



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Aki Sasamoto, *Wrong Happy Hour*, 2014. JTT Gallery, New York. November 2, November 15, December 12, 2014. Photo by Ben Hagari. Courtesy the artist, JTT, and Take Ninagawa.



HIGH LINE ART PRESENTS

AKI SASAMOTO *FOOD RENTAL*

A HIGH LINE PERFORMANCE

**JULY 21, 22, AND 23, 2015 | PERFORMANCE AT 7:00 PM
ON THE HIGH LINE AT THE RAIL YARDS**

FREE ADMISSION | OPEN TO ALL AGES | NO RSVP REQUIRED

New York, NY (June 26, 2015) – Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art is pleased to announce that artist Aki Sasamoto will present *Food Rental* (2015), a new performance commissioned by High Line Art featuring a custom built food cart from which the artist will offer a menu of micro performances. The work will take place July 21 – 23, 2015 starting at 7:00 PM on the High Line at the Rail Yards, near West 30th Street and 11th Avenue. *Food Rental* is part of High Line Performances, a series that transforms the High Line into an open-air theater with performances on and around the park.

Aki Sasamoto stages her meandering performances against sparsely sketched sets scattered with miscellaneous collections of altered furniture and other household objects. Basing much of her choreography on physical training routines, the artist uses her body as an instrument of communication—perching on, pouncing through, and crawling out of the obstacles she has assembled, treating objects alternately as sets, props, and costumes. Sasamoto's performances follow the forward momentum of her monologues, as she slowly navigates across the room, forcing the surrounding crowd to shift around her movements. Sasamoto sets her plays inside the mind, tracing diagrams on white drywall backdrops as if on classroom whiteboards, and dancing between the roles of erratic professor, dissatisfied lover, and surreal psychotherapist.



For the High Line, Sasamoto presents *Food Rental*, a new performance for which she will bring a custom-built food cart to the High Line at the Rail Yards. From her perch inside the cart, Sasamoto will offer visitors an à la carte selection of micro performances and playful narrative demonstrations. Like an off-kilter life hacking



workshop, *Food Rental* will continue Sasamoto's history of performances that accost visitors with sneakily shifting stage sets and unruly props.

"We are thrilled to be able to present the work of Aki Sasamoto," says Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art. "Her playful performance of bespoke mini-events will be a welcome addition along the High Line and offer passing New Yorkers a rare opportunity to interact with an artist and her work."

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Aki Sasamoto (b. 1980, Japan) lives and works in New York. Recent solo exhibitions and performances have been featured at The Kitchen, New York (2014); Performa 13, New York (2013); Chocolate Factory Theater, New York (2012); and Center for Curatorial Studies, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York (2012). Notable group exhibitions include *Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015*, Japan (2015); *Pier 54*, High Line Art, New York (2014); *Out Of Doubt: Roppongi Crossing 2013*, Mori Art Museum, Tokyo (2013); *A Spoken Word Exhibition*, Galerie Nationale du Jeu de Paume, Paris (2013); *Omnilogue: Journey to West*, Lalit Kara Academy, New Delhi, India (2012); and *Greater New York: 5 Year Review*, MoMA PS1, New York (2010). Sasamoto's work has been featured at biennials include the Gwangju Biennial, South Korea (2012), the Whitney Biennial, New York (2010), and Yokohama Triennial, Japan (2008).

ABOUT HIGH LINE ART

Presented by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art commissions and produces public art projects on and around the High Line. Founded in 2009, High Line Art presents a wide array of artwork including site-specific commissions, exhibitions, performances, video programs, and a series of billboard interventions. Curated by Cecilia Alemani, the Donald R. Mullen, Jr. Director & Chief Curator of High Line Art, and produced by Friends of the High Line, High Line Art invites artists to think of creative ways to engage with the uniqueness of the architecture, history, and design of the High Line and to foster a productive dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood and urban landscape.

This project is supported, in part, by a grant from The Japan Foundation, New York.

High Line Art is presented by Friends of the High Line and the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation. High Line Art is made possible by Donald R. Mullen, Jr. and The Brown Foundation, Inc. of Houston. High Line Art is supported, in part, with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HIGH LINE

Friends of the High Line raises 98% of the High Line's annual budget.

Owned by the City of New York, the High Line is a public park maintained, operated, and programmed by Friends of the High Line, in partnership with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.

For further information on High Line Art, please visit art.thehighline.org.

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