

**OSAKA** 

PRADA MODE OSAKA UMEKITA PARK, OSAKA

## **INUJIMA PROJECT**

## PRADA MODE OSAKA AND INUJIMA PROJECT 4–15 JUNE, 2025 OSAKA AND INUJIMA

Milan, 2 April 2025 — In June 2025, Prada will present the twelfth iteration of Prada Mode in Osaka alongside Inujima Project in collaboration with Kazuyo Sejima. The two events represent Sejima's vision for the island of Inujima, as well as Prada's second edition of Prada Mode with the director of Kazuyo Sejima & Associates and co-founder of SANAA. Prada Mode Osaka will be the latest edition of Prada's contemporary cultural series, presenting an exhibition about Sejima's transformational projects in Inujima and taking place in Osaka, Japan. Inujima Project, a connected multi-day preview taking place in Inujima, will directly precede Prada Mode Osaka.

In 2008, the Fukutake Foundation, which manages the Benesse Art Site Naoshima, invited Sejima to reimagine and shape the built environment of Inujima. For Prada Mode Osaka, an exhibition curated by the architect will share this ongoing work through models, videos, and other materials at a SANAA-designed pavilion located in Umekita Park in Osaka. In the days leading up to Prada Mode Osaka, Inujima Project will offer a private preview of Inujima, introducing the history of the island, Sejima's projects there over the past 17 years, and her vision for its future. During Inujima Project, Prada and the architect will unveil a permanent pavilion at Inujima Life Garden, designed by Sejima and donated to the island by Prada.

"On Inujima, a tiny island rich in nature, visitors will encounter and experience Symbiosis — a landscape that combines history, architecture, art, and daily life. In Osaka, a city with historical ties to Inujima, this experience will be shared and expanded to reach a wider audience. At this edition of Prada Mode, Symbiosis will take shape through conversations and discoveries, creating a new landscape that continues to grow with the participation of all," says Kazuyo Sejima.

Prada Mode Osaka will include conversations and workshops curated by Sejima to deepen the story of the exhibition. Inujima Project will include a tour of the island, as well as musical and artistic programming curated by Sejima taking place in historic buildings and spaces. Inujima Project will take place from June 4th to 6th, with Prada Mode Osaka to follow, functioning as a private members' club on June 7th and open to the public from June 8th to 15th.

For more information: Prada Press Office corporatepress@prada.com

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#### **ABOUT KAZUYO SEJIMA**

Born in Ibaraki, Japan, Kazuyo Sejima graduated from the Japan Women's University in 1981. In 1987 she opened her own studio in Tokyo and then in 1995, together with Ryue Nishizawa, she founded SANAA. Her own works include House in Plum Grove, Inujima "Art House Project", and Japan Women's University Mejiro Campus. SANAA's main works include the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa, the Rolex Learning Center, Louvre-Lens, Grace Farms, Bocconi University New Urban Campus, La Samaritaine, Art Gallery of New South Wales Expansion — Naala Badu Building, and Edward and Joyce Linde Music Building W18, Cambridge, USA, 2024.

In 2010, Kazuyo Sejima was appointed director of the 12th International Architecture Exhibition of the Venice Biennale. Her honors include the Japan Architecture Award, Venice Biennale Golden Lion Award, Rolf Schock Prize in Category of Visual Arts, Pritzker Architecture Prize, Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, Prix de l'Équerre d'Argent, the Medal with Purple Ribbon, Thomas Jefferson Medal, Praemium Imperiale, and the 2025 Royal Gold Medal by the Royal Institute of British Architects.

She is currently a professor at the Polytechnic University of Milan, a visiting professor at Japan Women's University and Osaka University of Arts, an Emeritus Professor at Yokohama National University, and Director of Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum.

She was the designer of a Prada bag for Prada Invites — Spring Summer 2019, the designer of the exhibition "Paraventi: Folding Screens from the 17th to 21st Centuries" at Fondazione Prada 2023, and the curator of Prada Mode Tokyo 2023.

### **ABOUT UMEKITA PARK**

Umekita Park is a park located in the city center of Osaka. Unveiled in the fall of 2024, it is one of the largest urban parks in the world, covering an area of 45,000 square meters, and directly connected to Osaka Station, the largest transportation terminal in western Japan. Prada Mode Osaka will take place within the park at a SANAA-designed pavilion, which includes a café, an information center, and an event space delineated by three distinct curve forms.





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### **ABOUT INUJIMA**

Inujima is a small island located in the Japanese Seto Inland Sea near Naoshima, in western Japan. Historically, the island was known for its quarries and copper smelting; at the turn of the 20th century, the island was said to have boasted 5,000 inhabitants. In the intervening years, the island's industry has slowly declined and the refinery was abandoned for almost a century. By 2008, a total of about 40 people lived on the island, with an average age of 70 years old. That same year, the Fukutake Foundation, which has managed the Benesse Art Site Naoshima since the 1980s, opened the Inujima Seirensho Art Museum in the refinery space and invited Kazuyo Sejima and the Artistic Director Yuko Hasegawa to transform the island and think about it as a whole as a part of the Benesse Art Site Naoshima project. Working in phases, Sejima renovated older housing, built gallery spaces, organized workshops and a community garden, and built visitor accommodations to allow for a deeper experience of the island. The Inujima "Art House Project" was unveiled with the opening of F-Art House in 2010. For the occasion of Prada Mode Osaka and Inujima Project, Prada will donate a permanent pavilion designed by Sejima, located in the Inujima Life Garden.

### **ABOUT PRADA MODE**

Prada Mode — a natural evolution of the iconic Prada Double Club by artist Carsten Höller (London 2008/2009; Miami 2017; Los Angeles 2024) — is a contemporary cultural series where visitors journey across art, music, food and entertainment engaging in once in a lifetime experiences. Imagined as a place that augments and extends significant global cultural gatherings at diverse locations worldwide, Prada Mode offers guests access to unique programs and content that complement the themes and subjects of the host event. Past iterations (2018–2025) were held in Miami, Hong Kong, London, Paris, Shanghai, Moscow, Los Angeles, Dubai, Tokyo, Seoul, and Abu Dhabi, and featured works and installations by several artists, directors and photographers, such as Jamie Diamond, Kate Crawford and Trevor Paglen, Jia Zhang-Ke, Damien Hirst, Martine Syms, Lee Sook-Kyung, Kim Jee-Woon, Yeon Sang-ho, Jeong Dahee, and Theaster Gates.