

WORKS 2025 SARF Home Page renovation

Photos and sentences for Home Page (portfolio) submission

Hiroshi Yasuda Portfolio

Artwork #1 Early Works. Video

<https://youtu.be/9shkMND3Gm4>

Title: Resolution Song by Seaweed Redemption

Production: 2022

Format: Video

Length: 2 minutes and 55 seconds

Credits:

Director: Hiroshi Yasuda

Japanese Lyric created by Hiroshi Yasuda

Colonography and group performance: Dajyare Music Lab.

Videographer: Takuya Kohiyama

Locations: Jougashima, Kanagawa Pref. Japan & The Tokyo University of the Arts,

Faculty of Music, Kitasenju Campus

Original song copyright: planetresolution

Artwork #2 Data Sonification

https://soundcloud.com/hyasuda/33yrrisingshort?si=a0d6fa7012234ff9a0b54b580ac056d0&utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing

Title: Listen the Sea-level rise.

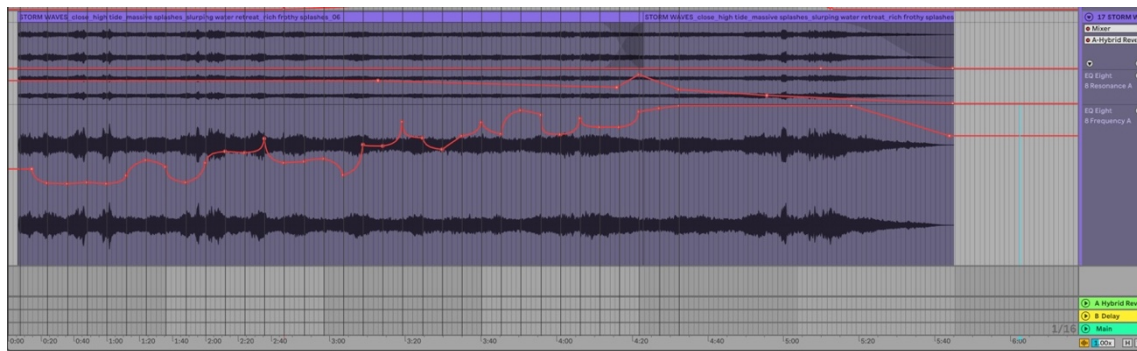
Format: sound recording

Type: Data Sonification of world longest numerical data of sea-level rise.

Conceptual design and Kelp sampling noise: Hiroshi Yasuda

Sound Technician: Sam Wells

Data from the Smithsonian Institute GCREW. Increasing trend of the data is visualized by the bottom red line on the computer sound system in the diagram.



Artwork #3

Assemblage: seaweed trilogy

This braided dried kelp represents the trilogy of Blue Carbon: salt marshes, mangroves, and seagrasses, the three fundamental categories. The two braids symbolize oxygen, and the single braid represents carbon, together forming carbon dioxide. Made from kelp, the braids also reflect its role in storing carbon by absorbing carbon dioxide.



Artwork #4

Title: Hourglass, listening time

[Gently Water-Soluble Glass](#) by TOYO GLASS CO.,LTD.

The artisan who crafted the hourglass: Mr.Kaneko, Tokyo Glass arts and crafts, Katsushika, Tokyo, Japan.

Story:

Glass infused with nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus, designed to dissolve slowly over 10 years when placed in water to support seagrass meadow restoration, has been ground into fine particles and transformed into an hourglass. The hourglass incorporates a mechanism to amplify the sound of the falling particles, creating a resonance that symbolizes the intersection of the timeline for seagrass meadow restoration and the advancing timeline of climate change. The sound itself evokes the vanishing echoes of disappearing seagrass ecosystems.



Artwork #5

Frog leaping through Time

Title : Too darn HOT



The kelp origami frog, symbolizing the “boiling frog” fable, is crafted from kelp, a key blue carbon organism, using traditional Japanese origami techniques. Since 2022, this frog has traveled the world, observing human activities and responses to environmental challenges. Along its journey, it has visited Japan’s mist cooling systems and atomic bomb survivor piano concerts, listening to various aspects of human life. In 2024, Japan’s special report to the United Nations on the blue carbon effects of seaweed further highlighted the symbolic significance of this frog. The kelp frog continues to weave stories of environmental sustainability and human harmony.

