

Janet Cardiff: The Forty Part Motet

Sat.13 December 2025 - Sun.15 February 2026

[National Tour of a World-Renowned Masterwork
Concludes at MIMOCA]



Janet Cardiff, *The Forty Part Motet* (A reworking of "Spem in Alium," by Thomas Tallis 1556/1573), 2001
Johanniterkirche, Feldkirch, Austria, 2005. Photo by Markus Tretter. Courtesy of the artist and Luhring Augustine, New York /
Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco / Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo.

Exhibition title

Janet Cardiff: The Forty Part Motet

Date

Sat. 13 December 2025 - Sun. 15 February 2026

Closed

Mondays (except 12 January, 2026), 25-31 December, 2025, 13 January, 2026

Venue

3F Gallery C

Curators: Koichi Nakata, Muu Tanimura

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— About the exhibition

The Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art (MIMOCA) is pleased to present *The Forty Part Motet* (2001), a sound installation by Canada-based artist Janet Cardiff (b. 1957).

One of Cardiff's most celebrated works, it was first presented at the National Gallery of Canada (Ottawa) in 2001, where it received the Millennium Prize, and has since been exhibited at approximately 60 venues worldwide. The work is based on *Spem in Alium* (commonly known as *The Forty Part Motet*) by 16th-century English composer Thomas Tallis. The 59 voices, in five parts (soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, and bass), are played back in separate channels through 40 speakers arranged in an ellipse. The result is an immersive experience that makes listeners feel as if they are standing among the singers, as layers of sound unfold through the space like a sonic sculpture.

MIMOCA was designed by Yoshio Taniguchi, renowned as the architect of many museums, and opened in 1991. One of the first museums in Japan to incorporate natural light into bright, open exhibition spaces, it takes full advantage of this architectural feature in presenting the work. The installation will be shown in the museum's largest gallery, a spacious room with a seven-meter ceiling, where visitors can move freely and fully experience the work's all-enveloping sound.

Following its presentation at Hara Museum ARC, this year *The Forty Part Motet* has toured the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, and the Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum. The exhibition at MIMOCA will be the final chance to experience this work in Japan. Visitors are invited to enjoy the dialogue between the museum's unique architectural space and the breathtaking expanse of sound produced by Janet Cardiff's landmark work.



Janet Cardiff, *The Forty Part Motet* (A reworking of "Spem in Alium," by Thomas Tallis 1556/1573), 2001
Musée d'Art Contemporain, Montreal 2002. Courtesy of the artist and Lühring Augustine, New York / Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco / Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo.



Janet Cardiff, *The Forty Part Motet* (A reworking of "Spem in Alium," by Thomas Tallis 1556/1573), 2001
Recording Session, Salisbury Cathedral Choir 2000, Photo by Hugo Glendinning. Courtesy of the artist and Lühring Augustine, New York / Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco / Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo.

Highlights

A Sonic Sculpture Filling the Museum Space

The voices in a choir performing sacred music are played back separately through 40 speakers, creating an immersive experience that engages the listener sonically rather than visually. As visitors attune their ears while moving freely through the museum, a venue typically dedicated to visual art, layers of sound unfold through the space like a sonic sculpture.

An Acoustic Experience at MIMOCA, a Museum Designed by Yoshio Taniguchi

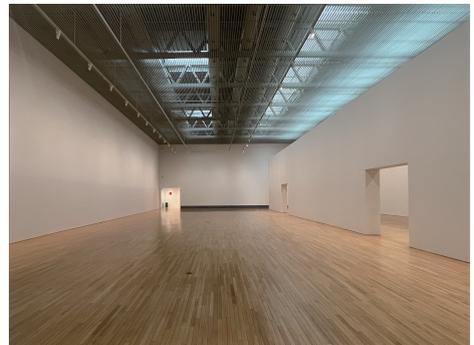
The exhibition makes full use of the museum's spaces, designed by the architect Yoshio Taniguchi, who is celebrated as a master of museum design. Making the most of the building's abundant natural light and the scale of Gallery C (the museum's largest gallery, with a ceiling height of seven meters), visitors can experience a dialogue between the all-enveloping sound of *The Forty Part Motet* and the museum's unique architectural space.

Final Destination of a Landmark Work's Japan Tour

This exhibition concludes the Japan tour of *The Forty Part Motet*, Cardiff's landmark work, which has been presented at approximately 60 venues worldwide since its debut in 2001. Following its showings at Hara Museum ARC, the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, and the Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum, the exhibition at MIMOCA will be the final chance to experience this work in Japan.



