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## DEC 5 SURPRISE

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**TROPENMUSEUM**  
**× TOMOKO MUKAIYAMA**

Design by Simo Tse

I am pleased to share a lifelong ambition of mine. On the evening of December 5, [Tropenmuseum](#) and we are presenting a new celebratory event. A group of gifted musicians, artists, makers, and thinkers are taking over this Amsterdam institute to coincide with a deeply rooted national tradition. This date marks the yearly celebration of Sinterklaas, a moment that reflects both the friendly, warm character and the painful challenges part of Dutch culture and history.

Every year again on December 5, we host an intimate gathering to feel united and inspired by music. The act of Coming Together is something I experience as healing and empowering. This year, I am thrilled to be taking this event into a much larger arena, bringing together more voices and expressions than ever before.

A group of musicians and friends consisting of Chloë Abbott, Claron McFadden, Dominique Chabot, Jonathan Bonny, Tatiana Rosa, Yung-Tuan Ku, and myself joins forces to perform "Coming Together" - a politically charged work by the composer and pianist Frederic Rzewski (1938-2021). Rzewski wrote this work in reaction to a bloody riot in the Attica state prison (New York, United States) in 1971 and emphasized that classical music can take a stand against injustice.

The night will be filled with dance, sound, and laughter, as well as spaces to reflect and cry if needed. When we address old traditions, different emotions come to the surface. I invite you to experience these expressions by all talented participants from different generations and cultural backgrounds. Indulge in music, gastronomy, workshops, spoken word, photography, and more. Join me for [DEC 5 SURPRISE](#) - a hybrid cultural celebration conceived to celebrate



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**Tropenmuseum X Tomoko Mukaiyama**

Date: 5 December 2022

Location: [Tropenmuseum](#)

Linnaeusstraat 2 1092 CK Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Time: 19:00 - 23:00, throughout the museum

Ticket: <https://www.tropenmuseum.nl/en/whats-on/activities/dec-5-surprise>

## TAR AND FEATHERS FROM HIGH ABOVE



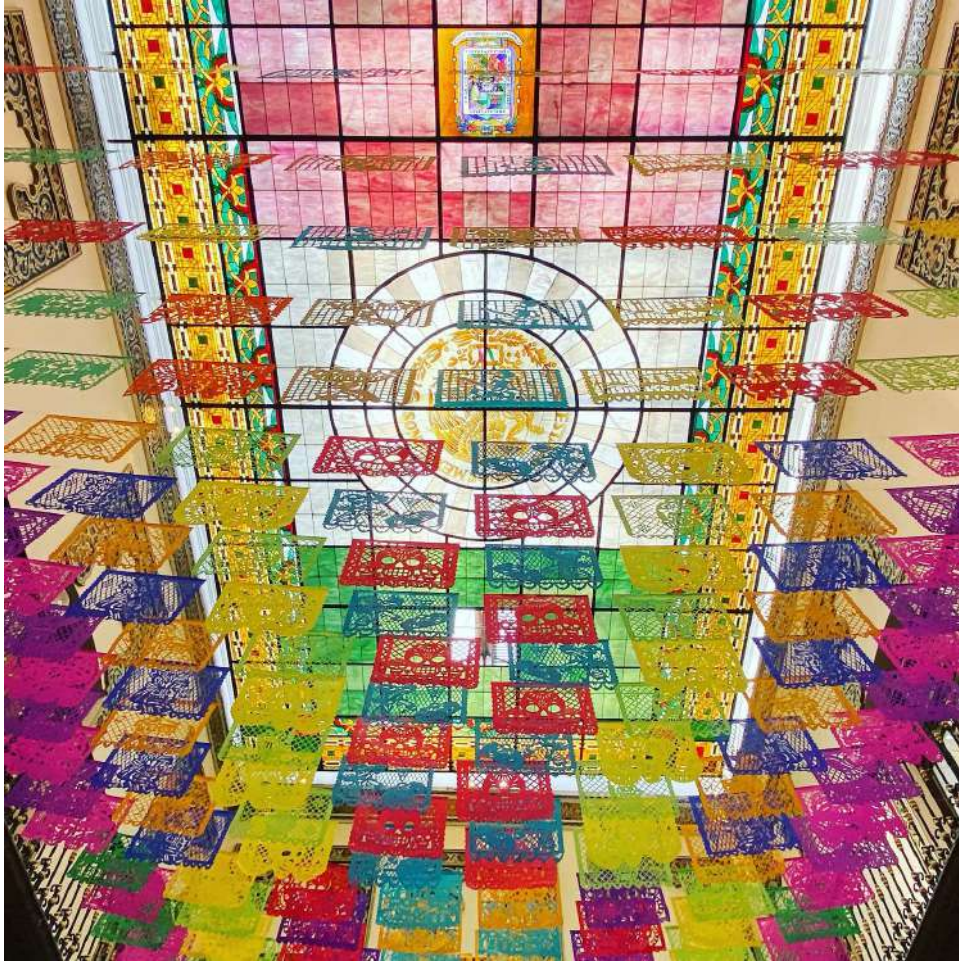
Dance fanatics, jump to the front.

In collaboration with the [Netherlands Dance Theatre](#), I am touring with the work Tar and Feathers (2006) by [Jiří Kylián](#). This piece is one of the three works by Kylián combined in a full evening programme. Inspired by the medieval ritual of punishment where black tar is poured over a body and covered with feathers - Tar and Feathers addresses the 'unbearable lightness' and the 'unbearable weight' of our human existence. As an artist and human, I am too, dealing with this juxtaposition. As a metaphor you will find me behind a grand piano perching on meter-high legs, performing an improvisational body of work around Mozart's Piano concerto Nr. 9 K. 271.

Don't miss this opportunity and be quick. Most of the shows are sold out or have limited seats left.

On the occasion of the choreographer's 75th birthday, '[Celebrating an evening with Jiří Kylián!](#)' is showing in different theatres across the Netherlands.

## LOOKING BACK



(c) Tomoko Mukaiyama



(c) London Philharmonic Orchestra

As we are approaching colder, darker days, I want to take this opportunity to reflect on two recent bright highlights.

The feeling of home is something I experience in more than one place. Identifying as both Dutch and Japanese, I have found comfort in living between cultures. More recently, I've explored my love for Mexico. On October 29 I performed at the [Cervantino International Festival](#) in the city of

Lastly, on November 9, I had to honour to work with one of the greatest orchestras in the world at Southbank Centre in London. Playing Agata Zubeł's [Piano Concerto No.2](#) was something extraordinary. The piece is written for two pianos. So instead of 88, I worked with 176 keys! Performing on two pianos simultaneously got me in excellent physical shape. A special thanks to the [London Philharmonic Orchestra](#), conductor [Edward Gardner](#) and the ultra-talented composer [Agata Zubeł](#).

Tomoko Mukaiyama

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