

ABOUT AKIRA HASEGAWA

Media artist, Akira Hasegawa, was born in Komatsu City, Ishikawa Prefecture, Japan, in 1947. Since 1973, he has worked on over 4,000 film, television commercial, video, cyber graphic design and computer art projects as an art & creative director, producer and director. These projects include: logo creation and title images for CCTV (China Central Television); NHK TV Japan National Broadcasting Network, award winning opening title sequences for “Dragon Spirit”, Atlanta Olympics; conceptual videos for EXPO 2005, Aichi; cyber graphics for Israeli musician, Ofra Haza’s IMAX music video “I Want to Fly”. For his efforts, he has received numerous awards and prizes, including the prestigious, top award from the TVCM section of NAB Japan (The National Association of Commercial Broadcasters in Japan).

Since 2002, Hasegawa has presented over 100 Digital Kakejiku (Digital Hanging Scroll), D-K Live art installations that project large scale, abstract images that slowly move, constantly change, onto famous architectural structures and natural surroundings in spectacular displays of brilliant color, light and patterns...”A Kaleidoscope at Night”. He received The 2007 Public Art Year in Review (a Recognition Award, the only one of its kind given in America for public art programs), for his D-K Live installation on the Richard Meier designed, San Jose City Hall’s glass dome, August, 2006, during “ZeroOne San Jose: A Festival of Art on the Edge”, his first show in the United States. It is featured in “Media Facades: History, Technology, Content” by M. Hank Haesuler, published in 2009, by avedition.

His D-K Live installation illuminated the interior of Okuma Hall, Waseda University, for the “GLOBAL SUMMIT FOR ECOLOGY 2008”, where former Vice President Al Gore received Hasegawa’s all natural *wagi*, “Carbon Reserve”, calligraphy on wood, as an award from the group. “Wind”, his calligraphy exhibit, including *wagi*, D-K OffTime TV videos and Ikebana flower arrangements, at the Ishikawa International Exchange Salon, May 11-23, 2010 in Kanazawa, showcased his work in a restored traditional Taishio era Japanese house and garden, illustrating his belief in integrating ancient and contemporary electronic art—side by side. The 21st Century Art Museum of Contemporary Art, located nearby, designed by Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa of SANAA (winners of The 2010 Pritzker Architecture Prize) was the site of a D-K Live art installation in 2003, on its bare steel girders, while it was still under construction.

Hasegawa is also a lecturer on high-tech arts, the concept of time in cyberspace, intellectual technology and other subjects related to science and technology, speaking at such institutions as the Japanese Ministry of Culture, Science & Technology and many universities. He is a consultant to the Tokyo University of Technology, NHK (Japan National Broadcasting) Computer Graphics Center, advisor to the Japan-China Project and Art Director/Producer for the International Internet-Robotics Society.

Japanese high school science technology text books carry information about him for inventing “a new phenomena”, as well as, a new machine (which he describes as a “sensitizing instrument” and calls Digital Kakejiku) which lights up a large area (architectural or natural surroundings) with random sequences of abstract images which are constantly changing at a very slow pace...D-K Live. At a glance it appears to be still,

but turn away for a minute...and the image is totally transformed. Kakejiku, which refers to the traditional “hanging scroll” paintings found on the walls of homes in Japan that are changed regularly to relate to the season, holiday, mood or to honor a particular guest. It is in this sense, as a constantly changing art form, that Hasegawa has updated it for 21st Century life. Because D-K produces an infinite variety of images, it has also had wide commercial application, such as billboards at the Nagano Winter Olympics, credit cards for Mitsubishi Bank and fabric patterns for Issey Miyake.

However, it is D-K’s outdoor nighttime transformation of UNESCO World Heritage sites, monuments, buildings and natural surroundings, that has transfixed audiences around the world by a magical connection with nature, the rhythms of life and the Universe itself. Since developing D-K, Akira Hasegawa has used his installations as a platform to explain human inter-connectedness, on a subconscious level, to all living things and to the Universe.

Its spiritual connections were underscored by the D-K Live art installation on historic Uji Bridge, at the entrance of Japan’s most revered, sacred site, The Grand Ise Shrine, as part of re-opening and re-dedication ceremonies of the traditional wooden structure, at the end of a 20 year rebuilding cycle, one started 1,300 years ago. The November 3, 2009 event, coincided with “*Bunka no hi*”, the Japanese national holiday celebrating culture and the arts, and was watched by a crowd of 250,000 on the banks of the Isuzu River. Ise Shrine honored Hasegawa for dedicating the bridge with the “Spirit of Light” with a prize and by granting the right for D-K to be called “an Omen of Good Luck”.

