Painter Nao Morigo



EDUCATION:

2001, Oil painting major of Kyoto Seika University in Japan (Contemporary art, Print making, Ceramics)

1999, Exchange student to University of Michigan Art & Design (Print making, Ceramics, Jewelry design)

AWARDS:

2024, The 10th Geoje International Art Festival, Achievement award, Haegeumgang Theme Museum・Yukyung Art Museum, Geoje South Korea

2024, Galleria De Marchi, Premio de Marchi speciale for MinAri group, Bologna Italy

2023, Busan International Art Fair, Bronze Award, Busan South Korea

2021, The 7th Geoje International Art Festival, Achievement award, Haegeumgang Theme Museum・Yukyung Art Museum, Geoje South Korea

2021, Achievement award for jury from International Culture & Arts Federation, South Korea

2021, Achievement award for jury from Kim Sungjae President of Korea Art Fair and Kim Boseong, President of Korea Artist Council, South Korea

2021, Achievement award from Kim Bo Seong Art Center, South Korea

2021, OSAKA INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION, Art Division Grand Prix, Osaka Japan

2020, The 6th Geoje International Art Festival, Award of Appreciation, Haegeumgang Theme Museum・Yukyung Art Museum, South Korea

2019, The 5th Geoje International Art Festival, Special Achievement award, Haegeumgang Theme Museum・Yukyung Art Museum, South Korea

2018, The 4th Geoje International Art Festival, Special prize, Haegeumgang Theme Museum・Yukyung Art Museum, South Korea

2017, Chosen as “Artist meets GALLERY” at Kobe Art Marche, Hyogo Japan

2017, First Runner Up of the 2017 Ronin | Globus Artist-in- Residence Program, NY USA

2016, Excellence Award Katsuragi Art Fair, Nara Japan

2016, Specialist (Honorable Mentions) of the 2016 Ronin | Globus Artist-in- Residence Program, NY USA

2015, Third Award Katsuragi Art Fair, Nara Japan

2010, “Ikka” Selected by Sougen Calligraphy Society, Japan

2007-09, “Nika” Award by Sougen Calligraphy Society, Japan

2000, Selected Ann Arbor art center Public Exhibition (Mixed Media, Collage and Prints on Ceramics), MI USA

BIOGRAPHY:

Nao Morigo is a contemporary artist based in Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture, and is known for his distinctive paintings that exude a Japanese and international atmosphere.

Nao majored in oil painting at Kyoto Seika University and studied printmaking and ceramics at the University of Michigan as an exchange student. However as she gained more experience abroad, she realized that there were indelible Japanese characteristics within herself, and in recent years her work has developed in incorporate Japanese elements..

Nao Morigo have been exhibit in many gallery, museum and department store in Japan but recently her activity grown to the world.

Her art works has been featured in numerous prestigious exhibitions, art festivals overseas and she has won multiple awards., including in Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, the Philippines, South Korea, the United States, France, Italy, and India, and so on.

Her first solo exhibition in overseas was in Singapore in 2015. And second overseas solo exhibition was Paris in 2016 and third one was titled "Between Fantasy and Reality," at the Art Anton Gallery in Manila in 2021.

She won the Grand Prix at the OSAKA INTERNATIONAL COLLECTION in 2021, and as a bonus prize, she exhibited her work at the Art Shopping held at the Carrousel du Louvre in Paris in 2023, through MI Gallery.

She worked as jury and curation for Haegeumgang Theme Museum, Yukyung Art Museum in south Korea, and she got several award.

In 2016 and 2017, she got award at the Artist-in-Residence Program with Ronin Gallery and Globus Gallery in central New York, and in 2023, Vision art media picked her up as “100 Female Artists of the World” and showed on Big Screen at Times Square in New York City and greatly advanced her career in the United States.

Her consistent recognition at art festivals highlights her influence in the art community.

