

YOUYANG HU

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Project Assistant Professor | Interdisciplinary Artist

Biography

Youyang Hu (b.1995), Ph.D., is an interdisciplinary artist and Project Assistant Professor at the University of Tokyo. His work spans bioengineering, artificial intelligence, human-computer interaction, and bioart, through which he explores biohybrid experimental creations. By leveraging the calculable and augmented aspects of life as extensions of perception, he redefines the relationship between life and nature. As a member of the Yasuaki Takehi Laboratory and cofounder of the Synphysica art collective, he continues to push the boundaries of research and creativity, pioneering novel paradigms within the more-than-human framework.

His work has been showcased at internationally renowned venues, including multiple exhibitions at the Ars Electronica Festival, the Asia Culture Center, the ETH AI Center, the National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, and the National Taiwan Museum of Natural Science. His academic research has been presented at leading venues such as CHI, ACMMM, SIGGRAPH, SIGGRAPH Asia, ISEA, and Leonardo.

Curriculum Vitae

Education

2022 - 2025

THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO, Tokyo

Doctor of Philosophy, Interdisciplinary Information Studies

Thesis: "Plants as Environmental Transducers: Engaging with Nature through More-than-Human Perspectives"

Advisor: Yasuaki Takehi

2018 - 2021

NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY, Taipei

Master of Science, Graduate Institute of Networking and Multimedia

Thesis: "Abio: Active Bi-olfactory Display Using Subwoofers for Virtual Reality"

Advisor: Yi-Ping Hung

2014 - 2018

SHIH CHIEN UNIVERSITY, Taipei

Bachelor of Arts, Department of Communication Design

Professional Experience

2025 - Present

Project Assistant Professor

Interdisciplinary Information Studies, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo
UTokyo x NTT Sustainable Well-being Social Collaboration Initiative
Research Focus: More-than-Human Well-being and Nature Engagement

2021 - 2022

Creative Programmer

Studio NOWHERE, Shanghai
Directed interactive installations development for Cartier Boutique Studio Treize

2018 - Present

Co-founder, SYNPHYSICA

SYNPHYSICA Art Collective, Taipei
Creative Focus: New Media Art, Bio-hybrid Art, Ecological Art, Environmental Art

Grants & Fellowship

2025

Icelandic Visual Arts Fund, Iceland

Grant for environmental art research and exhibition in Iceland.

2024 - 2025

SPRING GX, Japan

Research funding for Ph.D. research under the WINGS: International Innovative Graduate Program for an Intellectual Society.

2024

Asian Culture Center: CREATORS Residency Fellowship, Korea

Art residency and creation fellowship in ACC CREATORS 2024 on Art and Technology.

2023

National Culture and Arts Foundation Grant, Taiwan

Multidisciplinary Art Creation Grant for art performance - The Rat

2021

Digital Technology and Visual Art Interdisciplinary Creation Grant, Taiwan

National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts Creation Grant for the project - Movement

2020

National Culture and Arts Foundation Grant, Taiwan

Exhibition Grant for the solo exhibition - Biosignals 信釋

2019

National Culture and Arts Foundation Grant, Taiwan

International Cultural Exchange Grant for exhibition at Ars Electronica Festival-Cybernation

Awards

2023	BIO ART & DESIGN AWARD (Finalist), Netherlands Finalist proposal in collaboration with scientists from the Institute for Environmental Biology at Utrecht University in the Netherlands.
2023	日本空間デザイン賞 (Longlist), Japan Longlisted for the entertainment space at Cartier Chengdu TKL Boutique Studio Treize, contributing as a creative programmer of studio NOWHERE.
2022	TAISHIN ARTS AWARD (Nominated), Taiwan Nominated at the 21st Taishin Arts Award for the solo exhibition “Lighthesis 和光” in Taiwan.
2021	ACM MULTIMEDIA BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD, USA Awarded the Best Student Paper Award at the ACM Multimedia Conference for the master’s thesis
2020	TAIPEI ARTS AWARD (Finalist), Taiwan Finalist in the Taipei Arts Award for an exhibition at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum.
2020	TAISHIN ARTS AWARD (Nominated), Taiwan Nominated at the 19th Taishin Arts Award for the solo exhibition “Biosignals 信釋” in Taiwan.
2018	YOUFAB GLOBAL CREATIVE AWARDS (Finalist), Japan Finalist in the 2018 YouFab Global Creative Awards in Japan.
2018	K.T. TECHNOLOGY AND HUMANITIES AWARD, Taiwan Silver Award in the K.T. Technology and Humanities Award for the work “Cybernation” in Taiwan.
2018	MANA LIFE GEEK, China Data Visualization Awards for the work "Syn-thesasia" in Shanghai
2017	K.T. TECHNOLOGY AND HUMANITIES AWARD, Taiwan Silver Award in the K.T. Technology and Humanities Award for the work “Response Traces” in Taiwan.