Janet Cardiff, *The Forty Part Motet*, 2001
Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, Tokyo, 2009. Photo by
Atsushi Nakamichi / Nacása & Partners Inc. Courtesy of
the Fondation d'entreprise Hermès, 2009



Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, 3F Gallery C

Exhibition	Janet Cardiff: The Forty Part Motet
Organized by	Marugame Genichiro-Inokuma Museum of Contemporary Art, The MIMOCA Foundation
Venue	3F Gallery C
Date	Sat.13 December 2025 - Sun.15 February 2026
Hours	10:00 - 18:00 (Admission until 30 minutes before closing time)
Closed	Mondays (except 12 January. 2026), 25-31 December. 2025, 13 January. 2026
Admission	<p>Adults ¥1,500, Students (college, university) ¥1,000, Children (under 18), residents of Marugame who are 65 and over, and all visitors with a physical disability certificate are admitted free.</p> <p>[Group use discount for groups of 20 or more] Adults ¥1,200, Students ¥800 [City resident discount for Marugame citizens] Adults ¥900, Students ¥600</p> <p>*Ticket valid for admission to the concurrent special exhibition “Genichiro Inokuma: Arrangements og Dreams” and the permanent collection.</p> <p>*City residents must present identification (driver’ s license, insurance card, etc.) at the first-floor reception desk when visiting.</p> <p>*The city resident discount cannot be combined with other discounts, including group discounts.</p>

Concurrent Exhibition

“Genichiro Inokuma: Arrangements of Dreams ”

Venue: 3F Galley C, 2F Galley B, 1F Entrance Hall

Permanent Collection “Genichiro Inokuma: There are Things”

Venue: 2F Galley A

Next Exhibition

“Genichiro Inokuma”

Date: Sun. 1 March - Sun. 21 June, 2026

— Related Programs

Curator Talk

The exhibition's lead curator (Koichi Nakata, Muu Tanimura) will discuss its highlights in the galleries.

Date: Sun. 14 December 2025, Sun. 11 January 2026, Sun. 8 February, 14:00-

Admission free, but Special exhibition admission ticket required.

No application required, please gather in front of the 1st floor reception on the day.

MIMOCA Family Day

Up to two adults will be admitted free with each high school or lower grade student, or visitor aged 18 or younger.

Date : Sat. 24, Sun. 25 January, 2026, 10:00-18:00

— Artist Profile



Janet Cardiff, *The Forty Part Motet* (A reworking of "Spem in Alium," by Thomas Tallis 1556/1573), 2001

Kunstmuseum des Kantons Thurgau, Switzerland with Artist 2002.
Photo by Stephan Rohner. Courtesy of the artist and Luhring Augustine,
New York / Fraenkel Gallery, San Francisco / Gallery Koyanagi, Tokyo.

Janet Cardiff

Born in 1957 and based in British Columbia, Canada, Janet Cardiff produces groundbreaking, immersive installations that combine sound, sculpture, and technology, delivering multifaceted visual and aural experiences. In 2001, she and George Bures Miller represented Canada in the nation's pavilion at the Venice Biennale, receiving the Premio Prize (Special Prize). Since then, she has continued to collaborate with Miller on works featured in exhibitions at museums worldwide. In Japan, she is known for exhibitions including Janet Cardiff & George Bures Miller (21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, 2017), for her participation in Yokohama Triennale 2005 and Aichi Triennale 2013, and for *Storm House* (installed long-term at Benesse Art Site Naoshima from 2010 to 2021).

About MIMOCA

Opened in 1991, over 30 years in operation

MIMOCA opened on its site in front of JR Marugame Station on November 23, 1991. Staying true to Genichiro Inokuma's wish for a contemporary art museum dedicated to the new artistic expression of the moment, MIMOCA offers a variety of exhibitions and programs, including a permanent exhibition primarily of work by Inokuma, special exhibitions with a contemporary art focus, and workshops for children.

Housing 20,000 works by Genichiro Inokuma

Home to around 20,000 paintings, drawings and other works by Genichiro Inokuma, MIMOCA covers Inokuma's life and career with incredible breadth and depth through its permanent and special exhibitions, plus a diverse range of resources from the tiny works Inokuma dubbed "Dialogue Sculptures," to items he and his wife collected around the world and made part of their daily lives.

As a museum specializing in contemporary art

MIMOCA presents exhibitions of work by both Japanese and international artists, with a focus on contemporary art. To date this has included solo exhibitions devoted to the work of, among others, Jan Fabre, Marina Abramović, Marlene Dumas, Ernesto Neto, Hiroshi Sugimoto, Chiharu Shiota, Takashi Homma, and Miyako Ishiuchi. The museum is also proactive in showcasing emerging artists such as Teppei Kaneuji, Takehito Koganezawa, Rieko Shiga, and Koji Nakazono, and in recent years launched the MIMOCA EYE open-call exhibition aimed at young artists. Casting its gaze even wider to contemporary creative expression, the museum also covers fashion and furniture design, and contemporary architecture.



Photo by Yoshiro Masuda

Stunning architecture designed by Yoshio Taniguchi

The MIMOCA building was the work of Yoshio Taniguchi, a highly-regarded designer of multiple art museums. His dialogue with Inokuma resulted in a building that embodies the ideals of both artist and architect, down to the smallest detail. The expansive facade featuring Genichiro Inokuma's massive, eye-catching mural Creation Plaza loosely connects station frontage and building. Entering the museum, one finds a wide, open space suffused with natural light. On the second floor are two galleries of contrasting size, then on the third, a generously proportioned exhibition space with a ceiling height of over seven meters. The large staircase at left front of the building connects to a public space that allows diverse approaches to the creation and display of art. The second-floor art center is equipped with a library, hall and studio, while the Cascade Plaza and cafe at the rear of the third floor also offer pleasant ways to pass the time.

Access 1 min. walk from Marugame Sta.

