

Ryohei OBATA
Portfolio

Ryohei OBATA

1980 Born in Kobe, Japan
2003 B.A., in Department of Philosophy of Doshisha University
2019 M.F.A. in Kyoto University of Art and Design Graduate School

Recent activities

2025 "Study × PLAS : Asia Art Fair" Osaka International Convention Center／, Osaka, Japan
Solo Exhibition "Their Breathing" city gallery 2320, Hyogo, Japan
"Between Scenery/Scene" Nagata Ward Office, Hyogo, Japan
2024 "Kameyama triennale 2024" Former Tanaka Residence, Mie, Japan
"KOBE ROKKO MEETS ART 2024 beyond" Mt. Rokko Art Center, Hyogo, Japan
2023 "COIL Upcycle Art Contest 2023" COIL, Yamaguchi, Japan
"Shitamachi Art Festival 2023 COMMONS HACK" Kakuno residence, Tokyo, Japan
"SICF24" Sporal Hall, Tokyo, Japan
"The 4th Art House Oyabe Contemporary Art Exhibition" Art House Oyabe, Toyama, Japan
2022 "ATAMI ART GRANT 2022" ACAO SPA & RESORT, Sizuoka, Japan
"assembly" Job Space Lab, Hyogo, Japan
"Any Kobe with Arts 2022" MRSX Building, Hyogo, Japan
"Crypto Art Fes 2022" Metaverse Exhibition
2021 "ART LIVE KOBE 2021" ANA CROENE PLAZA HOTEL KOBE, Hyogo, Japan
"TAGBOAT AWARD SELECTS" Hankyu MEN'S TOKYO tagboat, Tokyo, Japan
"IAG AWARDS 2021" Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre Gallery1, Tokyo, Japan
"The 16th TAGBOAT AWARD" Shibuya Hikarie 8/CUBE 1,2,3, Tokyo, Japan
2019 "Shanghai Art Fair 2019" Shanghai Convention & Exhibition Center of International Sourcing, Shanghai, China
"The 2nd International art exhibition in Makurazaki" Makurazaki Nanmeikan Cultural Resource Center, Kagoshima, Japan
"Japanese Paintings 2018" InterContinental Yokohama Grand, Kanagawa, Japan
2018 "TRANSNATIONAL ART" Enokojima Art, Culture and Creative Center, Osaka, Japan
2017 "ART OLYMPIA 2017" Toshima Center Square, Tokyo, Japan
"Japanese Paintings 2016" InterContinental Yokohama Grand, Kanagawa, Japan
2016 "Young Creators Award 2016" MI Gallery, Osaka, Japan
Solo Exhibition "Ryohei OBATA" ASHIYA GARO Kyoto, Kyoto, Japan
"Makurazaki International Art Award Exhibition" Makurazaki Nanmeikan Cultural Resource Center, Kagoshima, Japan
2015 "ART OSAKA 2015" HOTEL GRANVIA OSAKA, Osaka, Japan
"SELECT FAIR NYC" CENTER 548//CHELSEA, New York City, USA

Awards

2025 Fundamentals Program 2025 Participating Artists
2023 "COIL Upcycle Art Contest 2023" Second Grand Prix
2021 "The 16th TAGBOAT AWARD" Jury's Special Award
2018 "Japanese Paintings 2018" Honorable Mention Award
2017 "ART OLYMPIA 2017" Finalist Award
2016 "Young Creators Award 2016" Excellence Award
The 31th HOLBEIN Scholarship
2015 Hiroshi Senju The Super Art School, Research student
2010 "Art Move 2010" ASHIYA GARO Award