In addition to exhibitions, Nao has been involved in various commercial projects, including collaborations with brands such as Nestle and producing CD cover art. Her work has also been featured a lot in the media, including The Telegraph ePaper in Kolkata India, demonstrating her influence in both the local and international art scenes. Nao not only serves as a juror at international art festivals and actively participates in exhibitions, but also works as a cultural ambassador and strives to promote the arts. Her dynamic presence in the art community is further enhanced by her participation in live painting events and community initiatives.

Since around 1998, she has been engaging with themes of consciousness, the unconscious, chance, and time in her artwork.
From 2012, she began creating a series of travel landscapes "trip to..." using acrylic paints, incorporating collage of newspapers from her travel destinations to embed the concept of "time of the place" within her paintings.
Starting in 2015, she began the "Gaps of Time" series, focusing on the theme of "time."
In 2017, she developed the idea that "we are controlled by our subconscious and unconscious," leading to the creation of the "Desire" series and "Mysterious Landscapes" series.
Currently, she creates enigmatic landscapes, questioning whether we all see the same scenery in the world we observe. Drawing from her "Consciousness Drawings" since 1998, she incorporates brass, copper powders and those leaf to present her perspective and challenge viewers to see the world through a new lens.

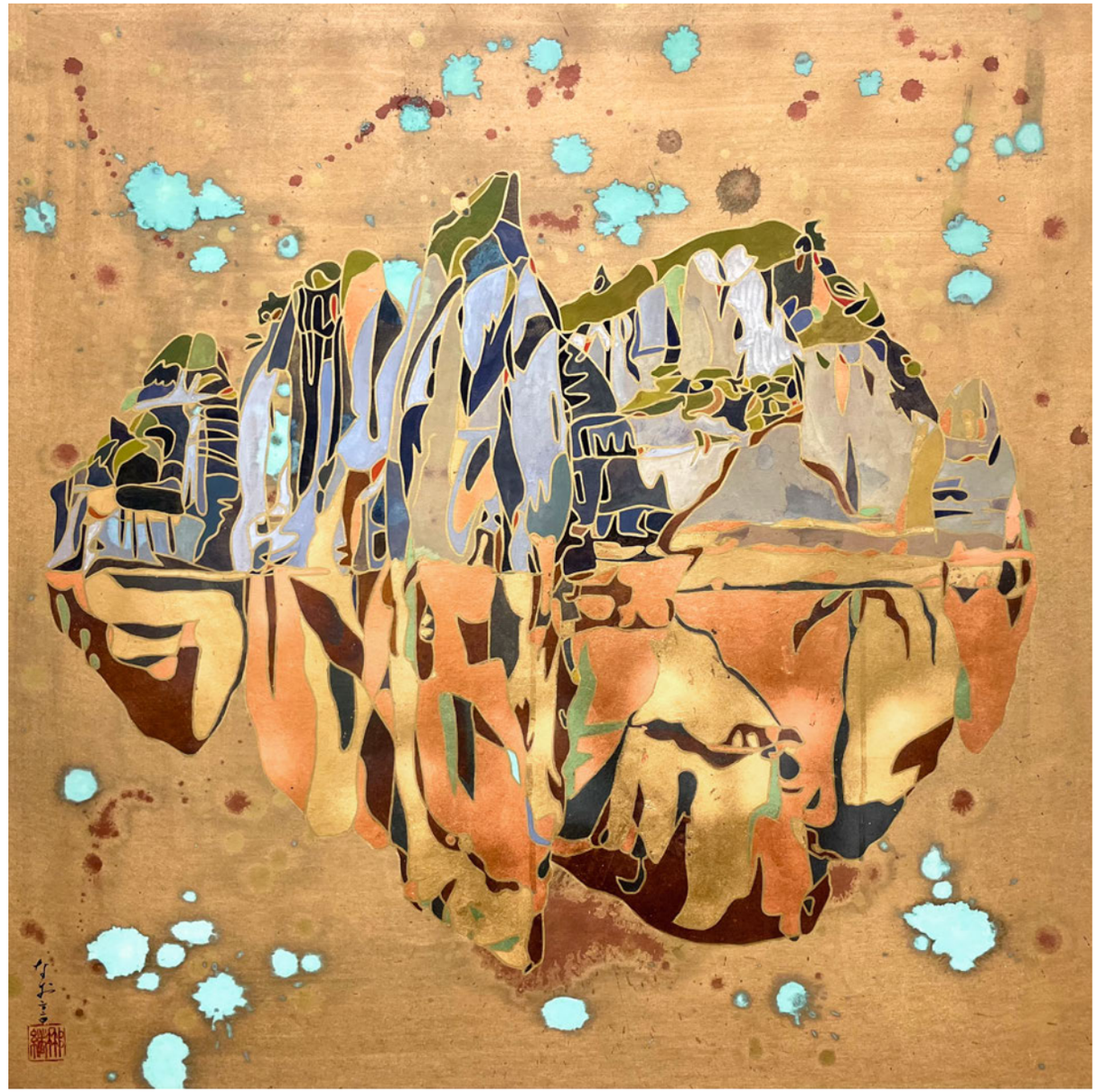
DESCRIPTION OF WORK:

She is utilizing lines from drawings of consciousness created around 1998, uses pigment and powder or foil of brass, copper, silver.
By creating a mysterious atmosphere of a landscape that actually exists, as if it were a memory seen in a dream, she encourages the viewer to once again become aware of the landscape from a different perspective than the one seen with the eye.
The greenish-blue of background is verdigris, a rusted copper that has turned blue.



2020 / Red Mt. Fuji / 410×318 ㎜ (F6) / Brass, Copper, Gesso, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel

真鍮粉、銅粉、顔料、ジェッソ、麻紙、木パネル



2024 / Haegeumgang Lion Rock (South Korea) / 727×727 ㎜ (S20) / Brass, Copper, Silver, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel

真鍮粉、銅粉、銅箔、洋金 (真鍮箔)、青貝箔（銀)、赤貝箔（銀)、色箔（銀)、顔料、麻紙、木パネル



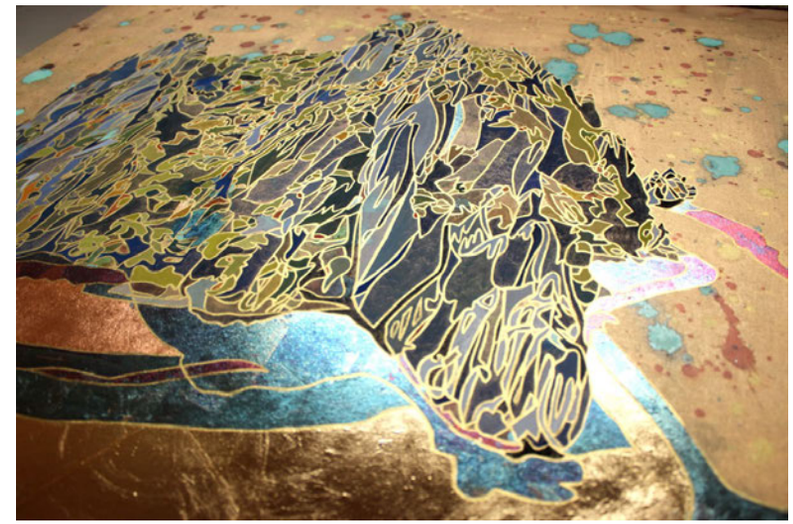
Due to the use of metal materials, the color expression will vary depending on the angle and lighting.
金属素材を使用しているため、角度や光の加減で色の表現が異なります。



