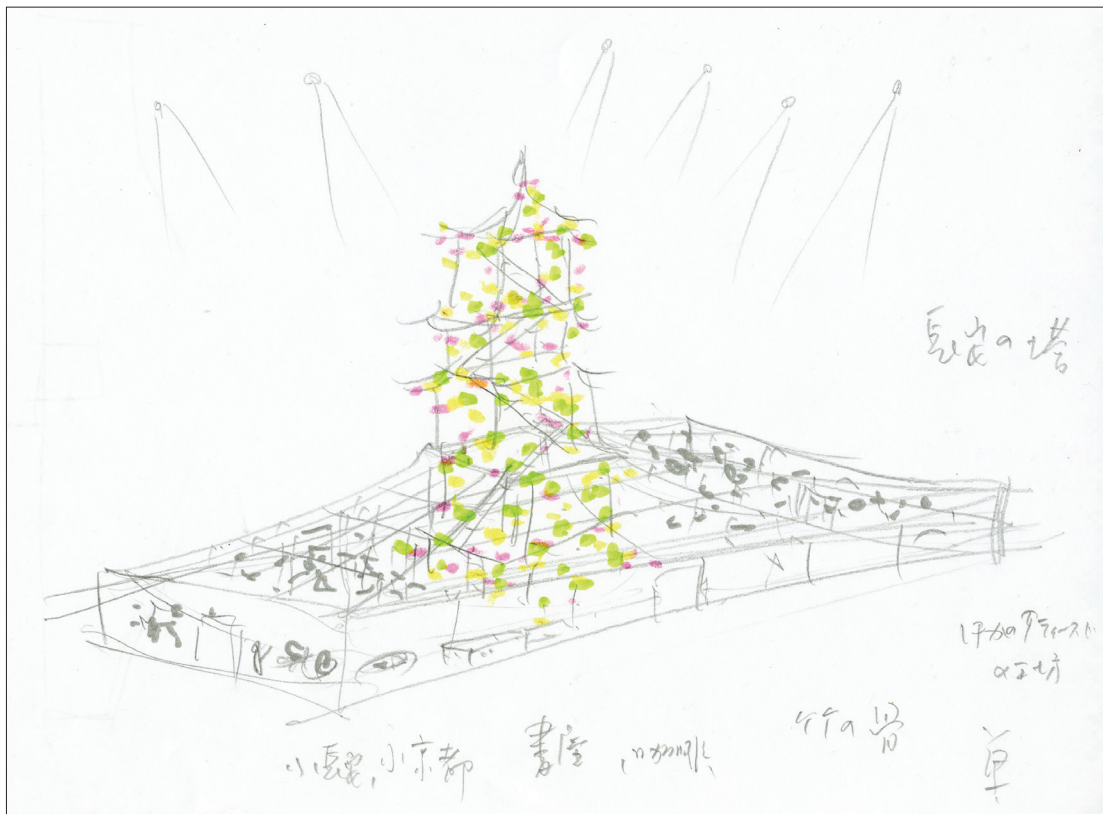




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Kyoto, Japan—July 18, 2014

Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015 Project Announcement

Children Da Vincis: A project by Cai Guo-Qiang



Sketch of Kyoto Da Vincis for Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015, 2014. Courtesy Cai Studio

Peasant Da Vincis and Children Da Vincis

Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015 presents *Children Da Vincis*, a project where children create objects that will be included in the Chinese artist Cai Guo-Qiang's installation for the international exhibition in 2015. Cai has spent nearly a decade on his ongoing *Peasant Da Vincis* project, in which he collects pieces such as robots, submarines, and airplanes that cannot fly, made by amateur inventors using materials found in their everyday lives. His installation for *Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015* will include a combination of *Peasant Da Vincis* and the objects made for the *Children Da Vincis* project.

The first *Children Da Vincis* workshop will be held in September 2014. The objects created with everyday materials and the rich imagination of the children participating in the workshops will be exhibited during *Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015* at the Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art as part of the installation by Cai Guo-Qiang.



About the workshops

1) Call for Creative Assistants and Creative Assistant Workshop (August 2014)

Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015 is making an open call for volunteers who will act as creative assistants for the workshops for children starting in September 2014. All creative assistants must participate in the workshop by Cai Guo-Qiang's assistant, where they will be trained to be aware of safety issues and to support the children's uninhibited creativity in the *Children Da Vincis* workshops. **Please note that this is not a paid position and that the ability to communicate in Japanese is required.**

Creative Assistant Workshop

Date: Sunday, August 24, 2014 2:00–4:00PM

Place: Kyoto Art Center (546-2 Yamabushiyama-cho, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8156)

Instructor: Masatoshi Tatsumi (Technical Director, Cai Studio)

Overview of *Peasant Da Vincis* and *Children Da Vincis*, hands-on workshop

Call for Creative Assistants

Requirements: At least 18 years old; able to speak conversational Japanese; able to take charge of more than one workshop (dates TBA). Applicants who enjoy working with children and/or crafts are particularly welcome.

