

ART SY

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The Year in Art 2016

# 17 Emerging Artists to Watch in 2017

Artsy Editorial

Among the more important lessons learned by the art world in 2016: An emerging artist's career isn't cemented in one night, with one breakout show, or with one collector's token of approval. Artists who matter long-term have careers that build over time, show upon show, collection upon collection. In looking ahead to 2017, Artsy's editors consulted a number of data sources, including UBS's art news app [Planet Art](#), as well as prominent artists, curators, writers, and collectors, to determine who among the many artists deserving of greater attention in the new year are particularly well positioned to rise to new heights. Here, in no specific order, are 17 to keep your eye on.

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Takahiro Iwasaki [⊕ Follow](#)

B. 1975, HIROSHIMA, JAPAN • LIVES AND WORKS IN HIROSHIMA

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"17 Emerging Artists to Watch in 2017," Artsy Editorial. December 15, 2016

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Everyday objects like toothbrushes, duct tape, and kimonos serve as the foundation of Japanese artist Iwasaki's miniature sculptures. Exquisitely detailed, these architectural works are sometimes replicas of historic sites such as Hiroshima's Itsukushima Shrine. Other sculptures reflect the skyline of modern-day Japan, with delicate Ferris wheels crafted from thread or electrical towers composed of strands of hair.



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Geo Eye (Mt. Inasa), 2015  
ARATANIURANO



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Tectonic Model (Friedrich Wilhelm Nietzsche's "Beyond Good and Evil"), 2016  
ARATANIURANO

Since graduating from the Edinburgh College of Art in 2005, Iwasaki's career has steadily built up steam: In 2012, his work appeared in the Asia Pacific Triennial of Contemporary Art, and in 2013 in the Asian Art Biennial in Taiwan. In 2015 he held a solo show at New York's Asia Society. But 2017 is set to be a defining year for the 41-year-old sculptor, who will represent Japan at the 57th Venice Biennale. He will show a work titled *Upside-Down Forest*, which will touch upon the architectural histories of both his home country and the floating city of Venice.

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*Reflection Model (Silver), 2014*  
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