

**Nissan Art Award 2017
New York Residency Report
International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP)**

Hikaru Fujii

A recent trend in my practice is that it takes me between one and three years to complete a single work of art. Given this tendency for long-term production, I left Japan uncertain as to what this short-term residency could offer me. However, my stay at the International Studio & Curatorial Program (ISCP) proved very valuable indeed. At ISCP, there were some 30 artists and curators from around the world, ranging widely from famous artists to up-and-coming practitioners, and with a focus on mid-career artists who have experience exhibiting at art museums and galleries in their own countries and overseas. As such, the production work that took place during the residency was less about starting entirely new projects than a controlled atmosphere whereby artists solemnly prepared for their next exhibitions. I, too, concentrated on preparing and researching my next exhibition and lectures. Many of the other artists were from the same generation as me and likewise had young children, and it was informative to see the way several people were sending their kids to nursery schools in New York.

As environments that allow you to concentrate fully on your artwork can end up turning you into a recluse, ISCP also has some programs that facilitate external communication. In addition to regularly held lectures and discussions, there are many visits from curators and critics, resulting in unforgettable encounters. In particular, I think the exchange of opinions I had with a curator who works on exhibitions related to diversity and feminism will have an influence on my later practice, and I could also learn many things from Kari Conte, the Director of Programs and Exhibitions at ISCP who has written books and produced exhibitions in this field. There were also opportunities to visit art museums and galleries not only in New York, but further afield such as the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art and Clark Art Institute.

In this way, my residency at ISCP was fulfilling and I feel very fortunate to have been selected by the judges, not least because there was a public program in the form of an exhibition held in the gallery space within the facility, and which was my first solo exhibition in the United States.



Talk by residency participants



Visiting the exhibition "Radical Women: Latin American Art, 1960–1985" (Brooklyn Museum)



Visiting a contemporary art exhibition at Columbia University



Visiting the exhibition "Taryn Simon" (Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art)



Visiting the exhibition "Women Artists in Paris, 1850–1900" (Clark Art Institute)



Solo exhibition at the ISCP gallery