

## SAKI CHIKARAISHI - ARTIST STATEMENT

Install knitting in a town. It is my communication method with the world.

I discovered knitting with my piece, *ManGlobe (2004)*. What do people picture when they hear the words: yarn, knitting? Probably “warmth” and “softness” - just as I do. And that’s why I used knitting in *ManGlobe*, which was an expression of communication with the world. The wonder by which a of thread becomes faced and is spreading infinitely, the variability to which the shape is changed by the shape of the contents when covering a thing, and meekness which turns something inorganic organic. I was attracted by the nature of these knitting through this work.

In the wake of *Traveliving (2009)*, I took a knitting outside. During two weeks of the Gold Coast stay, in this project to create a work while the life and tourism in the field, creating works of muffled the room boring. I decided to always make a site-specific works wherever I visited. I had left wrapped in improvised people who I met, driftwood on the beach, and a bench in the town. Then communication with the person who knitted and other, driftwood and a person, a bench and a person was also born.

Knitting can be anywhere in any place if there is a string-like material. And therefore it is a such a primitive, I think it’s a technique that people around the world know. Because there is a first-in, first imagery for the knit and everyday landscape, the situation becomes uncomfortable feeling of being wrapped things in the town by knitting. So, it is born a new communication between people and things or a person and a person. Weaving a new communication that began from *Traveliving* project, it has been extended to those that connect people and space, people and the city.

*Knit Invaders in Aqua Metropolis Osaka (2015)* is the prime example. Now, my interest lies in the formation of closer communication between people and the city. By Invasion of the city over a wide range, invites local people to from usual different town. In that space, you will be able to discover the charm of the original town or a new side of the city, and people do not know each other that would mutually exchange. I can also know the city through the knit Invasion carried out in day-to-day public, and can exchange to local people directly. Invasion work to be performed together by involving them is the essence of this project.

Knitting is communication media for me. I wish that the communication which has started from a target thing with me is spreading over a target thing and appreciator, an appreciator and an appreciator multilaterally as a of thread is being knitted and is spreading one after another. The works which are being wrapped by knitting while aiming at various relationship and the background such as man and region, vision and actuality are the works with which the world is being connected gently. And those are a part of a magnificent installation.