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2025.8

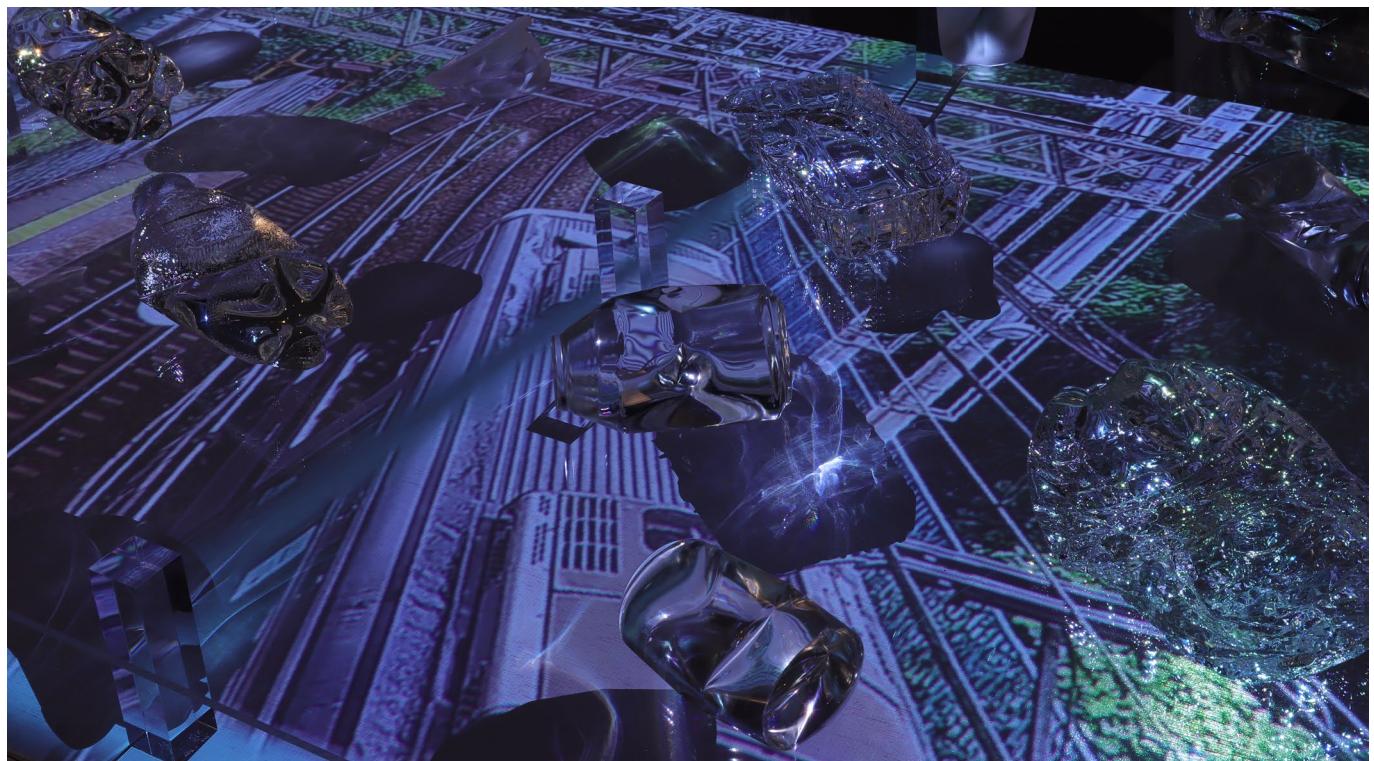
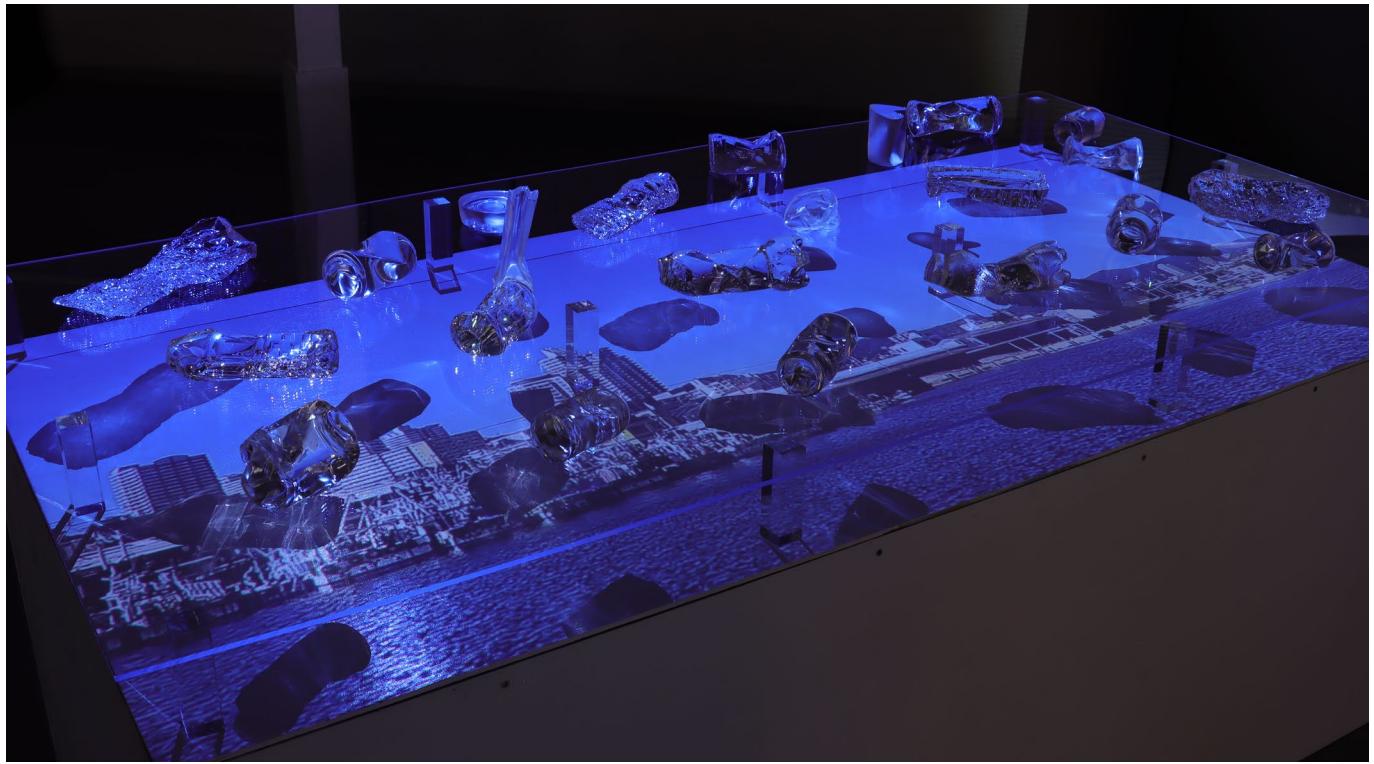
Their Breathing

