



átoa
AQUARIUM × ART



NIBOSHI&

Envy for the beautiful life, where the extremely coloured NIBOSHIs shine.

NAMIKO**

きらきらニぼし

KIRAKIRA
= BOSHI

NIBOSHI and fish that live in the A4 world

2023 Crowd polka

2024 1.12 Fri

4.14 Sun

Organising/AQUARIUM×ART átoa
Cooperation/株式会社BI

Venue/AQUARIUM×ART átoa
2F MARINE NOTE

Address/7-2 Shinkocho, Chuo-ku, Kobe,
Hyogo 650-0041

Admission fee/Free *átoa entrance fee required.

THEATRICAL AQUARIUM IN THE PORT OF KOBE.

AQUARIUM × ART átoa

FILLED WITH NIBOSHI.

A world of detailed and colourful fish drawn by artist NAMIKO, who is fascinated by the NIBOSHI.

For this exhibition, 「きらきら=ぼし」 I have painted a circle of Niboshi on a round canvas under the theme of 'Circulation'. Harmony, food chain, sardine tornado... Where does the circle begin?

The kanji for fish (魚) and weak (弱) is combined to read iwashi (鰯) as sardine (esp. the sardine of the Japanese anchovy).

It is a really weak fish, but it is the one that supports the 'circle' of so many lives and is truly a behind-the-scenes force. If the sardine disappeared, that 'circle' would probably come to an end. I thought about this as I stared at the niboshi I had mistakenly purchased which was a drawing assignment when I was a university student. Since then, the Niboshi began to shine and I became obsessed.

Niboshi are condensed memories and blessings of the majestic sea, and they shine like jewels. Each of us human beings is also small and weak, but each of us is irreplaceable to someone else, and each of us is a 「きらきら=ぼし」 [Kira Kira ni Boshi] as "sparkling = star" that shines as brightly as a niboshi. And they are part of the 'circulation' that connects the baton of life.

I have been drawing for 18 years with the pure innocence of those days when I looked up at the first star that softly illuminated the ground through the cracks of the night's darkness and pointed my finger at it.

Harmony, but not congruence. Be true to your feelings, even if those around you don't understand you.

I hope my work will encourage those who see it.



2023 POLKA-DOT STINGRAY

ON CLOSER INSPECTION...

NAMIKO (NIBOSHI&)



Born in Aichi Prefecture. Since being fascinated by the 'niboshi', which do not lose their luster even when dried up, she has been creating artworks using 'niboshi' as a thematic motif. In her painting activities, she has drawn works on the theme of crowds and envy for life, and has won prizes in the Red Bull Ignition Osaka-Americamura Street Light Art Project, the KONICA MINOLTA × Pen magazine Eco & Art Award, the SHIBUYA ART AWARDS and others. In addition to her Niboshi works, she is currently involved in other activities such as producing collaborative goods and holding solo exhibitions through tie-ups with aquariums and companies across Japan with her colourful colour pencil works, mainly of fish. In the spring of 2024, her first solo exhibition in a foreign country will be held in Aquarium de Paris.



2023 PIRANHA



2023 RED-EYED TREE FROG



2023 REDTAIL CATFISH



2019 PIRARUCU-



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7-2 Shinkocho, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo 650-0041

TEL: 078-771-9393 <https://atoa-kobe.jp/>

HOURS OF OPERATION 10:00-20:00 (Final Admission 19:00)

*May be closed for maintenance (Occasional)

ADMISSION (General, organisations)

Adults (Ages 13+) 2,400yen / Child (Ages 7-12) 1,400yen / Infant (Ages 3-6) 800yen



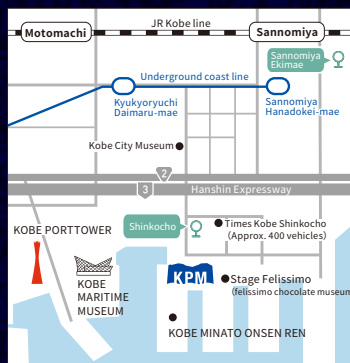
HP



Twitter



Instagram



ACCESS

18 minutes south on foot from Sannomiya Station on various lines (about 1.4 km)
Motomachi Station 15 minutes south on foot from

BY BUS

Get on a Port Loop bus or a bus bound for Port Island at SHINKIBUS Sannomiya Ekimae and get off at Shinkocho bus stop

BY CAR

1 minute from the Kyobashi exit on the Hanshin Expressway Route 3 Kobe Route
1 minute from the Shinko ramp on the Harbor Highway
*There is no dedicated (or partner) parking for cars or bikes.
Please use a nearby parking lot.