Creative assistants needed: Approximately 20 creative assistants

How to apply: Please send in the following information via e-mail or FAX.

1. Name
2. Place of employment or school
3. Age
4. Address
5. Phone number
6. E-mail address
7. Language skills
8. Statement of purpose (any length)

* This information will not be used for any purposes other than what is deemed necessary by the Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture Organizing Committee.

Deadline: Friday, August 15

* Please note that there may be a selection process in the event that the number of applicants exceeds the number of creative assistants needed.

Where to apply E-mail: volunteer@parasophia.jp FAX: 075-257-1454

* Please include the phrase "**Children Da Vincis Creative Assistant**" in the subject line.

Questions Parasophia Office

E-mail: info@parasophia.jp Phone: 075-257-1453 FAX: 075-257-1454



2) Workshops for Children (September 2014–May 2015)

Children Da Vincis is based on the *Peasant Da Vincis* project. In the *Children Da Vincis* workshops, children between ages 5–10 will be invited to set their imaginations free and create objects using everyday materials that will be included in Cai Guo-Qiang's installation during *Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015*.

Dates: (1) Sept. 20 (Sat.), 2014; (2) Oct. 11 (Sat.), 2014; (3) Oct. 25 (Sat.), 2014; more TBA

Time: 2:00–3:00PM (for all three workshops indicated above) * Subject to change.

Place: Kyoto Art Center (for all three workshops indicated above)

Workshops in November and later will be held at different locations in Kyoto Prefecture.

Workshops will be held on a regular basis during Parasophia at the Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art.

Seats available: 20 per workshop * Reservation required.

Admission: Free

Age limit: Ages 5–10 * Must be accompanied by guardian (Adults: Observation only)

Language: In Japanese only unless otherwise indicated.

How to apply: Reservations will be accepted starting one month before each workshop.

Please send in the following information via e-mail or FAX.

1. Name
2. Age (grade level)
3. Date of workshop
4. Language skills
5. Guardian's name
6. Phone number
7. E-mail address

Where to apply E-mail: event@parasophia.jp FAX: 075-257-1454

* Please include the phrase "**Children Da Vincis Workshop**" in the subject line.

Questions Parasophia Office

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Installation view of Wu Yulu's *Robot Factory* and *Children Da Vincis*, Centro Cultural Banco do Brasil, Brasília, 2013. Photo by Joana França



Installation view of *Children Da Vincis*, Prédio Histórico dos Correios, São Paulo, 2013. Photo by Joana França

Press Inquiries: Parasophia Office 645 Tearaimizu-cho, Nakagyo-ku, Kyoto 604-8152 JAPAN

E-mail: press@parasophia.jp TEL: +81-75-257-1453 FAX: +81-75-257-1454 URL: www.parasophia.jp/en

About the artist

Cai Guo-Qiang 蔡國強

b. 1957 in Quanzhou City, Fujian Province, China; based in New York
www.caiguoqiang.com

Cai Guo-Qiang is internationally renowned for his dynamic, powerful style, characterized by his signature gunpowder drawings and explosion events. Cai lived in Japan from 1986 to 1995, and studied under Tatsuo Kawaguchi at the University of Tsukuba in Ibaraki. In 1994, he presented *Project for Heiankyō 1,200th Anniversary: Celebration from Chang'an* in front of Kyoto City Hall. He then moved to New York the following year, where he has created many works based on various aspects of traditional Chinese culture, such as herbal medicine and feng shui, with his own unique spirit of criticism.

Cai won the Golden Lion at the 48th International Art Exhibition of the Venice Biennale for his installation piece *Venice's Rent Collection Courtyard* in 1999. He also won the 7th Hiroshima Art Prize in 2007, and the 24th Praemium Imperiale for Lifetime Achievement in the Arts (Painting) in 2012.



Cai Guo-Qiang with various robots created by Wu Yulu and his family, March 2010. Photo by Lin Yi, courtesy Cai Studio

Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015

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| Title | Parasophia: Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture 2015 |
| Dates | Saturday, March 7–Sunday, May 10, 2015 |
| Venues | Kyoto Municipal Museum of Art, The Museum of Kyoto, and other locations in Kyoto |
| Artistic Director | Shinji Kohmoto (former Chief Curator, The National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto) |
| Presented by | Kyoto International Festival of Contemporary Culture Organizing Committee, Kyoto Association of Corporate Executives (Kyoto Keizai Doyukai), Kyoto Prefecture, Kyoto City |
| With the cooperation of | Kyoto City University of Arts, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Kyoto Saga University of Arts, Kyoto Seika University, Kyoto University of Art and Design, Seian University of Art and Design |
| Funded in part by a grant from | Asahi Group Arts Foundation, The Asahi Shimbun Foundation, The Kao Foundation for Arts and Sciences, Nissha Foundation for Printing Culture and Technology, Nomura Foundation, Pola Art Foundation, Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2014 |
| Under the auspices of | The Japan Foundation |
| Approved by | Association for Corporate Support of the Arts, Japan |

(information as of July 18, 2014)