

Takashi Kuribayashi, *Tree of Tirtodipuran*, 2026. Courtesy of the artist and kohesi Initiatives

TAKASHI KURIBAYASHI

be exist
you have decided not to die
25 October 2026 – 10 January 2027

Tirtodipuran Link Building A
Jl. Tirtodipuran No. 50
D.I. Yogyakarta, 55143

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kohesi Initiatives is pleased to present ***be exist: you have decided not to die***, a solo exhibition by Takashi Kuribayashi. Within this exhibition, the gallery becomes new ground for trees felled by industry, a continuation of the artist's inquiry towards where the boundary lies between human and nature.

For more than three decades, Kuribayashi's practice has been driven by one idea: boundaries. For him, a boundary is never just a line between two sides. It is the invisible zone in between, the act of crossing back and forth, and the social and political histories hidden in the lines humans draw, from national borders to the coastlines on a map. He builds large-scale environments that the audience must physically pass through, and beneath them runs a sustained concern with the relationship between humans and nature. Here, the trees become those boundaries made visible, and visitors are asked to cross them.

Hundreds, even thousands, of industrial trees are felled. Their bark, branches, and leaves are discarded, while the trunks are taken for mass production. Kuribayashi collects what remains and reconstructs it, filling the gallery space with trees that want to live again, or at the very least remind us that they once lived and gave life to us. Natural forests now cover less than half of Indonesia's land area. The reconstructions are far from the perfection of nature, and in this imperfection he sets the wisdom of nature against the greed of human logic. In one work in this exhibition, a tree has lost its wood entirely. Only the bark remains, wrapping an empty space filled with shards of mirror. The hollow asks what has been lost, whether it will return, and who took it.

"I only listen to the trees calling me to bring them back," Kuribayashi says.

Alongside these trees, Kuribayashi brings together two of his long-running works. ***Genki-ro***, named from *genki* (health and vitality) and *genshiro* (nuclear reactor), reimagines the reactor as a source of human energy and health, and grew out of his engagement with nuclear issues after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake and the Fukushima accident. ***Tanker Project*** imagines a tanker, usually a symbol of transporting energy and power, as a vessel carrying artists, people and nature together, where energy is emitted, absorbed, released and circulates. Both ask what energy means when seen from the human side. In the gallery, they join the trees as an open story, one that visitors complete by coming to see, experience and feel these new spaces of life.

be exist: you have decided not to die opens to the public from 25 October 2026 to 10 January 2027. Exhibition hours are Tuesday – Sunday from 1 to 8 PM (WIB) at Tirtodipuran Link Building A, Yogyakarta.

Takashi Kuribayashi (b. 1968, Nagasaki, Japan) lives and works between Zushi, Japan, and Yogyakarta, where he has been based since the mid-2010s. Kuribayashi has built his practice around a single, expansive idea: boundaries. The theme took root in the early 1990s, when he arrived in a newly reunified Germany to study, first in the Free Art department at the University of Kassel and then at the Kunstakademie Düsseldorf. He became a Meisterschüler under Prof. Irmin Kamp there in 2001. He received Japan's Minister of Culture Award in 2023 and is a visiting professor at Musashino Art University.

kohesi *I*nitiatives is a contemporary art gallery based in Indonesia.

The gallery is committed to supporting and presenting the careers of its artists and their works across a variety of media and genres, while encouraging the exploration of their practices in conceptual and contextual interpretations with balanced aesthetic considerations. As an artist-first gallery, kohesi strives to achieve its vision by consistently hosting quality exhibitions and artist-focused projects, while actively seeking opportunities and possibilities to collaborate with institutions globally to enrich and benefit its artists.

Press Information

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Instagram : @kohesi.initiatives

Website : srisasantisyndicate.com

For more information and interview, you can contact:

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Gallery Opening Hours

Tirtodipuran Link Building A

Tuesday – Sunday : 1 – 8 PM