2020- (ongoing)

Triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, "Their Breathing" is an artistic exploration aimed at sensing the presence of unseen others. By pouring transparent silicone resin into discarded trash left by anonymous passersby and creating sculptures that replicate the shapes of these items, the project seeks to uncover traces of human actions embedded in these objects. The sculptures, created by replicating the shapes of discarded trash, are returned to their original locations, where they are photographed and documented.

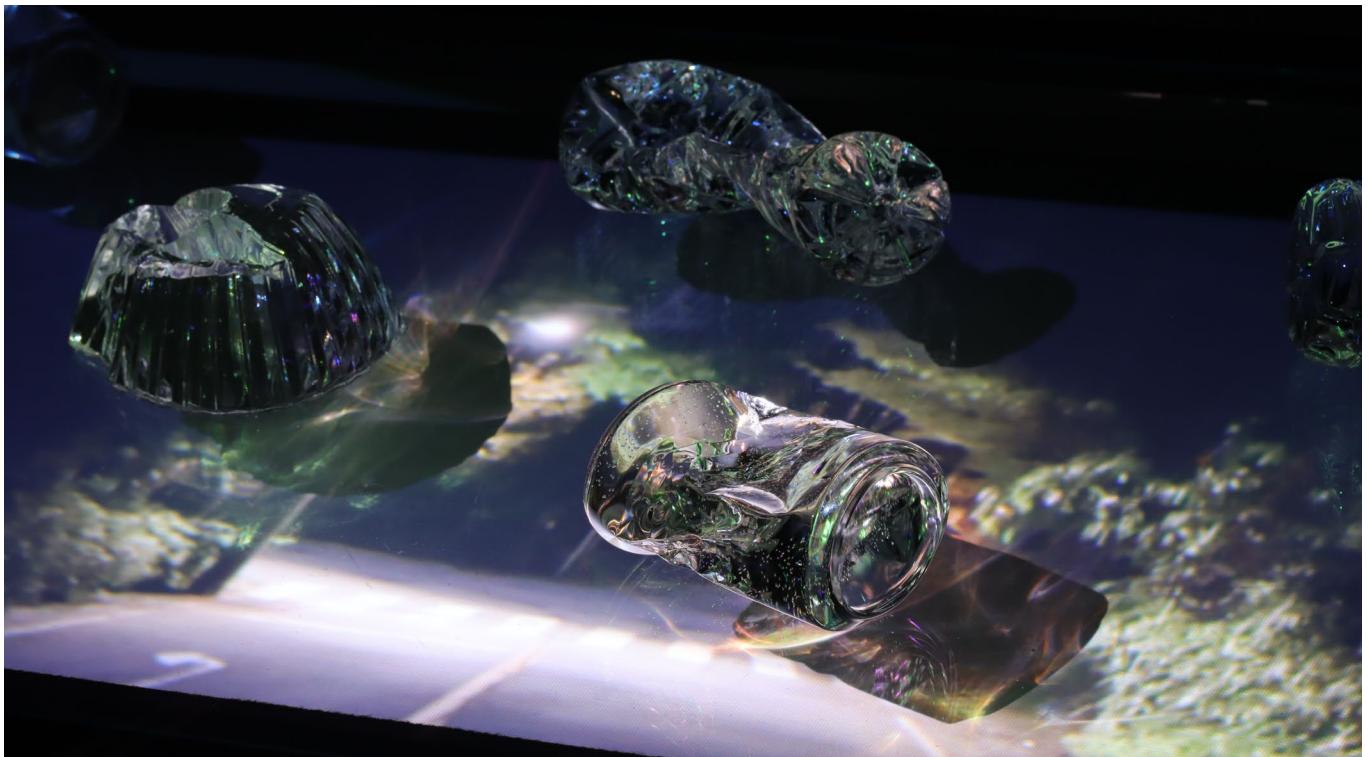
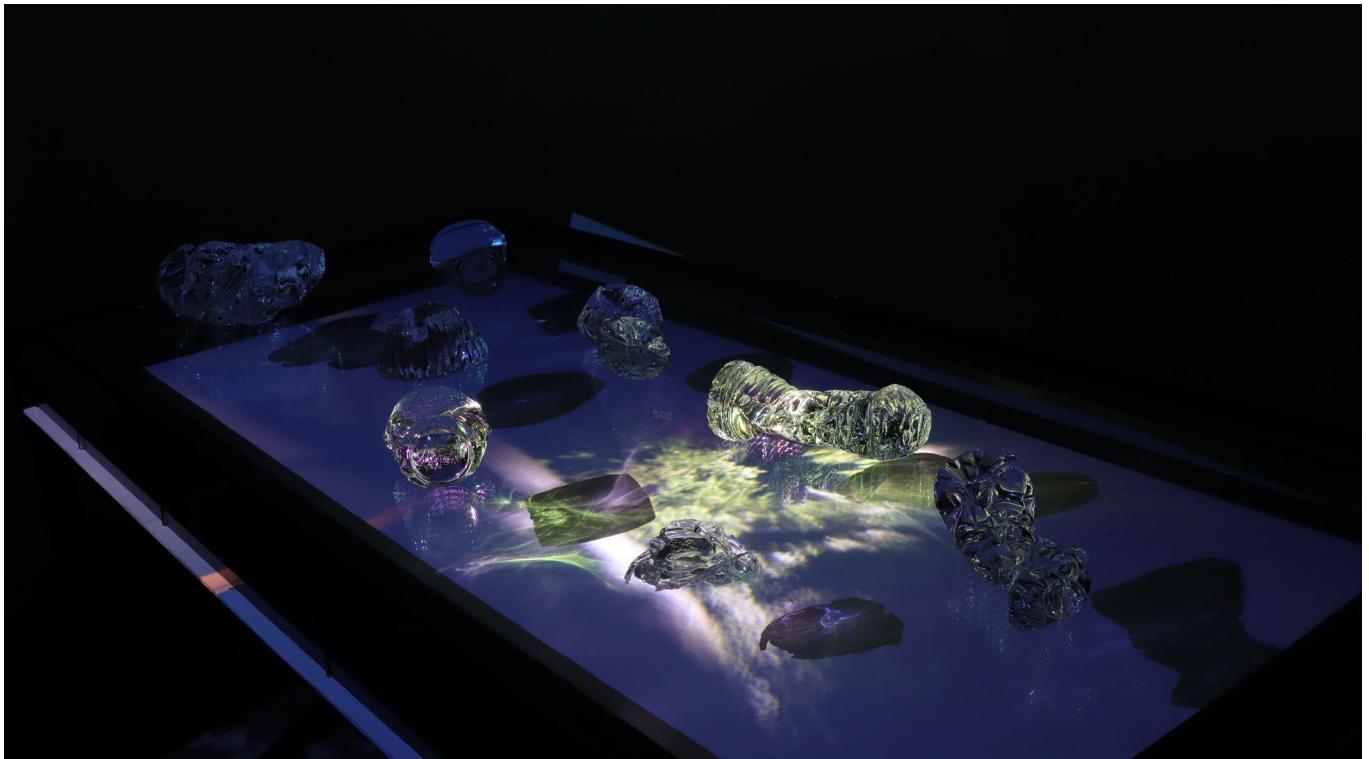
Through the act of isolating the shapes of these objects, which bear the marks of someone else's actions, the project attempts to reveal the intangible essence of those actions. Although the original owners of such discarded items are almost always absent, these objects carry a profound sense of certainty—a tangible proof that someone once existed in that space and performed an action.