Exhibitions

Solo Exhibitions

2024	<i>Being Transducer</i> , Art Gallery of Pace University, New York City, USA
2022	<i>Lighthesis 和光</i> , Project Fulfill Art Space, Taipei, Taiwan
2021	草木一見, National Museum of Natural Science, Taichung, Taiwan
2020	<i>Biosignals 信釋</i> , Songshan Cultural Park, Taipei, Taiwan
2020	<i>Biosignals 信釋</i> , Project Fulfill Art Space, Taipei, Taiwan

Group Exhibitions

2025	<i>AI-Creature-Multiverse</i> , ISEA 2025, Seoul Art Center, Seoul, Korea
2025	<i>Sensus Pond</i> , Xlab Showcase 2025, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
2024	<i>AI-Creature-Multiverse</i> , ACC CREATORS Residency, Asia Culture Center, Gwangju, Korea
2024	<i>Eye of Flora</i> , AI+X Summit, ETH AI CENTER, Zurich, Switzerland
2024	<i>Immersive Flora</i> , CHI 2024, Hawaii, USA
2024	<i>Eye of Flora</i> , Climate Imaginarium, New York City, USA
2024	<i>Immersive Flora</i> , Xlab Showcase 2024, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
2024	<i>Streams in the Veins</i> , Ars Electronica Founding Lab Fall Term Projects, Ars Electronica Center, Linz, Austria
2023	<i>Synplant</i> , Becoming Different, Ars Electronica Garden Tokyo: Yasuaki Kakehi Lab, Ars Electronica Festival, Linz, Austria
2023	<i>The Rat</i> , Project Fulfill Art Space, Taipei, Taiwan
2023	<i>Synplant</i> , Xlab Showcase 2023, The University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
2022	<i>Synplant</i> , ZOU-NO-HANA Futurescape, Yokohama, Japan
2022	<i>LightFall & Pneuma</i> , Artificial, Evolution and Sustainable Future, Art TAIPEI 2022, Taipei, Taiwan
2022	<i>Cradle</i> , Stone Sculpture Museum, Hualien, Taiwan
2021	<i>Pneuma</i> , The World Began without the Human Race and It Will End without It, National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts, Taichung, Taiwan
2021	<i>Movement</i> , Mist, Museum of Drinking Water, Taipei, Taiwan
2021	<i>Breathing</i> , Ars Electronica Garden Taipei: Entrance Deal, Ars Electronica Festival, Linz, Austria
2020	<i>Syn-thesasia</i> , Life Dimention in Art, Remedium-Poznań Art Week, Poznań, Poland
2020	<i>Cybernation</i> , How Art Museum, Shanghai, China
2019	<i>Cybernation</i> , Human Limitations - Limited Humanity, Ars Electronica Festival, Linz, Austria

2019	<i>Cybernation</i> , YouFab Global Creative Award, Tokyo, Japan
2019	<i>Meditation</i> , Unstable Media Art Festival, Taipei, Taiwan
2018	<i>Syn-thesasia</i> , Trans Robotics, Taipei Digital Arts Festival, Taipei, Taiwan
2018	<i>Syn-thesasia</i> , MANA LIFE GEEK, Shanghai, China
2017	<i>Response Traces</i> , Maker Faire, Taipei, Taiwan

