

Hawai‘i Triennial 2022 Announces Golden Hibiscus Award Winner

**‘Elepaio Press (Mark Hamasaki and Richard Hamasaki)
receives \$10,000 cash prize award for artistic excellence**

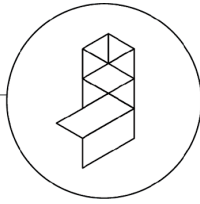
Honolulu (March 17, 2022) – [Hawai‘i Contemporary](#) announced Hawai‘i-based artist collective ‘Elepaio Press (Mark Hamasaki and Richard Hamasaki) as the recipient of the 2022 Golden Hibiscus Award, a distinction awarded to an artist or art collective participating in Hawai‘i Triennial 2022 (HT22), whose artwork merits special recognition. The award reflects the mission of Hawai‘i Contemporary in recognizing artists of the Islands and regions united by the Pacific and beyond. Honorable mention was awarded to Karrabing Film Collective, of Northern Territory, Australia. Fellow nominees for the Golden Hibiscus Award included: Piliāmo‘o (Mark Hamasaki and Kapulani Landgraf), Lawrence Seward, and Gaku Tsutaja. The jury was composed of local and visiting professionals who specialize in contemporary art and the diverse contexts brought together in this geographical region. The Golden Hibiscus Award is made possible through the generous support of Neiman Marcus Hawaii, Kristen and Michael Chan, and Halekulani.

“The award recognizes the many years of work and dedication by Mark and Richard Hamasaki and their countless collaborators in their generation and the next,” said Fumio Nanjo, presenter of the Golden Hibiscus Award. “Their contributions to contemporary art are deserving and aligned with the mission of Hawai‘i Contemporary to be locally resonant and globally relevant, as well as showcasing the significance and impact of their work in Hawai‘i and Oceania more broadly.”

Nanjo cited HT22 as an elevated experience compared to the first two biennial iterations of the exhibition. Curated by Dr. Melissa Chiu, Dr. Miwako Tezuka, and Drew Kahu‘āina Broderick, artworks in HT22 ranged widely from printed materials—such as magazines, newspapers, books—to videos, virtual reality, augmented reality, and even conceptual and text-based approaches. According to Nanjo, each of these elements are important for contemporary art today.

For HT22, ‘Elepaio presented a selection of poetic and politically conscious projects with a focus on print and time-based media, from over fifty years of collaborations throughout Oceania. Contributors—past, present, and future—featured in the installation include Paul L. Oliveira, Wayne Kaumualii Westlake, Shinichi Takahashi, Kimie Takahashi, Ilima Piianaia, Dana Naone, black dog (Michael Among), Robert Lamansky, Wing Tek Lum, Mari Kubo, Keiko Butts, Cathy Song, Gary Pak, John Kelly, Dietrich Varez, Joseph P. Balaz, Ian Lind, Haunani-Kay Trask, Mike Moriarty, Kathryn Brundage Takara, Joseph Stanton, Kimo Zablan, Albert Wendt, Epeli Hau‘ofa, Donald Kalpokas, Celo Kulagoe, Pio Manoa, Evelyn Patuawa-Nathan, Eti Sa‘aga, Subramani, Konai Helu Thaman, Makiuti Tongia, John Kasaipwalova, Ed Greevy, ‘Īmaikalani Kalāhele, Kapulani Landgraf, Dennis Kawaharada, Paul L. Lyons, Colleen Kimura, Marjorie Tuainekore Crocombe, H. Doug Matsuoka, Matt Barnett, Wendell Ing, John Pule, Amy Yamashiro, Sia Figiel, Teresia Teaiwa, Vaitoa Mallon, Justyn Ah Chong, ‘Āina Paikai, kekahi wahi (Sancia Shiba Nash and Drew K. Broderick), Thad Higa, and Mei-Li M. Siy.

In collaboration with Aupuni Space, Co-Founder Donnie Cervantes led the jury selection and discussion for the Golden Hibiscus Award, as a HT22 community partner with the shared goal of providing a platform for the creative voices in the community and a global contemporary art lens on Hawai‘i.



“It is our hope that the award contributes to the invaluable work of the artists and pays homage to their practices,” said Donnie Cervantes, co-director of Aupuni Space. “The selected works from HT22 highlight clear examples and references for younger generations, other artists and practitioners within Hawai‘i and beyond how to practice art with self-determination, exercising freedom and dignity, and with love and care.”

The jury was composed of artists and curators from Hawai‘i and Asia-Pacific: **Kaili Chun**, Honolulu Biennial 2017 and Native Hawaiian sculpture and installation artist; **Marion Cadora**, curator of collections at City and County of Honolulu; **Binna Choi**, director, Casco Art Institute Utrecht, Netherlands, and co-artistic director of Singapore Biennale 2022; **Sean Connelly**, artist and adjunct assistant professor at Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation; **Dr. Léuli Eshraghi**, curatorial researcher in residence, University of Queensland Art Museum; **Christopher Kahunahana**, Hawaiian filmmaker, writer and director, founder of 4th World Film; **Noelle M.K.Y. Kahanu**, associate specialist, Public Humanities & Native Hawaiian Programs within the American Studies department, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa; **Fumio Nanjo**, curator and art historian, inaugural curatorial director of the Honolulu Biennial 2017 and former director of Mori Art Museum in Tokyo.

“We are proud to support the Triennial since its inception,” said Erin Isa, general manager and director at Neiman Marcus Hawaii. “We applaud Hawai‘i Contemporary for their efforts in promoting local and Pacific region contemporary artists.”

For more information on Hawai‘i Triennial 2022, visit hawaiicontemporary.org.

HT22 LEAD PRESENTING SPONSORS

Hawai‘i State Art Museum and MakeVisible

Additional sponsorship for HT22 is generously provided by individuals, foundations and corporate patrons including Jonathan Kindred, The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Hawai‘i Tourism Authority, The Honolulu Star-Advertiser, AHL, Cooke Foundation, DAWSON, Lisson Gallery and neugerriemschneider, Berlin, Matson, National Endowment for the Arts, Padosi Foundation, Atherton Family Foundation, Michael and Kristen Chan, Elizabeth Rice Grossman, Gloria Lau and Robert Burkhead, Yusaku Maezawa, Judith Dion Pyle and Wayne Pitluck, Sharon Twigg-Smith, Akiko Yamazaki and Jerry Yang, Atherton Family Foundation, CPB Foundation, Creative New Zealand, Engaging the Senses Foundation, First Hawaiian Bank, Hawai‘i Community Foundation, HEI and Hawaiian Electric, Sidney E. Frank Foundation.

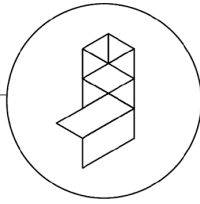
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ABOUT HAWAI‘I CONTEMPORARY

Inspired by the unique histories of Hawai‘i, a gathering place for diverse peoples and cultures, Hawai‘i Contemporary connects communities from across our islands, regions united by the Pacific Ocean, and beyond. As a collaborative art partner, we cultivate cultural alliances to showcase the Hawai‘i Triennial every three years and to celebrate contemporary art and ideas. The multi-site triennial is complemented by year-round public and education programs, contributing to the local arts ecosystem and affirming our commitment to creating an accessible gateway for contemporary art in Hawai‘i nei.

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NOTE TO THE EDITOR

This press release contains words in ‘ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian language), one of two official languages of the State of Hawai‘i. ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i utilizes two diacritical marks: a kahakō (macron) and an ‘okina (glottal stop). Please note that an ‘okina — and not an apostrophe — is used in the word Hawai‘i.

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