The event was filmed in 4K HD by director Peter H. Chang for the new experiential television series “Lightscares”, which will premiere on Discovery’s HD Theater, Monday, June 21, 2010 at 7:30 AM ET/PT. “Lightscares” is a co-production of Cinefugue Productions and Cross Media International. Inspired by Akira Hasegawa’s art and his unique personal character during filming of Cinefugue’s documentary about Japanese youth counterculture, “Children of Enlightenment”, Chang teamed up with Executive Producer Christopher Frey at Cross Media International to produce both a standalone documentary about Akira Hasegawa himself, as well as, a television series built around Akira’s art.

Hasegawa’s firm, CPM studio inc., with its state of the art, computer generated cyber graphics laboratory, is located in the scenic mountain city of Komatsu, in Ishikawa Prefecture. A city with a long cultural and artistic tradition, Komatsu today is a center of heavy machinery, equipment and technology manufacturing, with ten universities, many specializing in high technology research. He resides there, in the city of his birth, with his wife and two children, who are away at universities.

Akira Hasegawa D-K Live Video, Media, Advertising, Articles, Photos

D-K Live Installation Records

Video:

D-K Installations 2004-2007

<http://vimeo.com/2958812>

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/01/vidiod-k-installation-records-2004-2007.html>

D-K Installations with traditional Gagaku music

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/d-k-installations-with-gagaku-music.html>

Kanazawa Museum, October 18, 2003

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/kanazawamuseum20031018.html>

Tokyo International Forum, Urakuchō, Tokyo, December 21, 2005

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/tokyo-international-forum-dec2005.html>

KouShou-ji Zen Mountain Temple, June 3, 2006

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/06/20060603dkkoushoujivideo.html>

Sannomiya Shrine, Motomachi, Kobe, August 21, 2007

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/08/akira-hasegawas-d-k-live-art.html>

EXPO PARK '70, Osaka, December 20-25, 2008

<http://d-k-nippon.blogspot.com/2008/12/d-k-live-illuminight-xmas-party-dk-from.html>

Horin-ji Temple, Arashiyama, Kyoto, December 12, 2008

<http://d-k-nippon.blogspot.com/2008/12/recordd-k-live-jr-dk-dk-dk-d-k-live.html>

Thunderbird Valley Sky Resort, Tateyama Mountain, Toyama, February 7, 2009

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/02/first-time-on-snow-akira-hasegawas.html>

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/02/vidiod-k-installation-at-thunderbird.html>

Elixir, Performance, Osaka, March 20, 2009

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/03/once-in-life-time-in-japanese-zen-words.html>

Video Media Coverage

Toyama TV News, pre-event interview, October 9, 2003 before D-K Live at Shin-Minato

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/tvtoyamanews20031002000.html>

NHK TV Morning News, April 30, 2006

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/04/tvnhkmorningnews2004.html>

NHK TV Documentary, "My Sweet Home", May, 2006

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/ahatvnhkdocumentary001.html>

Kanazawa TV, "God and D-K", July 1, 2006

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/08/godanddk20060701.html>

What's Cracking TV, San Jose, "D-K Live on San Jose City Hall", July, 2007

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmEZZJQCfk4>

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/07/digital-kakejiku-akira-hasegawa-zero-1.html>

Tateyama TV, interview at Thunderbird Ski Resort, February 7, 2009

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/02/akira-hasegawas-comment-on-his-d-k-art.html>

You Tube, Elixir, Bijin Hakumei Session, Osaka, March, 2009

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/03/digital-kakejiku-lights-up-elixir-night.html>

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/03/once-in-life-time-in-japanese-zen-words.html>

Advertising Usages:

WACOAL, film, Opening Ceremony for new building

designed by Shin Takamatsu, Kyoto, 1999

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/04/release-wacoal-new-office-bulding-1999.html>

SUNTORY, commercial for Suntory Whisky Royal

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/cpmtvcfsuntory.html>

SUMITOMO TRUST BANK, commercial, "Hasu" (Lotus Flower) with "When You Sing" sung by Nana Mouskouri

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/cpmsumitomobank-tvcf.html>

Television Program Opening Titles: 1. NHK TV Sports; 2. NHK TV Saturday Sports; 3. NHK TV Atlanta Olympics 1996; 4. DIRECTV JAPAN, "Entertainment & Emotions, Are All Within You. You Are Direct TV"; 5. CCTV (China Central Television) logo; 6. DIRECTV JAPAN (2).