The shapes, created unconsciously, possess a unique, unrepeatable quality that no one could intentionally replicate. In this way, they hold an innate creativity born from the unintentional actions of human beings.



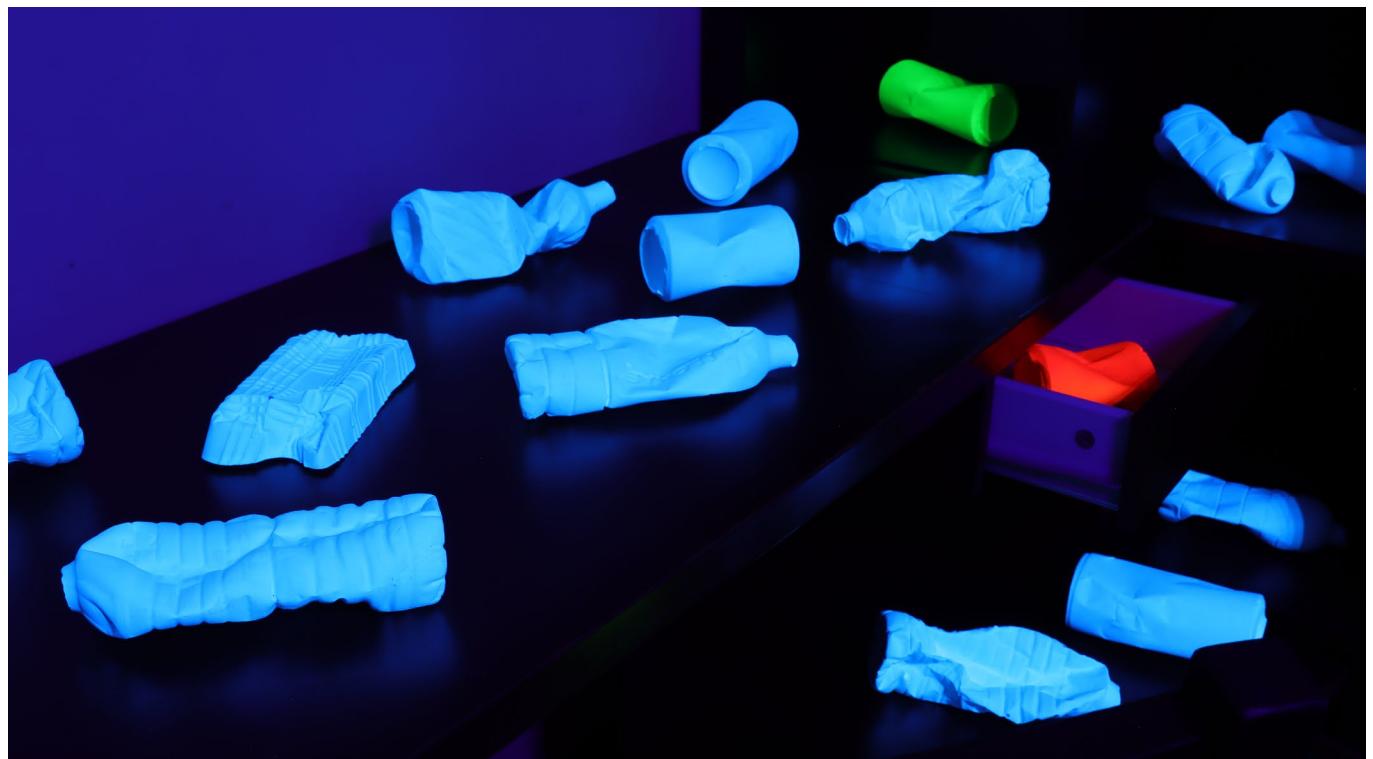
Their Breathing
2023/2025
Silicone resin, video





