Reading poems together with Masuyama
Words are overly simple, like trite metaphors
But the *reading* itself is full of potential.
Each word has a special presence,
One leads to the other, trailing in the space between us
Me
Him
Him
Me.
That intimate space is scary yet beautiful.
So much is possible here.
Email, text messages in between visits.
A way to correspond with each other
Abstract yet meaningful.
Explore this potential of trading words.
Unable to understand one another,
yet breathing in the same space together
Birth of new works

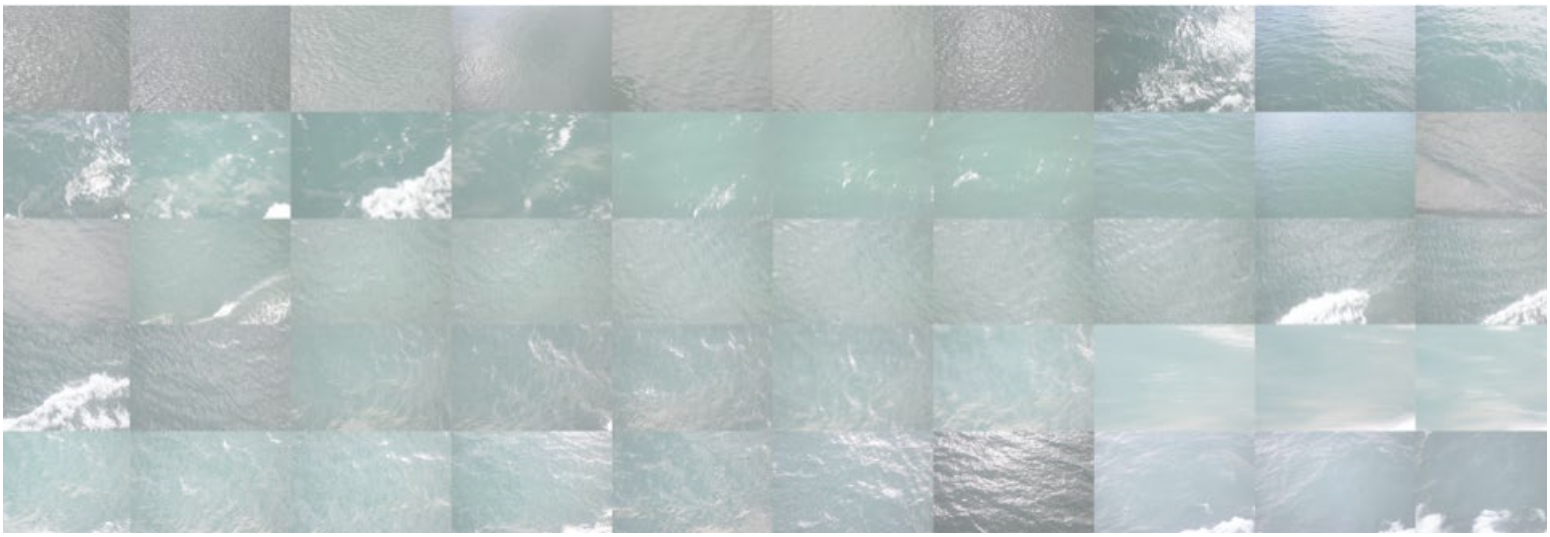
2015.11.20
Harmony visit #3

An interest in spiritual things, the occult
since he was ten years old
breaking out in laughter, cackling so joyfully
his healthy spirit is contagious
at the onset of schizophrenia
he was put in the hospital 3 times
for about 3 months each time
after the third time he began to see the light
shifting perspective on everything
he found religion was very helpful
in appreciating that he was not alone
everyone is there to keep each other alive
and help
the gratitude was overwhelming
every bite of food prepared
every person's effort
comes together now
he was 36 years old
during his fourth hospitalization (longer than the rest, 8 months)
he experienced a shift
that has continued to today.
(Tanaka)

Non and Moro.
a comical pair
one with mental direction, other with mobility
1 and 0
matching to make ten
sketching together
ideas pour out on the page
not pre-determined

a dynamic pair

2015.12.19



“Connecting Islands”

Event: A Reading for the Sea

- A Poetry reading in the glass room of Tobikan exhibition room 2 or 3 (休憩室)
- One day 60-minute event
- Reading by Masuyama, Non, Moro, Tanaka + others
- Saturday or Sunday daytime to be determined
- Harmony members reading together with JJ
- Reading occurs close to the artwork installation

2015.12.25

Harmony visit #7

Walking together
On Christmas
Different members
Together for a moment
Sharing the water
In between each other

Walking to Kinbara's suggested shrine
Along the way is a temple
A quiet Sōtō temple with a bell
And a forest of bamboo
Empty moments
Together
A group photograph
While searching
For water