Academic Publication

2026	<p>Leonardo Journal, Music and Sound Art</p> <p>Chiaochi Chou*, Youyang Hu*, Youngjun Choi, Kaito Muramatsu, Jinjoon Lee, Yasuaki Kakehi. 2026. "Streams in the Veins: Harmonic Cycle of Multimodal Signals for Interspecies Interactive Composing."</p>
2025	<p>IASDR 2025, Pictorial</p> <p>Kuan-Ju Wu*, Youyang Hu*, Chiaochi Chou, Yasuaki Kakehi. 2025. "Sensus Pond: Exploring Water as Sensing Medium for More-than-Human Observation."</p>
2024	<p>SIGGRAPH Asia 2024, Art Papers</p> <p>Youyang Hu*, Cyprien R. Fol*, Chiaochi Chou, Verena C. Griess, Yasuaki Kakehi. 2024. "Eye of Flora: Encountering Nature through the Mixed Reality Lens of Plant-Environment Interactions." https://doi.org/10.1145/3680530.3695442</p>
2024	<p>CHI 2024, Interactivity</p> <p>Youyang Hu*, Cyprien R. Fol*, Chiaochi Chou, Verena C. Griess, Yasuaki Kakehi. 2024. Immersive Flora: Re-Engaging with the Forest through the Visualisation of Plant-Environment Interactions in Virtual Reality. https://doi.org/10.1145/3613905.3648675</p>
2023	<p>SIGGRAPH 2023, Art Papers</p> <p>Youyang Hu, Chiaochi Chou, and Yasuaki Kakehi. 2023. Synplant: Cymatics Visualization of Plant-Environment Interaction Based on Plants Biosignals. https://doi.org/10.1145/3597622</p>
2023	<p>ISEA 2023, Short Paper</p> <p>Youyang Hu, Chiaochi Chou, and Yasuaki Kakehi. 2023. Lucid Dream: Sensing and Artistic Representation of Plant-Nature Interaction Based on Plants Biosignals. https://doi.org/10.69564/ISEA2023-14-short-Hu-et-al-Lucid-Dream</p>
2021	<p>ACM Multimedia 2021, Interactive Arts</p> <p>Youyang Hu, Chiao-Chi Chou, and Chia-Wei Li. 2021. Apercevoir: Bio Internet of Things Interactive System. https://doi.org/10.1145/3474085.3478546</p>
2021	<p>ACM Multimedia 2021, Full Paper</p> <p>Youyang Hu, Yao-Fu Jan, Kuan-Wei Tseng, You-Shin Tsai, Hung-Ming Sung, Jin-Yao Lin, and Yi-Ping Hung. 2021. ABio: Active Bi-Olfactory Display Using Subwoofers for Virtual Reality. https://doi.org/10.1145/3474085.3475678</p>
2018	<p>ACM Interactions Volume 25 Issue 2, Exit Gallery</p> <p>Youyang Hu and Chiao-Chi Chou. 2018. Response traces. https://doi.org/10.1145/3183557</p>

Peer-review Activities

2026	ACM DIS, Pictorial
2025	ACM CHI, Full Paper
2025	IASDR 2025, Full Paper

Teaching Experience & Public Talks

2025	UTokyo x NTT Sustainable Well-being Social Collaboration Initiative Kick-Off Symposium - Invited Speaker Presented under the theme "Engaging with More-than-Human."
2024	Pace University, Seidenberg School of Computer Science Workshop - Organizer and Instructor Organized and led the workshop "Engaging with Plant Transducers via Digital Twins."
2022	Solo Exhibition Lighthesis - Artist Talk with Curator Wei-Tzu Chuang
2021	National Taiwan Museum of Fine Arts Workshop - Co-organizer and Instructor Organized and led the workshop "Biosignal Interpretation."
2021	Summer Public Program for Arts and Cultural Practitioners - Co-organizer and Instructor Organized and led the lecture "Introduction to p5.js and IoT."
2020	Solo Exhibition Biosignals - Artist Talk with Scientist Chia-Wei Li
2019	Maker Faire Taipei 2019 Forum - Invited Speaker Presented the talk titled "Liberated Technologies and Bewildermentwork."
2019	YouFab 2019 Kick-Off Special Talk Event - Invited Speaker Presented the work Cybernation at FabCafe Taipei
2018	Synphysica x Backyard Brain, Rural Community Workshop Co-organizer and Instructor Organized and conducted a neuroscience workshop in a rural Taiwanese community to engage students with plant biosignals.