

Chikako Watanabe (NL/JP), Solo Exhibition

“Journey to Meet Star-Gazers” in Sapporo

We are pleased to present the solo exhibition “Journey to Meet Star-Gazers” in Sapporo by artist **Chikako Watanabe**, who is based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. This exhibition is held as part of the **20th Anniversary of the Grand Opening of Moerenuma Park**, and also as a result of the international exchange program run by **Sapporo Tenjinyama Art Studio**, the city’s artist-in-residence hub.

Chikako Watanabe spent time in **Shiraoi, Hokkaido**—one day in 2023, two weeks the following year, and a more extended stay from summer into autumn in 2025. During her time there, she explored the land, its history, the ocean and mountains, and the people who live there. Throughout her practice, Watanabe has sought to visualize the memories of a place through a uniquely artistic lens and approach. Regarding this recent stay, she reflects:

“It felt like collecting beautiful coincidences—things I stumbled upon during a walk or encounters with people—and weaving them into the work.”

This exhibition invites you on a journey with the artist—tracing what can emerge when an artist meets a new place. It includes her recent projects in **Shiraoi**, as well as works related to the **Arctic Circle**, which served as a bridge to Hokkaido.

Here in **Moerenuma Park**, Watanabe has also encountered **Sapporo**. Somehow, it feels like the beginning of her next journey.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the **Mondriaan Fund** for its generous support of Chikako Watanabe’s work.

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Sapporo Tenjinyama Art Studio



Chikako Watanabe / Artist's Website

