), Tue 16 July, Tue 13 August, Tue 17 September
Venue	3F Gallery C, 1F Entrance Hall

Press Inquiries:
Public Relations, The MIMOCA Foundation
E-mail: press@mimoca.jp
Web: www.mimoca.org

— About the exhibition

This exhibition showcases the work of trendsetting hair and makeup artist Katsuya Kamo (1965–2020), whose career included multiple collaborations with many of the world's most renowned fashion labels.

Kamo was a stalwart of the fashion scene both at home in Japan and internationally, providing hair and makeup styling for the catwalk shows of top fashion houses, and magazine photo shoots. Hair and makeup design that belonged very much to the realm of the avant-garde—obscuring the faces of models, or featuring spikes or roses made from paper, broken mirrors, or masses of feathers,



Courtesy of JUNYA WATANABE,
Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu

for example—yet at the same time refined and elegant in form, caused a stir wherever they appeared. Kamo's headpieces in particular possess a universal, sculptural beauty, functioning as fashion items but equally as unique works of art in their own right.

“Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD” is a comprehensive survey of Kamo's creative endeavors that focuses primarily on a series of headpieces actually worn by models at premium fashion shows, and also includes magazine articles, idea sources, documents detailing Kamo's production processes, and sculptural objects he made outside of his fashion-world work. This will be the first art museum exhibition devoted exclusively to the career of this celebrated stylist and artist.

— About Katsuya Kamo

Born in 1965 in Fukuoka, in 1988 Kamo joined the mod's hair international salon chain, where he served as a hair and makeup stylist for fashion magazines, advertising, and catwalk shows in Japan and further afield. In 2003 he scooped the main prize at the 21st Mainichi Fashion Grand Prix, becoming the first non-fashion designer to do so since launch of the awards in 1983. In 2015 Kamo established his own business, KAMO HEAD. Following his death in 2020 a collection of his work, also titled *KAMO HEAD*, was published in 2021.



Katsuya Kamo

Highlights

200 fashion show headpieces

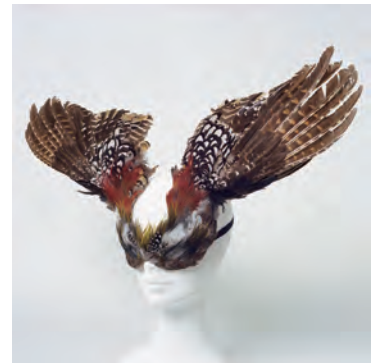
Headpieces employed in the catwalk shows of major fashion labels are fundamentally one-off creations made for the occasion and almost never seen by a wider audience. “Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD” offers priceless first-hand viewing of around 200 headpieces made by Kamo and worn by models during shows.

A vast treasure trove of photo features

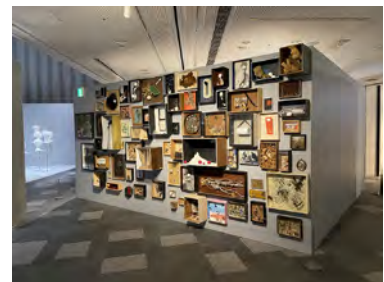
“Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD” also presents a plethora of Kamo-styled fashion magazine and advertising photo features, including from iconic overseas publications such as *Vogue Paris* and *Vogue Italia*. These sublime fashion images evoke the essence of Kamo’s hair and makeup artistry.

Art object installation

Around 200 box-form art objects made by Kamo in the course of his private artistic explorations occupy a wall of the atrium space at the museum entrance. Arranged *en masse* these pieces suffused with the unique aesthetic and talent for improvisation that underpinned all Kamo’s creative endeavors make a stunning spectacle.



Courtesy of UNDERCOVER,
Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu



Installation view at the exhibition, "KAMO HEAD -KATSUYA KAMO WORKS 1996-2020-" (OMOTE SANDO HILLS, 2023), Photo by Hidemi Shinoda, Courtesy of Mori Building Co., Ltd.