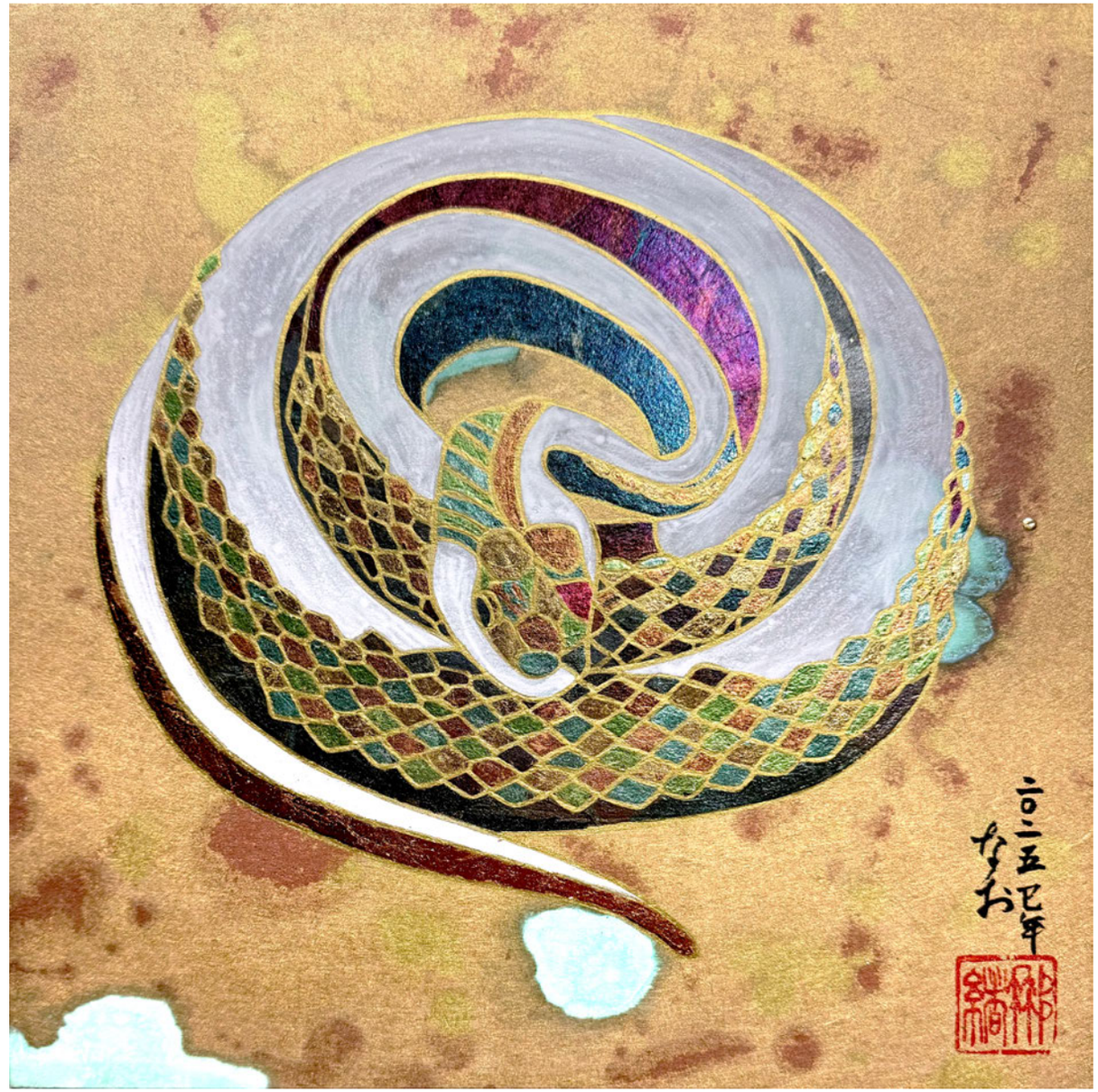
2024 / Lotus / 727×727 ㎜ (S20) / Brass, Copper, Silver, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel
真鍮粉、銅粉、銅箔、洋金 (真鍮箔)、青貝箔（銀)、赤貝箔（銀)、顔料、麻紙、木パネル



Due to the use of metal materials, the color expression will vary depending on the angle and lighting.
金属素材を使用しているため、角度や光の加減で色の表現が異なります。



2024 / El Nido / 727×727 ㎜ (S20) / Brass, Copper, Silver, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel
真鍮粉、銅粉、銅箔、洋金 (真鍮箔)、青貝箔（銀)、赤貝箔（銀)、顔料、麻紙、木パネル