Their Breathing
2024
Silicone resin, video, table





Their Breathing
2024
Plaster, fluorescent paint, sound, furniture





Their Breathing
2024
Plaster, fluorescent paint, newsletter, sound, furniture, box

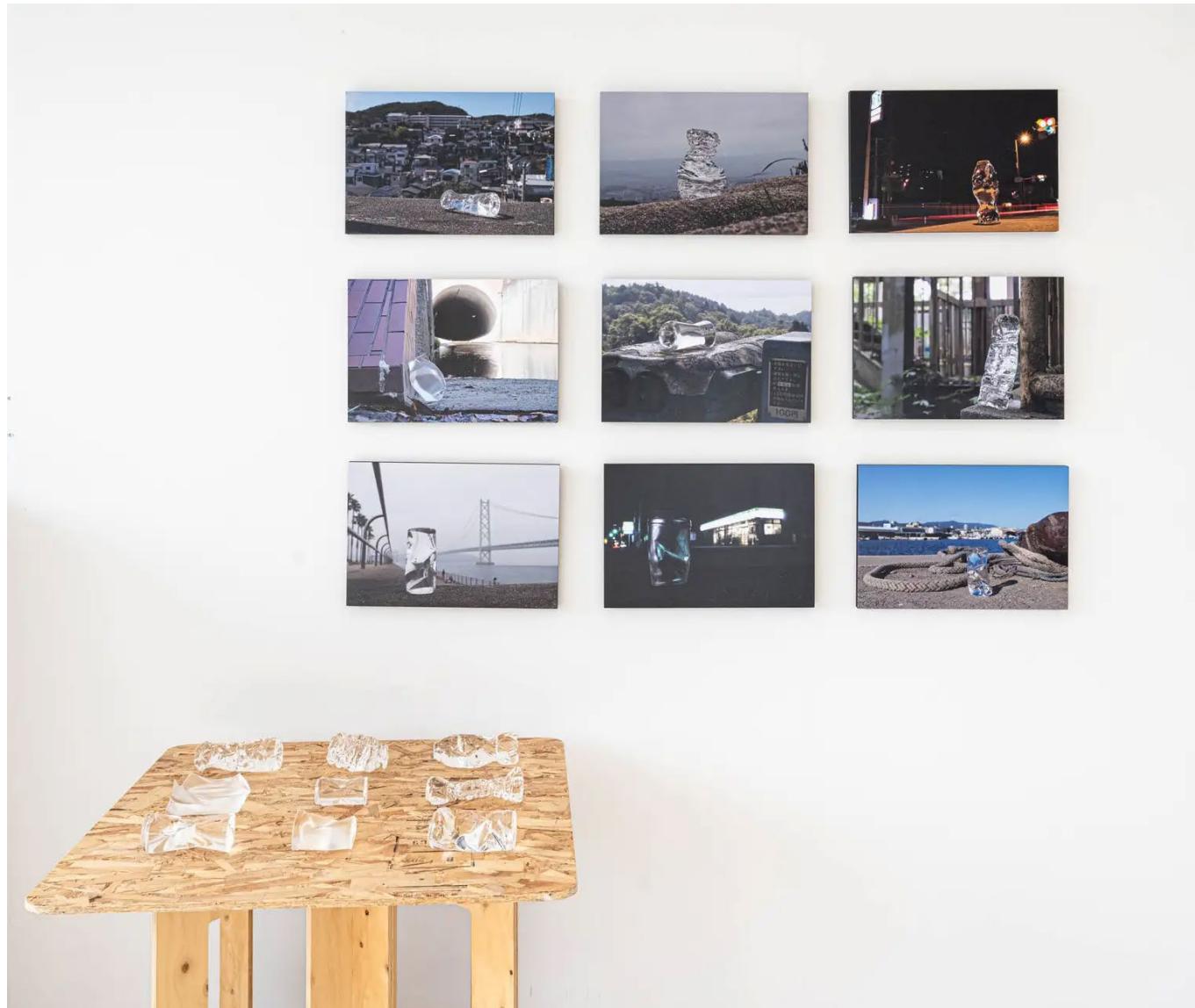




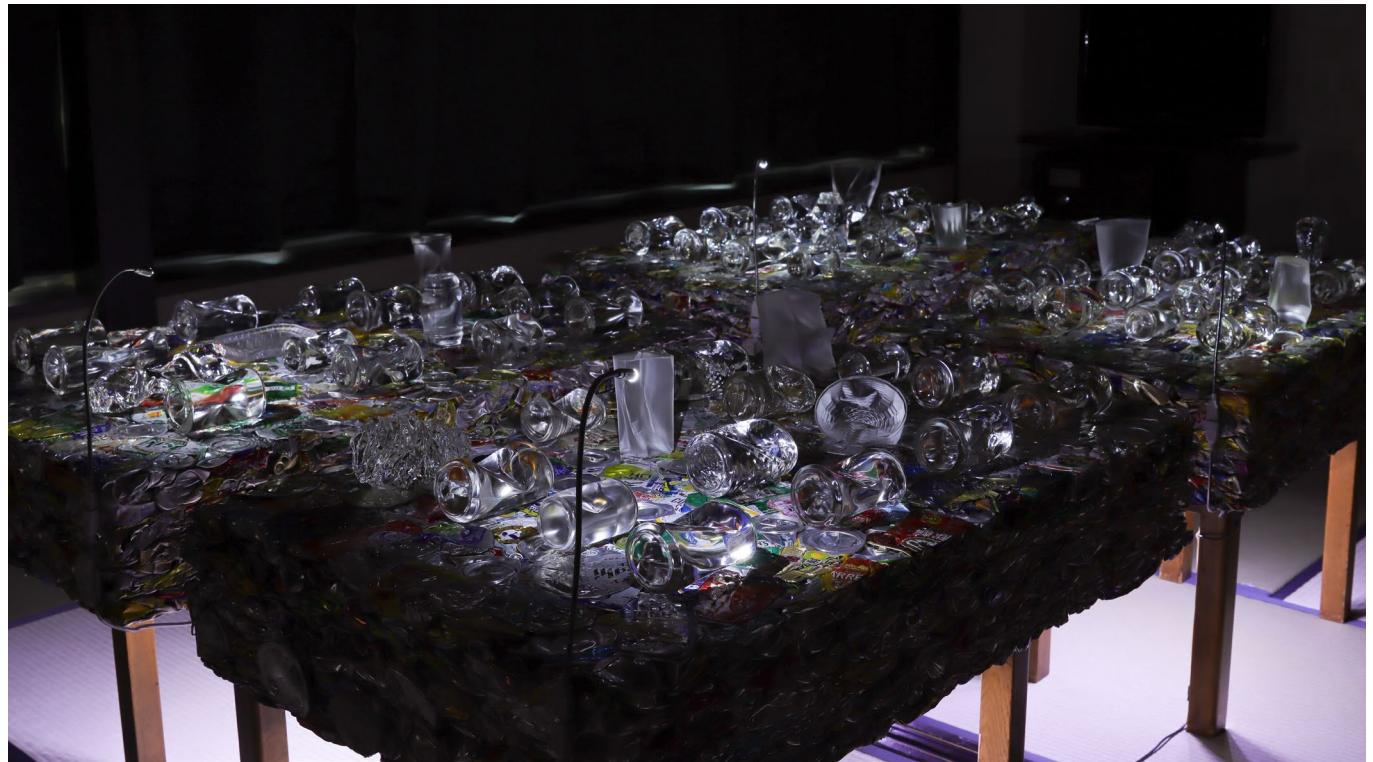
Their Breathing

2023

Silicone resin, found objects, photograph, video, furniture, tatami mat



Their Breathing
2023
Silicone resin, photograph



