

## Susumu Shingu Still Immersed in Work at the Age of 88

Sculptor Susumu Shingu, 87, known for his wind- and water-driven sculptures, is receiving offers from all over the world to exhibit his works. After his exhibition in Taiwan, which ran until mid-February, he will have a solo exhibition in the U.S. from June to August this year. After that, he will be in Milan, Italy, from May next year, and in 2027, the opening event of a large-scale project in Tainan City awaits.

Currently, he is also working on a work to be exhibited in Miami, U.S.A. There, he was recently contacted by the United Arab Emirates. In any case, at the age of 88, he is still working every day.



Caption for the photo

(Susumu Shingu smiles in front of a model of the Wind Museum in Tainan City = Sanda, Hyogo Prefecture)

The venue for next year's exhibition is a cultural facility called Fabbrica del Vapore. The main venue, the Cathedral, is a large space measuring 50 meters long, 18 meters wide, and 15 meters high, and the outdoor garden will also serve as an exhibition venue.

Shingu gave a lecture at the University of Milan the year before last and the director of the cultural facility, who was in attendance, took a strong interest in having his show. Talking about the exhibitions in Europe, he has already had an exhibition at the Chateau de Chambord in France from 2019 to 2020. Shingu has already had a rough sketch of the exhibits, but he is nervous about making a list to solidify the details. Shingu has made a name for himself internationally with his traveling project *Wind Caravan*, in which he exhibited his works around the world. Recently, he has been performing a stage show featuring Sandalino, a character he created himself, calling on children to create a world without destruction and conflict. This attitude of pursuing his dream has attracted the sympathy of many people, and a major Taiwanese construction company will open the "Wind Museum," an educational facility for children that will not only exhibit Shingu's works but also have stage performances, in a new town being built in the suburbs of Tainan City in May in 2027. The museum, which will be the core of the area, will be designed by Tadao Ando and the commercial facility will be designed by Kengo Kuma, two famous Japanese architects. Shingu's area will be added to one corner of the venue. Soon he will begin to create a program for the opening, as well as develop an operational plan for the facility.

Next, in 2028, Shingu received an offer from the United Arab Emirates to work together on a major project to build an artificial lake in the desert, and he recently held the first meeting remotely.

In the midst of his busy schedule, Shingu is concerned about his age. "I am grateful for the offer, but I don't have much time left." It's true that he is on the verge of turning 90 years old. However, he intends to run through the competition at full speed with his tennis-trained legs and hips. (Toshikazu Masaki)