2024 / Year of the Snake / 273×273 ㎜ (S3) / Brass, Copper, Silver, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel

真鍮粉、銅粉、銅箔、洋金 (真鍮箔)、青貝箔（銀)、赤貝箔（銀)、色箔（銀)、顔料、麻紙、木パネル



2024 / Shambala Silang (Philippines) / 727×727 ㎜ (S20) / Brass, Copper, Silver, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel

真鍮粉、銅粉、銅箔、洋金 (真鍮箔)、青貝箔（銀)、赤貝箔（銀)、色箔（銀)、顔料、麻紙、木パネル



2024 / Lily / 455×273 ㎜ (M8) / Brass, Copper, Silver, Pigment, Hemp paper, Wood Panel

真鍮粉、銅粉、銅箔、洋金 (真鍮箔)、青貝箔（銀)、赤貝箔（銀)、顔料、麻紙、木パネル

Major SOLO EXHIBITIONS (list latest first, and exhibition name, location, city, country):

2024, 2023, 2022, 2019, 2018, 2017, 2015, 2014, Nao Morigo Solo exhibition, Gallery Kitano-zaka, Kobe Japan

2024, Nao Morigo Exhibition “Between Fantasy and Reality” , Art Anton, Pasay Philippines

2024, Nao Morigo Exhibition “Tracking Consciousness” , Rhine House, Kobe Japan

2023, Nao Morigo Exhibition, Kobe Chuo Ward Culture Center, Kobe Japan

2023, Consciousness and Unconsciousness in Dialogue, Art gallery Kitano, Kyoto Japan

2023, Nao Morigo 108 Earth's Desires Exhibition, ON the UMEDA, Osaka Japan

2023, Nao Morigo Solo exhibition, Nestlé Japan Ltd. headoffice, Kobe Japan

2022, Nao Morigo 108 Earth's Desires Exhibition, Gallery Bricolage, Kobe Japan

2022, Nao Morigo Exhibition, Grand Bleu Gamin Villa, Miyako island in Okinawa Japan

2021, Art Kobe, ANA Crowne Plaza Hotel, Kobe Japan

2021, Any Kobe, Kobe City Certified Traditional Building "Rhine House", Kobe Japan

2020, Kobe Hankyu department store “Nao Morigo’ s world” exhibition, Hyogo Japan

2016, Nao Morigo Solo Exhibition, Kita Art Museum, Nara Japan

2016, Nao Morigo Solo Exhibition, Hyogo prefecture Paris Office, Paris France

2015, nao morigo Solo Exhibition, Hotel & Residence Roppongi, Tokyo Japan

2015, Nao Morigo Solo Exhibition, Sallu, Singapore

And more (more than 20 times)

Major GROUP EXHIBITIONS (list latest first, and exhibition name, location, city, country):

2025, MinAri International Art Exhibition, Manila Clock Tower Museum, Manila, Philippines

2024, 'MIDAS PROGRAM, The Monarch, The Monarch, Muntinlupa Philippines

2024, The 38th | 2020, The 34th | 2019, The 33th | 2018, The 32th | 2017, The 31th | 2016, The 30th, Kyoto Art Festival International Exchange and Exhibition, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art Annex, Kyoto Japan

2024, MinAri International Art Exhibition "Sakura Japan", Art gallery Kitano, Kyoto Japan

2024, 'Quiet, like the pause in between sighs', Art Anton, Pasay Philippines

2024, Bonnou Exhibition, Park Hotel Tokyo, Tokyo Japan

2024, Premio Terodorico2 exhibition, Ravenna Art Gallery, Ravenna Italy

2023, MinAri International Art Exhibition, Kalyehon Cafe gallery, Imus Philippines

2023, Nao Morigo and Mayu Kunihisa Zen Exhibition, Hyogo Representative Office in Europe, Paris France

2023, The Manila Experience (MinAri International Artist group), Art Anton, Pasay Philippines

2023, Incontri Europei (European Encounter), Palazzo d'Accursio, Bologna Italy

2023, MinAri International Art Exhibition, Galleria D'Arte de Marchi, Bologna Italy

