

犬島ハウスプロジェクト

Inujima Doghouse Project

■ About the Inujima Doghouse Project

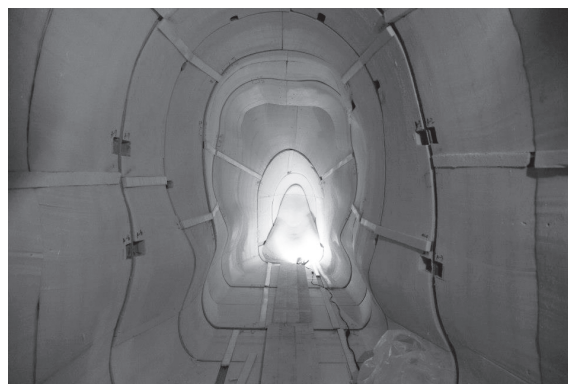
The Inujima Doghouse Project is a private art project by sculptor Kawano Ryuzo. The sculptor will sculpt a giant dog, 5.1 m deep, 3 m tall, and 2.4 m wide. The sculpture will be on permanent display at a beach house owned by Okayama Sanyo High School. The beach house, known as "the White House", will be likened to a doghouse. The aim of the project is to create an inspiring work of art that anyone can enjoy and lives in hopes for the future.



400 m across the bay lies the island of "Inunoshima(the island of dog)", where a dog-shaped rock called "Inuishisama" is enshrined. The dog sculpture looks like it's perking up its ears a little fearfully as it regards the Inuishisama from the corner of its eye. During open house, visitors can go inside the sculpture. If you enter the sculpture through the White House, you can get a good bird's eye view of the entire island from within the dog's head. The surface of the sculpture will be finished by a mosaic of porcelain tiles, antique ceramics, and glassware. Children, artists, and other volunteers from all across the country will be invited to participate in the production of the tiles. The sculpture will be completed thanks to the collaborative efforts and wishes for the future of many different people.



• molding process (2012/12/31)

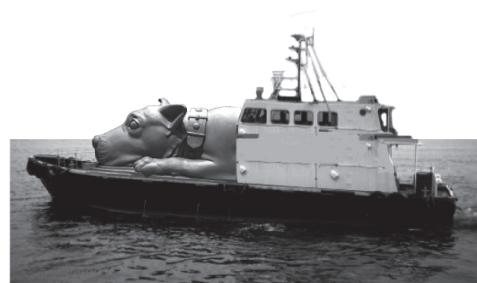


• molding process (2012/12/31)

■ Marine Transportation of the Finished Piece

The studio of Kawano Ryuzo, the sculptor, is a reformed terrace-style storage house in Kasaoka City, a port town facing the Inland Sea of Japan and located in the south-west region of the Okayama prefecture. The Kasaoka area, being a quality port town, once played an important role in the transportation of cargo. Today, its role is reduced to a mere junction to the Kasaoka islands.

The Inujima Doghouse Project will attempt a "door to door" approach of transportation, taking advantage of both the location of the sculptor's studio and the place of installation of the completed work. Voyaging from island to island whenever the tide is favorable, we will try to reconstruct the route that used to cross the Inland Sea of Japan. The image of a giant dog sailing the great seas will surely mark the crowning moment of this project. Completion is due in the Autumn of 2013.



◆ About Inujima

Inujima is located in the south-east region of Okayama city in the Okayama prefecture. Of the Inujima islands, located in the Setonaikai National Park, it is the largest, as well as the only inhabited island. Opinion is divided as to where the name "Inujima(the dog island)" derives from. Legend has it that Sugawara-no-Michizane, on his way to being exiled to the Dazaifu in Kyushu, had been caught by the tide and almost shipwrecked, when the cry of a dog led him to a place where he found a giant rock, which was the splitting image of a dog he used to own. At the summit of Inunoshima, you will find a giant dog-shaped rock, 3.6 m in height and 7.2 m in circumference, which the islanders call "Inugamisama(a god of dog)" and have worshiped since ancient times.

■ Inujima Doghouse Project Executive committee

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