Topic

MIMOCA’s 3rd fashion-themed exhibition

Reflecting his desire to bring beauty to people’s lives, the painter Genichiro Inokuma, a pivotal presence in the establishment of MIMOCA, hoped that the museum would also showcase outstanding works and activities from the fields of fashion and design, these being so intimately connected to everyday living. The creative career of hair and makeup artist Katsuya Kamo, regarded on the fashion frontline as a true one-of-a-kind, chimes with Inokuma’s further wish that the museum “show the outcomes of the most important and difficult thing that artists do: find ways to offer direction for the future, and discover what does not yet exist,” and this will be MIMOCA’s third fashion-themed exhibition, following “Isamu Noguchi and Issey Miyake, Arizona” in 1997, and 2014’s “You reach out – right now – for something: Questioning the Concept of Fashion.”

Exhibition content



Courtesy of MINTDESIGNS,
Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu

Headpieces

From the late 1990s onward Katsuya Kamo provided hair and makeup styling for the collections of numerous global fashion labels. Headpieces in catwalk shows are usually a one-time-only accessory, but after each show Kamo would gather up the headpieces he had made and photograph them, eventually choosing 225 for the book *KAMO HEAD*, published in 2021. This exhibition contains approximately 200 headpieces, with a focus on those featured in *KAMO HEAD*.

Print material

Kamo also styled hair and makeup for fashion magazine and advertising photo shoots both in Japan, and on the international stage. His name appears in the credits of countless photo features, Kamo assembling his own favorites into a personal portfolio. “Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD” draws heavily on this portfolio to showcase his hair and makeup work for magazines and advertising, in an overview of this aspect of his work that also includes magazine articles on Kamo himself, and overseas newspaper coverage of fashion shows in which he was involved.

Art objects

“Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD” presents around 200 of an ongoing series of three-dimensional art objects made by Kamo outside of his work. Consisting of familiar things from insects and plants, to eggshells and household items, arranged in wooden boxes, these evoke Kamo’s personal aesthetic and penchant for surrealist expression, and simultaneously serve as visual reminders of his talent for the spontaneous production of outstanding design, and mastery of creative techniques.

Idea sources

Kamo routinely clipped images that took his fancy out of magazines and other print material, and collaged them in scrapbooks. These books, numbering in excess of 50, are joined by several books of Polaroid photos documenting Kamo’s creative processes and materials. This exhibition includes these resources that provided inspiration for his work.

Exhibition title	Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD
Organized by	Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, The MIMOCA Foundation
Subsidized by	Japan Center for Local Autonomy
Installation design by	SHIGE KANEKO CO.,LTD.
Headpieces supervised by	Yutaka Kodashiro (mod's hair)
Special cooperation by	mod's hair
In cooperation with	ANREALAGE, CHANEL, HAIDER ACKERMANN, JUNYA WATANABE, KIKO KOSTADINOV, MINTDESIGNS, UNDERCOVER
Date	Sun 30 June 2024 - Mon 23 September 2024
Hours	10:00-18:00 (Admission until 30 minutes before closing time)
Closed	Mondays (except 1, 15 July, 5, 12 August, 2, 16, 23 September), Tue 16 July, Tue 13 August, Tue 17 September
Admission	Adults ¥950, Students (college, university) ¥650, Children (0 years to highschool) free *Ticket valid for admission to the permanent collection.

Concurrent Exhibition

Permanent exhibition 「Genichiro Inokuma: People and Animals and Objects」

【Admission】Adults ¥300, Students (college, university) ¥200,

Children (0 years to highschool) free

*Separate admission fee for special exhibitions

— Related Events

Opening event: ANREALAGE fashion show

A fashion show will be staged especially for the exhibition by the ANREALAGE label, for whom Katsuya Kamo crafted head-pieces for many years. The show will be followed by a discussion of Kamo's career featuring ANREALAGE designer Kunihiko Morinaga; Shige Kaneko, responsible for composition of "Katsuya Kamo: KAMO HEAD" and producing the fashion show; and Masuo Kuroda, in charge of design for the *KAMO HEAD* collection of Kamo's works.