Note on the Materials and Craftsmanship:

Material: Kelp (representing the ecological importance of blue carbon).

Craftsmanship: Handcrafted using Japanese origami techniques, blending tradition with modern environmental storytelling.

Technology used to fold: iron

Population of Kelp Boiling Frog today: 1

Locations Kelp frog is observed

A- bomb survived piano concert, Kanagawa, Japan

under the longest mist system outdoor in the nation. Kitasenjyu merchandizing mall

Artwork #6 Installation

Installation@ Nakacho House art lounge Pilot Program 2024

Flower arrangement featuring kelp: Hiroe Kato

Seaweed blue carbon music performance: Hiroshi Yasuda

Photographer: Suzuki



Artwork #7

Self-portrait: A man with the horn and seaweed



Outdoor Installation performance of Blue Carbon music featuring the trumpet, displaying Kelp art.

Taiwan performance at the salt marsh near the world third largest new clear power plat.

Photographer: Chris Jane

BELOW are all supplemental information, to be selected.

抽象 ボックスアート トリロジー

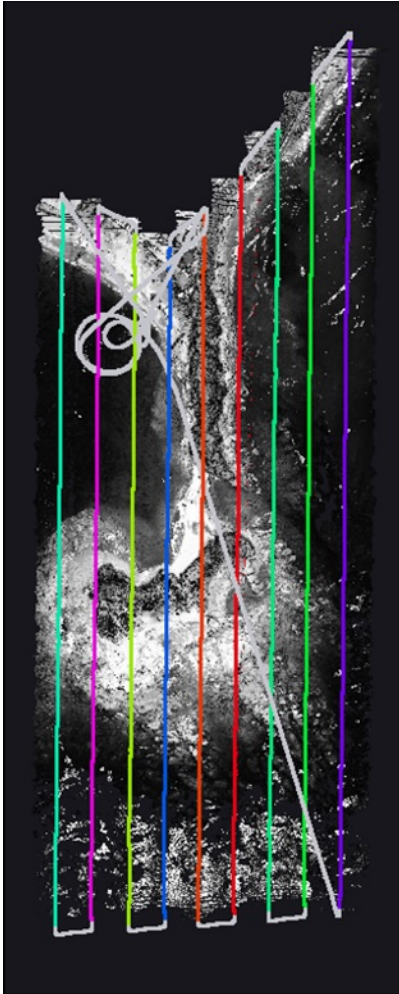
藻場の時間を聞く

花いけ 伝統的装飾



温度上昇を見守る寓話の熱カエル

海中炭素データ data sonification 音源資料



Artwork #1 Video

<https://youtu.be/CUMpnzPbSKU>

“Blue Carbon ecosystem data sonification”

Numerical data from Blue Carbon research in Japan is taken to produce sound art heard on this short video. Two contrasting unique ocean sounds are presented here. First half of this sound catalog offers the computerized sound art converting the data from the drone surveys measuring seagrass bed area at Chojyaga-saki, Kanagawa Pref. Japan, and this composition later appeared on stage at Hayama Town Welfare and Cultural Center. During a theatrical performance written and directed by scientist from the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), this sound effect played a pivotal role in conveying the crucial message of blue carbon to the audience.

The second half of this video conveys the sound of ocean using my unique seaweed musical instruments. Here I am showcasing various styles of seaweed instruments which developed over time and used in many different performance opportunities including 20 some Japanese locations, two locations are the United States, and one location in Taiwan. What you here on the second half of this short video is my trumpet sound accompanied by various Seaweed noises by tapping by hand, scraping with a large bow and plucking it by a fishing line tautly stretched. Across a small tree branch.

