KUBOTA Nozomu

Born in 1984 in New York, USA.
Lives and works in Tokyo, Japan.
Website: nozomukubota.com/en/

Nozomu Kubota is an artist working across video, installation, drawing, and machine learning. His practice examines how AI systems and social norms classify bodies, voices, and experiences, rendering some visible while excluding others as outliers. Through works addressing NSFW filters, speech recognition, dialects, and bodily differences, he questions who defines “normality” and what is lost in the pursuit of technological progress. Drawing on his experience as an AI engineer, he also examines his own assumptions and participation in these processes.

Education
2026 M.F.A., Intermedia Art, Graduate School of Fine Arts, Tokyo University of the Arts, Japan.
2006 B.A., Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University, Japan.

Selected Awards
2026 Honorary Mention, Digital Humanity, Prix Ars Electronica, Austria.
2026 Best Director, Nashville International Cinema Awards, USA.
2026 Silver Remi Award, Short Documentary, WorldFest-Houston International Film Festival, USA.
2025 Best Documentary, 14th Delhi Shorts International Film Festival, India.
2025 Grand Prix, CENRETA Art Award, Thailand.

Selected Exhibitions
2026 AI for All, Komaba Museum, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan (forthcoming).
2026 Akigawa Art Stream, Hinohara, Tokyo, Japan (forthcoming).
2026 We Can Meet Anew, Again and Again, Yuga Gallery, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan (forthcoming).
2026 Graduation and Completion Works Exhibition, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan.
2026 Gundarake Project, Hinahodoki, Kagawa, Japan.
2025 Inside Dementia, Tokyo Biennale 2025, Tokyo, Japan.
2025 Hand Sketch, Pencil Drawing, Creative Hub “es,” Tokyo, Japan.
2024 Yūgen in the Age of Binarization, Haneda Innovation City, Tokyo, Japan.
2024 ECHOES OF UNSEEN, Central Building, Tokyo University of the Arts, Tokyo, Japan.
2024 Art Week Asia 2024, private residence, Tiong Bahru, Singapore.
2024 RHODA, Courtyard Hiroo, Tokyo, Japan.
2023 Margins of AI, BAG – Brillia Art Gallery, Tokyo, Japan.
2023 Born and Disappear, Disappear and Born, Haneda Innovation City, Tokyo, Japan.
2023 Fragmentary Everyday, Isle Shinagawa, Tokyo, Japan.
2023 Who is Who Exhibition, Ginza Shiseido Parlour, Tokyo, Japan.

Selected Conference Contributions
2026 NeurIPS 2026, Creative AI Track, Sydney, Australia. *AI’s Silent Omissions: Redistributing Bodily Agency* (accepted artwork; forthcoming).
2026 Cultural Typhoon 2026, Showa Women’s University, Tokyo, Japan. *AI’s Silent Omissions* (selected project work; forthcoming).

2026 Expanded 2026 – Conference on Animation and Interactive Art, Ars Electronica Center, Linz, Austria. “Production of Absence: Reading Stable Diffusion’s NSFW Filter through Code and Typology” (peer-reviewed Art Paper presentation).

Selected Screenings and Festival Selections
2026 17th Maebashi Media Festival, re/noma, Maebashi, Japan (forthcoming).
2026 New Taipei City Art Museum, New Taipei City, Taiwan (forthcoming).
2026 Ars Electronica Festival 2026, JKU medSPACE, JKU MED Campus, Linz, Austria.
2026 London Lift-Off Film Festival, Genesis Cinema, London, UK.
2026 Luleå International Film Festival, Folkets Bio Royal, Luleå, Sweden.
2026 Berlin Indie Film Festival, Germany.
2026 10th Indian World Film Festival, Hotel Best Western Ashoka, India.
2025 CENRETA Art Award 2025, Central Chidlom, Bangkok, Thailand.
2025 14th Delhi Shorts International Film Festival, Tivoli Grand Resort Hotel, New Delhi, India.
2025 Golden Gate International Film Festival, AMC Saratoga 14, San Jose, USA.
2025 International Film Arts and Hearts Film Festival, Regal L.A. LIVE, Los Angeles, USA.
2025 ICP Entertainment Film Festival, Producers Club Theater, New York, USA.
2025 Tokyo Documentary Film Festival, K’s Cinema, Tokyo, Japan.
2025 Canada Shorts, The Cinematheque, Canada.

Peer-Reviewed Publications
2026 Kubota, Nozomu. “Production of Absence: Reading Stable Diffusion’s NSFW Filter through Code and Typology.” *Proceedings of the Conference on Animation and Interactive Art (Expanded 2026).* ACM Digital Library. doi:10.1145/3840416.3840454.

Conference Papers
2024 Kubota, Nozomu. “Development and Evaluation of an AI for Understanding Nishikawa Town Dialect: An Approach Using Voice Database and Word Mover's Distance.” *Dejitaru Akaibu Gakkaishi*, 8(s2), s79–s82. Paper presented at the 9th Research Conference of the Japan Society for Digital Archive, Hongo Campus, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan (in Japanese). doi:10.24506/jsda.8.s2_s79.

Selected Talks and Public Programs
2026 Conceived and organized *AI’s Silent Omissions: Screening and Public Discussion*, International House of Japan, Tokyo, Japan. Supported by Global Compact Network Japan.
2026 Lecture-performance and discussion, Thailand Biennale, Phuket, Thailand, with Mirwan Andan (ruangrupa), Di Liu, and Jaroslava Tomanova.

Collaborative Projects
2025 Artist visit and collaborative project with Mirwan Andan, a member of ruangrupa, Indonesia.

Grants and Artist Support
2026 Setouchi Branch Campus Community Development Project “Gundarake,” Tokyo University of the Arts × Kagawa University, Kagawa, Japan.
2025 Tokyo Artist Accelerator Program (TAAP), Arts Council Tokyo, Japan.

Academic Appointments
2025–present Visiting Professor, Business Breakthrough University (BBT University), Japan.

2021–present Specially Appointed Associate Professor, Digital Hollywood University Graduate School, Japan.

Academic Service
2026 Reviewer, AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society (AIES).

Professional Experience
2003–present Founder and CEO, Creator’s NEXT, Japan.

Selected Patents
Selected Japanese patents; inventor: Nozomu Kubota.

2021 Patent No. 6968475: Adversarial Defense Using IoT Sensors.
2021 Patent No. 6971514: Optimal Defense Against AI Hacking.
2021 Patent No. 6942900: Hidden Layer Optimization Focused on Activation Functions.
2020 Patent No. 6774129: Optimization of Preprocessing, Models, and Hyperparameters in Supervised and Unsupervised Learning.
2020 Patent No. 6647543: Real Data Platforms and Psychological Preservation.

Named inventor on a total of 20 AI-related patents across Japan, the United States, China, and Hong Kong, including those listed above.