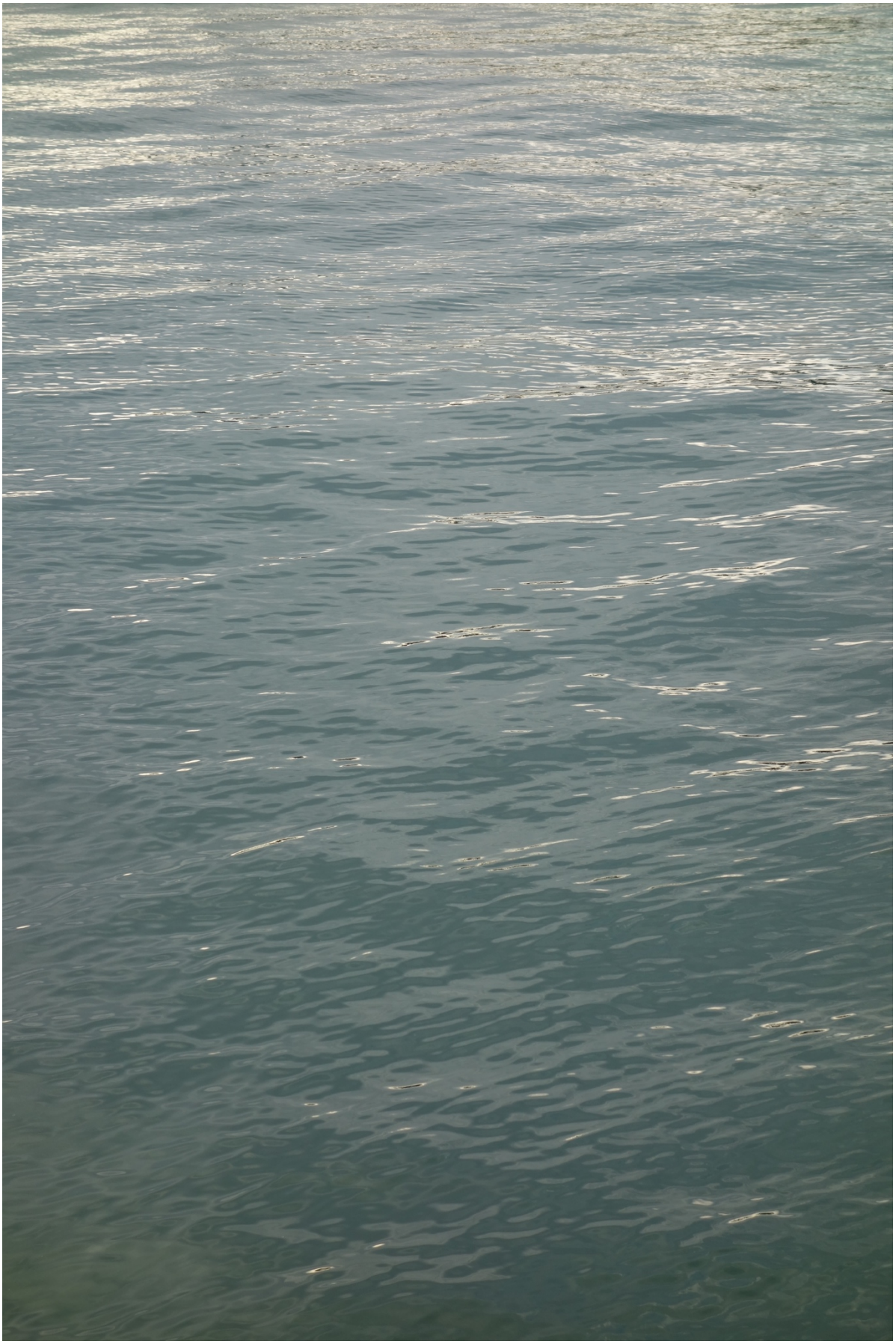
Arriving at the shrine
We are early
The light reflects
On the pond in the entrance
A waterfall flows into the air
Pine needles reflecting on the surface
And needles floating on the surface

We climb the stone stairway
Wash at the trough
Walking around the side
Tanaka finds a water pump
Releasing the water from the earth
By hand
More pumping brings more water
A joy to share
With others

The rest of the group
Meets us at back of the shrine
Gathering by the miniature cats
Thousands. Millions?
One is swimming in the pond
"Some cats like water" Non says

James Jack Studio 2016.1.20

2015.12.27



2016.1.13

Harmony visit #8

I feel an intimate
Closeness with staff
Mutual respect
A shared method
How to get to the ocean together
By car or train

Masuyama's poem
Reflecting on the water
Of each person's mind
Ok to share with others
Riko and Rina
Our poem

My illusion
Artist sees a huge ocean
Everyone has their own
Illusion,
But shared illusions
become a dream

Take the time to find out
What each person is striving for
And then allow that to enter into the work
One image, one person
One box
Each with its own size, shape, feeling

2016.1.13

“Connecting Islands”

Artwork Concept

Respecting each other’s freedom
Each one of us is an island
Linked together by choice

Ideas discussed openly
Navigating the sea together
The uncertain trail leads us free

Water as linking medium
cherish the sea
Gulping, swimming, imbibing
But

Not to not over-use it
Drinking, walking each day
Linked by the sea of being

To nurture without being addicted
Appreciate the flow
Inside each of us.

Artwork Production Outline

1. Take photographs of water
2. Collect photographs at Harmony
3. Search for water in daily life
4. Take a walk together in a group
5. Create a sea at Tobikan
6. Draw upon everyone’s photos of water
7. Allow islands to float within the sea