Artwork #2

“Climate Hourglass”

While there are many digital clocks showing the countdown for time limits on Climate Action, I am presenting a sound from an hourglass making the alert noise for Climate Crisis. The falling sand inside the hourglass are glass powder with a specialized composition, finely crashed to the optimal granularity. The glass powder inside of this glass hourglass is invented by a Japanese company to feed nutrients for seagrass restoration and nitrogen and phosphorus, over a period of ten years underwater. Hearing the sound of seagrass meadow restation with watching the visible falling of glass powder, the audiences get the feeling of time ticking forward with continuous mild noise.

Artwork #3

“Braiding”

Japan features lots of coastal community and we have strong seaweed culinary culture throughout Japan historically. Finding a kelp farming project in Yokohama area near Metropolitan Tokyo with relation to Yokohama Blue Carbon Project at the beginning of my search for musical performance medium to express Climate Change, I focused on Kelp to create my art. The knowledge of Carbon dioxide being the core Green House Gas attracted me to find a way to present the composition of carbon dioxide as three elements interwoven to one piece physically in a tangible matter, rather than shown in a diagram in science textbook. Another meaning presented by this braiding of thin long piece of dried kelp is mixture of science, emotion and action we need to combat the climate change. Further, I treat this piece of art as a presentation of tidal salt marsh, mangrove and seaweed all combined as a Blue Carbon elements braided. With having this art piece displayed, the audiences gain new angle to understand the Climate

Change.

Artwork #4

“Unda, a musical composition”

Inspired by the contemporary composer’s writing style seen on musical creation, as a self-taught sound artist, I composed this “music” for the Blue Carbon seminar held in Tokyo January 2025. The song title “UNDA” is a latin word indicating “wave”.

Act one: In this composition, three keywords are presented with human voice intermittently repeated for a minute. Kyoto Protocol, citizen’s Climate assembly and Paris agreement are the three keywords, and it ends with pronouncing the final one as “withdrawal from the Paris agreement” in Japanese.

Then the speech proceeds with having the data sonification soundtrack created on the 33years of sea level rise data from the Smithsonian’s research. The second half of this act one addresses contemporary environmental key events around my time period starting with Rachel Carson’s book Silent Spring, the fact she died in Silver Spring where I now have my own family, The Kyoto Protocol happened the year after my relocation from Japan to the U.S.A. for music study, one of the biggest Climate icon former vice president Al Gore lost only by 537 votes in 2000 in Florida where I was a music student back then, and recently the City mayor of Suginami, Tokyo Satoko Kishimoto won the position with only 187 vote difference.

Act Two:

After presenting these key facts with relation of introducing myself to the audience, the on stage screen projects the slideshow explaining the data sonification with showing the different sound making techniques on Kelp music, such as shaking the kelp shaker, plucking the hard dry piece of a kelp with a fishing line, bowing kelp for a long tone with varying the timber and length of the note. If the performance is rather intimate location and close to the audiences, the performer will distribute seaweed musical instruments to the audiences to have them actually feel touching them while watching and listening the stage performance.

In this timed performance the audience first experience rather straightforward noise from ocean sound creation, then start to get ideas about the theme with hearing three keywords chosen for each performance, followed by hearing the reminder of historical

major occurrences of Climate related events with relation of the performer. After the end of Act one with about five minutes of the soundtrack from the recording of data sonification, then the audience visually see and explained how the seaweed sounds are made through the demonstration on stage. This is not a Climate lecture, but an art unfolds over time for about 20 to 30 minutes to give rather emotional engagement to the Nature based Solution for the Climate Change, Blue carbon.

Artwork #5

“Hanaike, a Japanese style flower arrangement”

While my sound creation largely focusses on the sound of ocean in many ways (data sonification, real seaweed sounds, creatin musical instruments from seaweed, capturing sound from underwater using a hydrophone and so on) I came to encounter this flower arrangement which only uses terrestrial plants. The leading Hanaike artist Hiroe Kato was excited to try something new to apply her flower arrangement technique to create unique Kelp arrangement accompanied by my Kelp music. The music was improvised as the Kelp arrangement unfolds through time, and the flower artist improvised her expression on Kelp arrangement presenting the beauty and abstract messages from ocean life. Since there was no verbal communication throughout the performance between us, and display of the flower art was growing only in the sound of kelp music for the audiences, it was rather abstract art presentation.