2022, MinAri International Art Exhibition, Venice Art Gallery, Venice Italy

2022, MinAri International Art Exhibition, Villa Valetudine gallery, Udine Italy

2018-21 and 2024, 4th-7th and 10th International Art Festival, Haegeumgang Theme Museum, Yukyung Art Museum, Geoje South Korea

2019, 2nd International Exhibition Hapcheon Korean Medicine Museum, South Korea

2018, Contemporary artist Guild 50th Anniversary Exhibit at Maggi Peyton Gallery in Manhattan Municipal Building, NY USA

2018, Infinity Japan Contemporary Art Show, Hotel Royal Nikko Taipei

2017, UNKNOWN ASIA (art fair), Osaka Japan

2017, Ronin|Globus Artist-in- Residence Program Winner's exhibition, Ronin gallery, NY USA

2017, Kobe Art Marche (art fair), Kobe Meriken Park Oriental Hotel, Kobe Japan

2016, Company Collaboration Art with Nestle, NESCAFE Harajuku, Tokyo Japan

2016, Katsuragi Art Fair, Nara Japan

2016, Kolkata International Art Exhibition, Rabindranath Tagore Center (ICCR), Kolkata India

2016, Ronin|Globus Artist-in-Residence Program Winner's exhibition, Ronin gallery, NY USA

2016, ICFF, Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, NYC USA

2015, Katsuragi Art Fair, Nara Japan

2015, Group exhibition, The Lobby at Hankyu Department store, Mens Osaka, Osaka Japan

2014, Kobe Art Marche (art fair), Kobe Meriken Park Oriental Hotel, Kobe Japan

2014, Tokyo International Art Fair, Tokyo Japan

2001, Kyoto Seika university graduate exhibition, Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, Kyoto Japan

2000, Winner’s exhibition, Ann Arbor art center, MI USA

And many more

Collections:

Hotel and Residence Roppongi Tokyo, Japan

Haegeumgang Theme Museum, Geoje-si, Korea

The Geoje culture and art platform 'See the Sea' in Korea

Iwaki Ballet Company Tokyo, Japan

PIPELINE Co., Ltd.

Other:

2020-2021 and 2024-2025 Jury for International Art Festival at Haegeumgang Theme Museum, Geoje Korea

2021 Cultural Ambassador of International Council of Museum ASPAC, Korea

2014-2018 Jury of public exhibition JAM (All Japan Art Materials Council)

Since 2018 Personality of Internet radio program “RadiCro Spark!”

Media Coverage:

2025, “A special art experience that will bring out your child's creativity and individuality! "Kobekko Art" run by world-renowned artist Nao Morigo”, ‘Goguy net’ and ‘Yahoo! news’ , Online

2023, Selected as 100 FEMALE ARTISTS OF THE WORLD and displayed NAO MORIGO information on big screen in NYC

2021, Osaka International Collection, About Artist award Grand Prix, Senken Newspaper, Japan

2021, Interview of ‘ballet Tosca’, as a painter on the stage paintings, Mainichi newspaper, Japan

2019, Interview , Hirumeshi tabi, TV Tokyo

2017, About ‘First runner-up’ in the 2017 Ronin | Globus Artist-in-Program, Spoon & Tamago, Online

2015, Interview about Nao Morigo, Web magazine INSPICE

2016, About ‘Honorable mention’ in the 2016 Ronin | Globus Artist-in-Program, Spoon & Tamago and NEW YORK biz, Online

2016, Kolkata International Art Exhibition, The Telegraph, Kolkata India, Online

2014, Worked on CD jacket artwork, /skream! / OKMusic / excite News / Infoseek News / dot. Aasahi newspaper publication(Billboard JAPAN) / billboard JAPAN / RO69 / CINRA.NET / Music Natalie / WHAT’s IN? WEB / YAHOO! News, Japan, Online

2014, Interview about Nao Morigo, Kobe newspaper Japan

2014, FMMOOV Radio show

2013, Interview about Nao Morigo, TIGER thermos SAHARA style