Their Breathing

2022

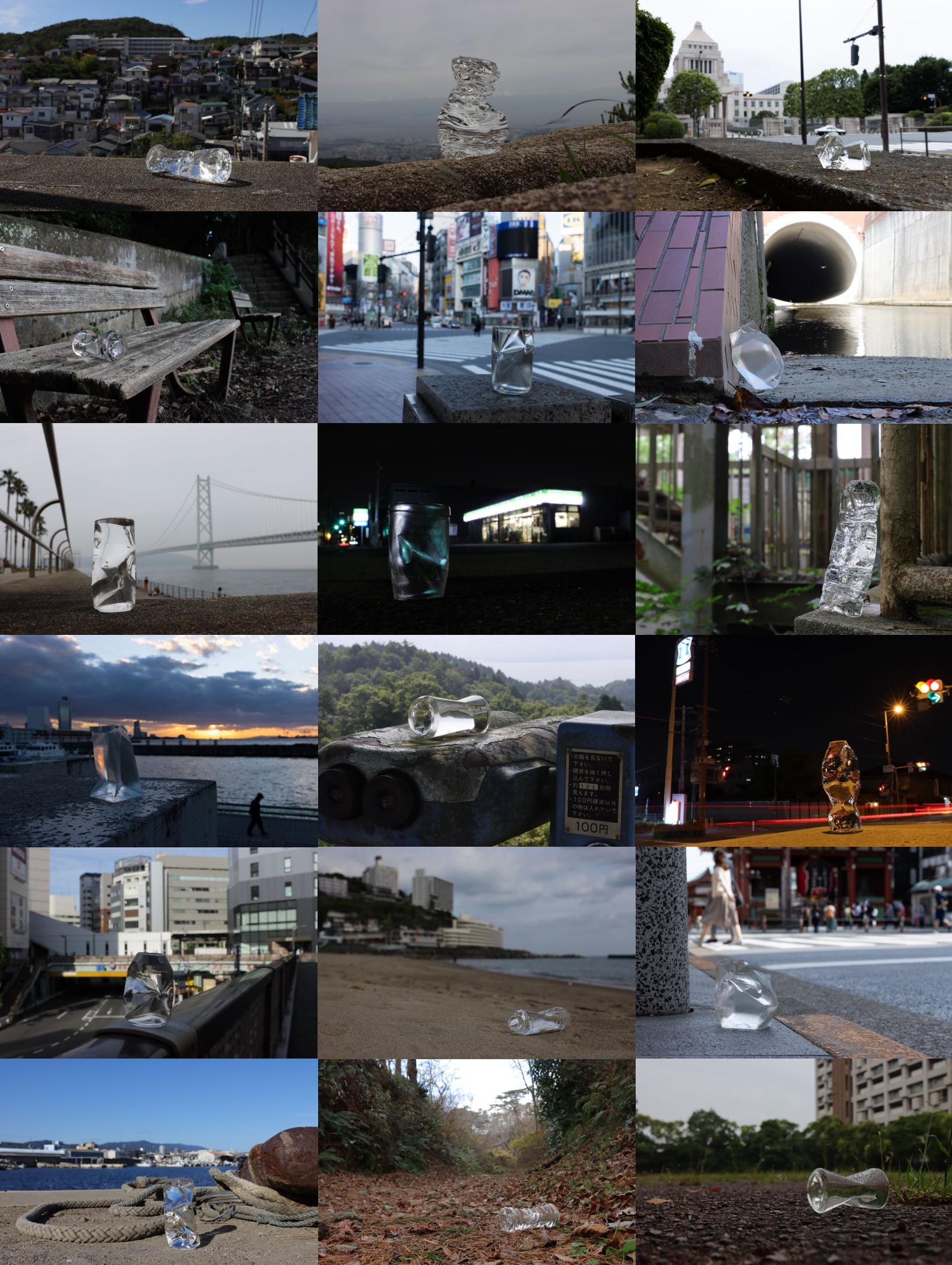
Silicone resin, aluminum can press, photograph



Their Breathing

2021

Silicone resin



Their Breathing 2020-2025
Photograph



Their Breathing 2020-2025
Silicone resin