

NOGUCHI MUSEUM ANNOUNCES SEPTEMBER PUBLIC PROGRAMMING



Isamu Noguchi, *Sounding Stone* (1981), is the focus of a Center of Attention talk on September 21.
Photo by Kevin Noble. ©INFGM / ARS

Community Day

Sunday, September 1, 2019, 11 am–6 pm

On first Sundays June–September, admission is free with special programming throughout the day.

11 am–2 pm (drop-in): Open Studio | Charcoal Drawing

Families with children ages 2–11 are invited to drop in for gallery activities and artmaking in the studio.

2–3 pm: Public Tour

An introduction to the life and vision of Isamu Noguchi, exploring highlights of the Museum, its collection, and special exhibitions.

4–5 pm: Center of Attention

Visitors are invited to participate in a conversation on Isamu Noguchi's *Play Sculpture* (c. 1965, fabricated 2017), featured in the exhibition *Noguchi: Body-Space Devices*.

Extended Summer Hours on Free First Fridays

FINAL 2019 EVENING HOURS: Friday, September 6, 2019, 10 am–8 pm

The Museum continues to host special evening hours (5–8 pm) on the first Friday of the month through September 6, with a wine-and-beer cash bar. (Admission is free all day on the first Friday of every month year-round.) English- and Japanese-language tours of collection highlights and special exhibitions are offered at 2 pm, and a free concert by Balún closes the 2019 season of the Bang on a Can music series at 6 pm (details below).

Artists at Noguchi

Bang on a Can Music Series

The popular Bang on a Can music series, now in its ninth year at The Noguchi Museum, continues with monthly performances held in the Museum’s celebrated outdoor sculpture garden (or indoors in inclement weather).

This performance is free as part of Free First Friday; seating, on garden benches and floor mats, is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Beer for the 2019 Artists at Noguchi | Bang on a Can music series is generously provided by Big aLICE Brewing Co. noguchi.org/bangonacan

FINAL 2019 CONCERT: Balún

Friday, September 6, 2019, 6–7 pm

Balún is a self-proclaimed “dreambow” ensemble whose members hail from Puerto Rico. Though currently New York-based, island culture remains the cornerstone of their forward-thinking, malleable sound. Balún incorporates Caribbean rhythms, old school dembow, glitchy IDM and dreamy dance pop into tunes that are slick and modern but firmly rooted in the traditional sounds of their homeland. balunonline.com

Brendan Fernandes: Contract and Release

Saturday, September 14, 1:30–2:30 pm and 3–4 pm

Saturday, September 28, 1:30–2:30 pm and 3–4 pm

September 11, 2019–March 8, 2020, the Museum’s collection installation *Noguchi: Body-Space Devices* is transformed into a performance space in this collaboration with artist Brendan Fernandes. Dancers interact with Isamu Noguchi’s works as well as “training devices” devised by Fernandes as they explore bodies in space, movement, and the ways in which often grueling techniques—including the Martha Graham technique known as “contract and release” for which this project is named—may be fetishized. Free with Museum admission.



Balún



Contract and Release dancer Oisín Monaghan performs with an assembly model for Isamu Noguchi’s *Strange Bird* (1945), fabricated by Danny Da Silva, 2019.

Photo by Don Stahl. ©INFGM / ARS

Center of Attention

Saturday, September 21, 3:30–4:30 pm

Visitors explore Isamu Noguchi's *Sounding Stone* (1981) in this guided discussion in collaboration with *Smithsonian's* Museum Day—an annual celebration creating national commitment to access, equity, and inclusivity in museums. This year, Museum Day will celebrate the Smithsonian Year of Music, an institution-wide initiative to increase public engagement, advance understanding, and connect communities across the nation.

The Museum Day ticket provides free admission for two people on Saturday, September 21, 2019. Tickets are available for the public to download at smithsonianmag.com/museumday beginning at midnight on August 15, 2019.

Hands-On at Noguchi

Sunday, September 22, 1–5 pm

Model-making

Isamu Noguchi was commissioned to design playgrounds, memorials, and public spaces throughout his career. Many of these were never realized but exist as models. Spend time in the exhibition *Models for Spaces* and learn about Noguchi's interest in bringing sculpture to the public domain. Then, learn how to create your own sculptural model using mixed media materials such as modeling clay, wood, and foam board. Previous experience is not necessary. Space is limited and advance registration is required. Ages 18 and older. \$20 members, \$30 non-members. Program fee includes admission to the Museum and materials.

Visitor Information

The Noguchi Museum is located at 9-01 33rd Road (at Vernon Boulevard), Long Island City, New York. It is open Wednesday–Friday, 10 am–5 pm (until 8 pm on first Fridays May through September); Saturday and Sunday, 11 am–6 pm. General admission is \$10; \$5 for seniors and students with a valid ID. New York City public school students, children under 12, and Museum members are admitted free of charge. Admission is free on the first Friday of every month. Public tours in English are available daily at 2 pm, and in Japanese on the first Friday and second Sunday of every month. **718.204.7088** | noguchi.org | [@noguchimuseum](https://twitter.com/noguchimuseum)

The Noguchi Museum

Founded in 1985 by Isamu Noguchi (1904–1988), one of the leading sculptors and designers of the twentieth century, The Noguchi Museum was the first museum in America to be established, designed, and installed by a living artist to show their own work. Widely viewed as among the artist's greatest achievements, the Museum comprises ten indoor galleries in a converted factory building, as well as an internationally acclaimed outdoor sculpture garden. Since its founding, it has served as an international hub for Noguchi research and appreciation. In addition to housing the artist's archives and catalogue raisonné, the Museum exhibits a comprehensive selection of sculpture, models for public projects and gardens, dance sets, and his Akari light sculptures. Provocative installations drawn from the collection, together with diverse special exhibitions related to Noguchi and the milieu in which he worked, offer a rich, contextualized view of Noguchi's art and illuminate his enduring influence.

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