

About Gallery GARAGE

"Being able to focus on creating artwork while staying in Kyoto."

We have opened a gallery called 'Gallery Garage' in Higashi-Kujo, Kyoto, an area currently undergoing development as a new art district. This semi-open commercial gallery has no doors, making it accessible to everyone. As a new experiment by Dohjidai Gallery, which has built a 25-year history as a rental gallery on Gokomachi Street, it will focus primarily on curated exhibitions.

●About the gallery

As the name suggests, the gallery is designed like a garage with only a shutter, without any doors, allowing passersby to see into the exhibition space. This semi-open style breaks away from the concept of galleries being difficult to enter. The space features a frontage of approximately 6.7 meters, an area of around 113 square meters, a ceiling height of about 3.5 meters, and two movable walls measuring approximately 4 meters by 2.65 meters. Despite being a white cube, the gallery has slits between the ceiling and walls, allowing wind and light to flow in, creating a nature-integrated environment. Rather than a closed space, this gallery allows for art to be exhibited as part of the city's landscape. Additionally, the high ceiling, wide frontage, and flat access from the road make it easy to bring in large works and set up installations, making it suitable for the creation and display of large-scale pieces.

●About the area

Another side of Kyoto that hasn't been featured in guidebooks—Higashi-Kujo, an area lined with temples, shrines, and traditional townhouses. Located south of Kyoto Station, this area has been known as the Sujin district. In March 2017, the city of Kyoto announced a revitalization plan for the southeastern area around Kyoto Station, aiming to invigorate the Higashi-Kujo district through 'youth' and 'art practices.' Since then, this neighborhood has rapidly been transforming into a new art district. Theater E9 Kyoto has already launched, and by autumn 2023, the Kyoto City University of Arts is set to relocate, with plans for establishing a theater by a digital art collective, among other projects, reshaping the landscape of the area. In one corner of this evolving district, Gallery Garage has opened its doors.

●The perspective of Gallery Garage

After numerous experiences with art fairs and curated exhibitions, Dohjidai Gallery has established this new gallery project to pursue even more meaningful activities. Although art seems to be gaining more prominence in society, we are acutely aware that many artists and curators still do not have the environment to walk their own independent paths. Therefore, we aim to utilize this space to provide valuable opportunities for a variety of artists and curators. We want to create a place where audiences can enter without stress, encounter diverse art, artists, and curators, and where artists and curators can gain exposure and build their experience. In the process, through art sales, we hope to create a space where mutual enrichment can be shared."

"We do not offer the space for rent; however, we do accept proposals and portfolios. We welcome inquiries not only from artists but also from curators. For more details, please contact us via email."

"We offer studios where you can focus on creating your artwork while staying in Kyoto."

Gallery Garage features a rental studio operated by Dohjidai Gallery. This space is designed for artists holding exhibitions at Dohjidai Gallery, providing an environment where you can work on your art while cherishing the unique inspirations that Kyoto offers. One of the studio's attractions is the opportunity to engage with other resident artists and art professionals, as well as to interact amicably with the local community.

Gallery Garage is conveniently located near JR Kyoto Station and Keihan Tofukuji Station, making it easy to travel around Kyoto. The area is dotted with art galleries and hotels where you can enjoy art, and it is gaining attention as a new art zone in Kyoto that is expected to undergo significant changes.

Additionally, we offer a plan that combines exhibitions at Dohjidai Gallery@Sanjo Gokomachi with studio usage. For reservations, please feel free to contact us by phone or through the contact form on the Dohjidai Gallery website: <https://www.dohjidai.com/gallery/contact/>