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/cpmcovertvtitle.html>

YUNOKUNI NO MORI, commercial for traditional handicraft theme park, arts & crafts experience resort, Hokuriku, Japan

http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/yunokuni-no-mori-tvcf_114722197771628085.html

Articles:

"Digital Kakejiku San Jose", Astscape International, September 2006, by Thomas Daniell

http://www.artscape.ne.jp/artscape/eng/focus/0609_02.html

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/09/httpwww.html>

"D-K Concept" by Akira Hasegawa

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/concept.html>

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/07/at-glance-d-k-seems-to-consist-of.html>

"Exposure Time", *Archis*, January, 2004 by Thomas Daniell, best technical explanation of D-K

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/05/exposure-time-two-media-art.html>

Excerpts from speeches concerning the concept of “Humility” given to describe D-K, by Rev. Harunobu Takashiro, Associate Chief Priest, The Grand Ise Shrine, July 2, 2005; Kouichi Ezawa, Priest, Ise Shrine, May 6 & May 31, 2005; Akira Hasegawa
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/06/concept-of-humility-is-most-important.html>

Excerpts from ISEA 2006/ZeroOne San Jose letter inviting Akira Hasegawa to present his work in San Jose, August 8 – 13, 2006
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/08/hi-friends.html>

Text & video by Thomas Daniell, D-K Live at Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe, June 20, 2007
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/07/20070705-2301-by-thomas-daniell-last.html>

Text & photos by Victor Yokono, D-K Live at Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe, June 20, 2007, with photo of Akira Hasegawa and projectors
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/07/d-k-live-at-hyogo-prefectural-museum-of.html>

Text & photos by Victor Yokono, D-K Live at “Mother S.O.S. 2007”, Tsugaike Ski Resort, Nagano, August 14, 2007 & D-K Live at Sannomiya Shrine, Kobe, August 23, 2007; text by Carol Speed, D-K Live at Hyogo Prefectural Hall, Kobe, August 20, 2007
http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007_08_01_archive.html
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/08/akira-hasegawas-d-k-live-art.html>

Text in English & Japanese and photograph of former Vice President Al Gore, receiving *wagi* calligraphy by Akira Hasegawa at “GLOBAL SUMMIT FOR ECOLOGY 2008”, Waseda University, November 9, 2008
<http://d-k-nippon.blogspot.com/2008//carbon-reserve-art-al-gore-received-sho.html>

Invitation material for Akira Hasegawa to participate in the Akira Kurosawa 100th Anniversary of his Birth Project, June-July 2009
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/02/dk-invited-to-ak100p-in-june-july-2009.html>
<http://docs.google.com/fileview?id=F.4c82380d-9187-4a6c-876a-870cd9af227a>
<http://docs.google.com/fileview?id=F.a2486216-fecf-4588-b8bc-979c63a67f5a>
<<http://docs.google.com/fileview?id=F.3f97a5f1-b83b-46df-817b-88530df62137>>

Photographs:

D-K Live at Kanazawa International Salon, July 15, 2006
http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/08/d-k-in-kanazawa-at-kanazawa_31.html

D-K Live at Myoumon-ji Temple, Yatsuo, Toyama, August 26, 2006
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/08/owara-kaze-no-bon-jacked-by-d-k.html>

D-K Live at San Jose City Hall during ISEA 2006/ZeroOne San Jose: “A Global Festival of Art on the Edge”, August 8-13, 2006; photos and comprehensive links
<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2006/08/report-zeroone-san-jose-global.html>

D-K Live at Porto Bazar, Kobe, July 20-22, 2007

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/07/d-k-at-portobazarkobe-japan-on-20th.html>

D-K Live at Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art, Kobe, June 28 – 30, 2007

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/07/d-k-live-at-hyogo-prefectural-museum-of.html>

**High-Quality Photos:

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/07/d-k-live-in-kobe-on-june-30-2007-at.html>

D-K Live at “Mother of S.O.S. 2007 Festival”, Tsugaike Ski Resort, Nagano, August 14, 2007

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/08/report-on-d-k-live-installation-in-ski.html>

D-K Live at Sannomiya Shrine, Motomachi, Kobe, August 23, 2007

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2007/08/akira-hasegawas-d-k-live-art.html>

D-K Live at EXPO '70 Park, Osaka, December 20-25, 2008

<http://d-k-nippon.blogspot.com/2008/12/d-k-live-illuminight-xmas-party-dk-from.html>

D-K Live at Thunderbird Valley Ski Resort, Tateyama Mountain, Toyama, February 7, 2009, the first D-K Live installation on snow

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/02/first-time-on-snow-akira-hasegawas.html>

D-K Live at Okinawa Bar, Sennichi-Mae, Osaka, March 2009

<http://d-k-tv.blogspot.com/2009/03/d-k-live-at-o-ki-na-wa-bar-at-sennichi.html>

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