

PRESS RELEASE

MAKE OR BREAK EXHIBITING AT YOKOHAMA MEME 2021

Date for release: 25 January 2021

Contact: Make or Break, connie.anthes@gmail.com, rebecca@rebeccagallos.com.au,
www.makeorbreakart.com

LOCAL MEME Projects, info@localmeme.org <http://edit-local.jp/news/yokohamameme21/>

Yokohama Community Design Lab, info@yokohamalab.jp

Yokohama city life development public company POKETTO MIKKE, kotobuki@yokohamalab.jp
<https://www.tpam.or.jp/program/2021/en/?program=64>

Care for Bridges, a participatory artwork by Australian art collective Make or Break, is showing at Ryokan Shizuhama Yokohama as part of YOKOHAMA MEME Public Exhibition (11 to 14 February 2021) and TPAM Fringe Yokohama "Tsuruyacho PIT INN"(12 to 13 February 2021).

After debuting for the Yokohama Triennale at the Yokohama Museum of Art in 2020, *Care for Bridges* is now touring with YOKOHAMA MEME. The artwork will be installed in a recently decommissioned downtown hotel guestroom, where visitors are invited to spend time one-on-one with a selection of large steel sculptures, listen to an immersive soundtrack and read a series of speculative stories.

The public is invited to participate in the slow decay of the steel 'bridge' sculptures by spraying clean Yokohama port water onto their surfaces. Accompanying this act of destruction are a series of suggested actions for the public to undertake on Yokohama's more than 180+ bridges, which the artists hope will prompt a new way of thinking about public spaces and our shared responsibility for their care.

Exhibition Dates and Open Hours: 11 to 14 February 2021, 12:00-17:00 (JPN)

Bookings/Reservations: Limited capacity, bookings essential.

<http://edit-local.jp/news/yokohamameme21/>

Address: Urban economy ryokan Shizuhama 2-12-4 Tsuruyachō, Kanagawa-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa

This artwork was developed with support from the Australia Council for the Arts.

About YOKOHAMA MEME.

YOKOHAMA MEME is a workshop for citizens, and was first held at the end of 2019 in conjunction with "Editing the Community: Communication Design for Local Media" at News Park (Japan Newspaper Museum) in Yokohama. Meme is an unfamiliar word, but it means "cultural gene", and the concept is to describe the unique culture of Yokohama and pass it on to the future. With this concept in mind, three teams of artists have been working together to explore the possibilities of a sustainable local media, with ideas of "Universal Tourism," "Rise and Fall of a Place," and "Historical Buildings" resulting in 3 core concepts emerging for YOKOHAMA MEME 2021: "Hamakko Baton," "Tatemono Gacha Gacha," and "Noge Mikuji Lottery". In

addition, an *Otagae Hama* or "third place on the Internet" born from the connections between participants and mentors of YOKOHAMA MEME will be enacted, alongside a site-specific artwork by Make or Break that references Yokohama's bridges a site for reimagining futures. The exhibition will create opportunities to capture the "Yokohama-ness" that is disappearing, and find ways to foster new encounters and communities.

About Make or Break.

Make or Break has worked across gallery, institution, festival and community contexts to produce a range of process-based projects that are co-authored with the communities they intersect with. These have included creating experimental economies that address precarity and privilege; unveiling speculative monuments; celebrating the invisible labour of strangers and facilitating conversations and workshops as alternatives to traditional forms of research. Make or Break is passionate about exposing invisible labour and deploying artistic methods to question and challenge the social and political systems that influence lives and livelihoods. Make or Break is a collaboration between artists Connie Anthes and Rebecca Gallo, based in Sydney, Australia on stolen Gadigal and Darug lands.



Make or Break, *Care for Bridges*, 2020. Image courtesy the artists.



Make or Break, *Care for Bridges (installation detail)*, 2020. Photo: KATO Ken. Photo courtesy of Organising Committee for Yokohama Triennale.



Make or Break, *Care for Bridges (installation view)*, 2020. Photo: KATO Ken. Photo courtesy of Organising Committee for Yokohama Triennale.