

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ari Bayuaji at Encounters, Art Basel Hong Kong 2026

25 – 29 March 2026

EN5, Encounters, Level 1, Art Basel Hong Kong
Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre
1 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Tokyo, March 2026 – Mizuma Art Gallery is delighted to announce Ari Bayuaji's participation at Art Basel Hong Kong 2026's **Encounters** section. Dedicated to large-scale projects that transcend the traditional gallery booth, *Encounters* returns as a central sector of Art Basel Hong Kong, under the leadership of a new curatorial team comprising both institutional and independent curators, led by **Mami Kataoka**, alongside **Isabella Tam**, **Alia Swastika**, and **Hirokazu Tokuyama**. The 2026 edition will present 12 artworks, guided by a curatorial vision that draws on the Five Elements—a cosmological framework widely found in Asia, with each element (space/ether, water, fire, wind and earth) designated to specific areas throughout the convention halls.

Originally trained as a civil engineer in Indonesia, Ari Bayuaji (b. 1975, Mojokerto, Indonesia) is renowned for his art installations that incorporate materials collected from the coast as well as ready-made objects, engaging with culture narratives, historical memory, and pressing environmental concerns. His works have been exhibited worldwide, with major solo exhibitions in Tokyo, Singapore, Taipei, Ste-Alvère, Düsseldorf, Sydney, Bangkok, Washington, D.C., and Toronto, and are part of the permanent collections of the Musée des Beaux-Arts de Montréal and the Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec.

In 2020, Bayuaji founded *Weaving the Ocean*, an ongoing community-driven art project born from his discovery of plastic ropes entangled in the roots of mangrove trees near Sanur, Bali. Collaborating with Balinese artisans, he transformed discarded plastic into vibrant threads, weaving them into intricate textiles. The project has since evolved into a platform for sustainable income and education, engaging over 15 individuals across multiple regions. Bayuaji has also led workshops in Sydney, Montreal, and Busan, teaching the process of repurposing plastic materials into art.

At *Encounters*, Ari will showcase a captivating selection of large-scale textiles made from woven plastic threads collected from the ocean. Mizuma Art Gallery presents Bayuaji's diverse expressions where nature, tradition, and sustainability converge in a thought-provoking and resilient narrative.

Weaving the Ocean by Ari Bayuaji is presented by Mizuma Art Gallery at Encounters EN5, Level 1, Art Basel Hong Kong. The fair will run from 25 to 29 March 2026, with VIP days and Vernissage on 25 & 26 March. Public days will be from 27 to 29 March 2026. Art Basel Hong Kong will take place at Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre, 1 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong. For more information about the fair opening hours and ticketing, please visit: <https://www.artbasel.com/hong-kong/>

About the Artist



Ari Bayuaji (b. 1975, Mojokerto, Indonesia) graduated as a civil engineer and worked in Indonesia before deciding to move to Canada permanently in 2005. Once in Montreal, he studied Fine Arts at Concordia University from 2005 to 2010 and now divides his time between Montreal and Bali. The artist is known mainly for his art installations that incorporate the use of found and ready-made objects he collects from various parts of the world, thereby exposing himself to the different cultural traditions. He is an expert in conveying aspects of daily life within a culture as his works often expose the overlooked artistic value in everyday life expressed through objects and places and their roles within a society. Ari Bayuaji has taken part in numerous artist-in-residency programs in Canada, France, the Netherlands, Indonesia and Singapore. The artist's work has been exhibited in major solo exhibitions in Singapore, Taipei (Taiwan), Ste-Alvère (France), Dusseldorf (Germany), Rotterdam and The Hague (The Netherlands), and Yogyakarta (Indonesia).



Exhibition view of "Sounds of the Ocean" at Mizuma Art Gallery, Tokyo (2025)
Photography by MIYAJIMA Kei. Image courtesy of Mizuma Art Gallery.

About Mizuma Art Gallery

Executive Director Sueo Mizuma established Mizuma Art Gallery in Tokyo in 1994. Since then, the gallery has continuously presented artists from Japan and, increasingly, from the surrounding region whose works demonstrate distinctive sensibilities, unaffected by fleeting stylistic trends.

Reflecting the rapid expansion of Asia's contemporary art market, Mizuma Art Gallery opened an additional space at Singapore's Gillman Barracks in 2012 under the name Mizuma Gallery. From 2014 to 2019, the artist residency space Rumah Kijang Mizuma operated in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, providing a new platform for dialogue by supporting exchanges between East Asia and Southeast Asia. From 2018 to 2023, Mizuma & Kips opened in New York as a collaborative space between Mizuma Art Gallery and New York-based Kips Gallery.

Mizuma Art Gallery actively participates in international art fairs, including Art Basel Hong Kong, Art Dubai, and Art Taipei. In 2024, the gallery celebrated its 30th anniversary, marking three decades as a distinctive force in the international development of contemporary artists from diverse aesthetic backgrounds.

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Gallery hours:
Tue - Sat: 12 - 7pm
Closed on Sundays, Mondays & Public
Holidays

Mizuma Gallery, Singapore

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Gallery hours:
Tue - Sat: 11am - 7pm
Sun: 11am - 6pm
Closed on Mondays & Public Holidays