From the popular demand, after this one-time event, the completed arrangement of Kelp was permanently kept for display at the art lounge Nakacho house until the atmospheric moisture increase started to damage the kelp, the art was appreciated by mamelons visitors for about three months. This artistic presentation of blue carbon seaweed on both visual arrangement and sound creation is one of the most unique installations in Japan, presenting our strong culinary tradition and aesthetic tradition with seaweed centered. One of the most outstanding values of using Kelp for artistic expression of mine is that kelp is far more familiar to ordinary Japanese compared to other blue carbon plants such as Eelgrass or Ecklonia cava which commonly planted for seagrass restation. Something you know the taste and never even imagined to be an art becomes an art.

Artwork #6

“Too Damn Hot”

Climate Change generally gives us hotter than ever climate. Simply facing the reality of this song title. Songs sharing similar ideas of being too hot presents different names, but the difference is rather minor, therefore I say Too Damn Hot to express Global Warming. What is featured on my creation with Japanese Origami tradition is a frog, created by the representative blue carbon organism Kelp, indicating the fable of Boiling Frog Story. The Kelp folded with my skilled craftsmanship on Blue Carbon Kelp, visit places to tell the story on heating world we live in. One place is Kitasenjyu Tokyo, offering the largest mister permanently equipped at the merchandize district arcade in the nation. This Kelp frog visits various locations to witness global warming and international relationship of his choices. Besides visiting the largest cooling system with mist production at merchandise district in Tokyo, the Kelp frog made a visit to a concert venue where special piano concerts are held utilizing the atom bomb survivor piano. While Climate Change countermeasure requires human to cooperate together internationally, the frog still observes the pain shared from the WWII through the sound of piano survived the atom bomb.

Artwork #7 Video

“Sumo, the Japanese national martial arts”

This shows the interactive Blue Carbon Kelp display besides the sound presentation. The family plays game tapping the box with their finger to have Sumo wrestler fight. The vibration given to the Sumo ring under the wrestler moves wrestlers as if they are a real person on the sumo ring, a Japanese national martial arts tournament. In real world at actual sumo tournament, the sacred Kelp is buried under the sumo ring and offered as a part of sumo ritual, along with other items such as rice. The sumo wrestler figure made from this sacred Kelp fights to foresee the future of the Climate Change. Among two fighters for the climate change is the referee, and the human player tapping their fingers to process this game learns the referee represents the carbon and two wrestlers represents an element of oxygen, together forming the carbon dioxide. When their bond breaks by one of them falling in this game, then our battle with the climate change gets a point since we broke the carbon dioxide and separated it to our staple food, oxygen. This game is easy to recreate throughout Japan since dried kelp is available even at the convenience store nationwide and is a highly reproducible game with highly educational benefits to understand what the carbon dioxide is.

Nationally determined contribution of greenhouse gas reduction is rather foreign topic to ordinary people here in Japan. While the player sits side by side to make this climate change countermeasure progress on this game, as sumo is a national martial art of Japan, the Japanese contribution with Japanese specific culture becomes imaginable to the player. This example will invite creative minds in other cultural area of the world finds their own version of game, and the use of art and playful mind spread worldwide. Pok-a-Tok, an ancient ball game originating from the Maya civilization known official national sport in Belize maybe reinvented with their rich culture of mangrove , is this sumo from Japan can suggest positive way to bridge intercultural Climate coalition.

Artwork #8

“Concerts”

Blue Carbon kelp Frog visited and participated a piano concert in Japan. The piano, survived A-bomb at the WWII is repaired and on tour nationally for wishing peace. This appearance of the Kelp Frog at this survived piano concert bridges U.S.A. and Japan contributions to lower the world temperature.

Artwork #9 Video

“Data Sonification explained”

A video message from sound technician Sam Wells explains the data sonification with regard to this Blue Carbon art.