Dates: Sun 30 June 2024, open 18:40, start 19:00

*The show is approximately 10 minutes in duration.

Venue: In front of the Art Center (2F), Museum Hall (2F)

Admission: ¥2,000, MIMOCA FRIEND ¥1,500

Capacity: 100 people (All seats free)

After Talk: Kunihiko Morinaga (ANREALAGE designer), Shige Kaneko (fashion show producer), Masuo Kuroda (graphic designer)



Courtesy of ANREALAGE,
Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu

Curator Talk

A guided tour of the galleries courtesy of exhibition curator Kanako Furuno.

Date: Sun 7 July, Sun 4 August, Sun 1 September 2024, 14:00-

Free of charge (with a same-day ticket to the exhibition)

No booking necessary. Meet at the entrance to the 1st floor.

Workshop: "My headpiece for today"

Use everyday materials such as paper, yarn, wire and cardboard to create a unique head-piece to complement your dress on the day.

Dates: Sat 20, Sun 21 July 2024, 10:30-12:30 / 14:00-16:00

Venue: Creative Studio (2F)

Target audience: Students (college, university)-Adults

Admission: Free

Capacity: 25 people (Application required, deadline: Wed 10 July, if there are many applicants, a lottery will be held)

MIMOCA Family Days

Free entry for up to two accompanying adults for each student up to and including high school or other visitor under 18 years of age.

Dates: Sat 4, Sun 5 August 2024, 10:00-18:00

*Information regarding other programs will be posted on the MIMOCA website as it becomes available.

— Images for Press Use

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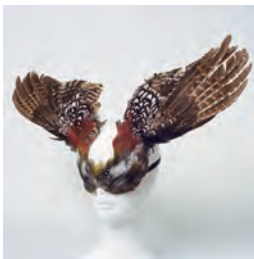
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Credits

- 1-3 Courtesy of ANREALAGE, Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu
- 4 Courtesy of CHANEL, Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu
- 5-6 Courtesy of JUNYA WATANABE, Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu
- 7-8 Courtesy of MINTDESIGNS, Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu
- 9-13 Courtesy of UNDERCOVER, Photo by Yasutomo Ebisu
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About MIMOCA

Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art

The Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art (MIMOCA) was opened November 23, 1991 as a project commemorating the 90th anniversary of the city of Marugame, Kagawa Prefecture and with the full cooperation of the artist Genichiro Inokuma, who spent his youth in and around Marugame. The beautiful station-front museum designed by architect Yoshio Taniguchi has a permanent collection introducing some 20,000 works personally donated by Inokuma and holds special exhibitions focusing primarily on contemporary art. A diverse program of lectures, concerts, and other events, including workshops to foster sensitivity and creativity among children, are part of the Museum's dedication to education.

These features of the Museum are the result of discussions held by Inokuma with the city of Marugame. It was Inokuma's fervent wish that MIMOCA be a facility for contemporary art that would actively introduce new art. The sunlight-filled and spacious spaces of the building fulfill the aspiration architect Taniguchi shared with Inokuma for beautiful spaces in an art museum. Inokuma also wanted to encourage opportunities to expose children to art, advocating free admittance to the Museum for children and proposing the establishment of the "Creative Studio" space for children.

Inokuma wanted the Museum to be a place people would visit frequently. The experience of beautiful spaces and the sight of quality works of art are the source, he believed, of the fresh and exhilarating stimuli that is healthy and energizing. He even thought of MIMOCA as a kind of "health resort for the spirit." We hope everyone will think of MIMOCA, which embodies the ideals Inokuma held dear, as that kind of "resort" for mind and spirit.



Photo by Yoshiro Masuda



Photo by Akira Takahashi

On the founding of the Museum

I am delighted that the Museum has been built in Marugame, the place that is associated with many vivid memories of my youth. Specializing in contemporary art, the Museum is unique in Japan and has been realized with the support of all the citizens of Marugame. I hope the Museum will help the city as a whole to become a rich cultural environment.

Genichiro Inokuma 1991