KYUNCHOME

The Room to Find Your Breath

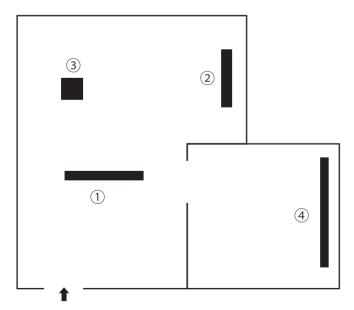
2024.10.12-2025.03.31

I believe that art is a form of "prayer." And I think that "prayer" is not just about wishing for something, but that the very cycle of the world itself is a kind of "prayer." Being born, living, eating, dying, and becoming nourishment for others. The world is made up of this cycle, and we are just a small part of it. Even our breathing is part of this cycle. We are always connected to nature and are a part of it. But feeling this in the city is very hard. Civilization and culture have moved in a direction that breaks this cycle. That's why I wanted to create this space, in a small room underground in the city, where we can return to the cycle.

Meeting the ocean is like meeting myself. For about two years now, whenever I have time, I go diving in the sea. The ocean is a place where one small mistake can mean death. It's also a place where you can hardly hear any sound. What I focus on most there is the sound of my own breathing. Breathing in the oxygen made by plants and the algae in coral, then breathing it out again. All living things are breathing now, and I am a part of that, too. Through my breathing, I could hear the sound of this miraculous cycle.

I hope this place becomes a space for you to listen to your own breathing. It's okay to close your eyes. It's fine if you fall asleep. Prayer and happiness begin the moment you rediscover yourself.

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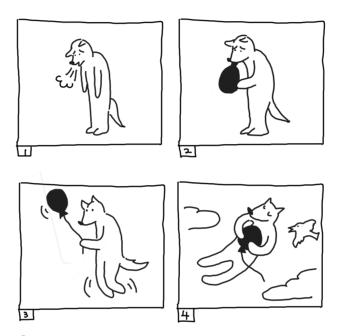
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1) Floating with Sighs

2022

Video 4min. 36sec.

One day, when I was sighing all the time, I wanted to lift my sinking spirits, so I started filling balloons with my sighs. I thought that once the balloons were full, I might be able to fly, but of course, I couldn't fly. So, I decided to jump into the sea that spread out before me and try floating on my sighs. Supported by my sighs, I floated in the sea, and little by little, I began to enjoy myself and forgot all about what I had been sighing about.

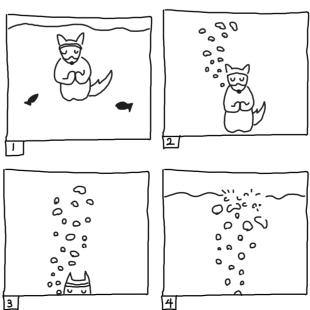


2 Prayers Dissolved in the Sea

2022-2023

Video 12min. 23sec.

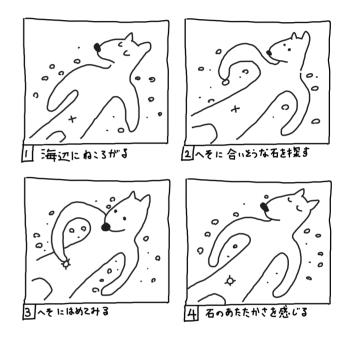
As I sank into the sea, I repeatedly chanted words of wishes and prayers. My voice turned into bubbles that rose to the surface, and my prayers dissolved into the sea.



3 A Stone That Fits a Belly Button

2023

On April 24, 2023, I spent the entire day lying down and watching the sea. When I picked up a stone from the beach, it was round and smooth, and it felt pleasant to the touch. I picked up the stone and, on a whim, placed it in my navel, where it fit perfectly. The warmth of the stone, heated all day by the sun, transferred to me through my navel, giving me a strange feeling. As I slowly inhaled and exhaled, the stone in my navel gradually became more attuned to my body, and I felt as though I had formed a special connection with the Earth.



4 Crossing the Ocean with a Goldfish

2022

Video 6min. 2sec.

Neither the goldfish nor I can survive in the sea, but together, I felt we could cross the ocean.

