

# From Corporeal to Cerebral to Spiritual

The sporting spectacle of the Tokyo 2020 Games was given a scintillating cultural counterpoint in Tokyo Tokyo FESTIVAL.

by **Jordan A. Y. Smith**

While the world celebrated the athletic excellence on display in stadiums and other arenas during the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020, elsewhere in Japan's capital on streets, in parks, and even on buildings, a celebration of arts and culture was also taking place. The Tokyo Metropolitan Government and Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) planned and executed Tokyo Tokyo FESTIVAL (TTF) as a major showcase of art, architecture, music and technology, and more to promote Tokyo's appeal as a city of arts and culture in its Olympic and Paralympic year. The postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Games allowed TTF a second lease on life, and its reassembled lineup of attractions captivated the public over the summer of 2021.



Pavilion Tokyo 2021 was a world-first experiment to propose unrestrained and new urban landscapes by installing architecture or objects at locations mainly around the National Stadium.

- a: **Suimei / Kazuyo Sejima** photo: Kazuyo Sejima & Associates
- b: **The Obliteration Room / Yayoi Kusama** © YAYOI KUSAMA  
Yayoi Kusama / The obliteration room 2002–present Collaboration between Yayoi Kusama and Queensland Art Gallery. Commissioned Queensland Art Gallery. Gift of the artist through the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation 2012 Collection: Queensland Art Gallery, Australia Cooperation: OTA FINE ARTS photo: Shuji Goto
- c: **Global Bowl / Akihisa Hirata** photo: ToLoLo studio
- d: **Kokage-gumo / Junya Ishigami** photo: Shuji Goto
- e: **Tokyo Castle / Makoto Aida** © AIDA Makoto photo: ToLoLo studio
- f: **Tea House “Go-an” / Terunobu Fujimori** photo: Hideki Ohtaka
- g: **“2020-2021” / Daito Manabe + Rhizomatiks** photo: Keizo Kioku
- h: **STREET GARDEN THEATER / Teppei Fujiwara** photo: ToLoLo studio
- i: **Cloud pavilion / Sou Fujimoto** photo: Keizo Kioku