

Connected to Life. Installation by Chiharu Shiota

When art is at its best, it is able to capture a specific moment in time with just one statement. The installation *Connected to Life* (2021) by Japanese artist Chiharu Shiota is a perfect example of this. This work of 57 hospital beds, which fills the building, makes a visual statement about the pandemic-driven present day, and it is both a memorial to the victims of the COVID-19 virus as well as a symbol of hope for human compassion and science.

ZKM was forced to close its doors once again in November 2021 due to the consequences of the "second wave" of the pandemic. *Connected to Life* (2021) was prominently displayed in the foyer for all visitors to see at the reopening of the building on May 28, 2021. The installation by artist Chiharu Shiota, who was born in Osaka, Japan in 1972 and currently lives in Berlin, was curated by Richard Castelli and Peter Weibel. It places visitors into the context of what is currently happening:

"The installation *Connected to Life* by Chiharu Shiota is a memorial to commemorate the victims of the COVID-19 virus as well as those who sacrifice themselves daily for the lives of their fellow human beings." – Peter Weibel

The 57 beds linked together as tiers reaching from floor to ceiling evoke the images from hospital corridors. The plastic, red-colored hoses appear to be veins through which vital blood and oxygen flow. The installation stands for the hope that human compassion and science can help us to find a way out of the pandemic and overcome its consequences.

More information: zkm.de/en/connected-to-life

Please see the following link for all information about the current social distancing and hygiene requirements for visiting our on-site exhibitions zkm.de/en/notes-for-your-visit.

June 2021

Connected to Life
Installation by Chiharu Shiota

Duration
Wed, March 17–Sun, September 5, 2021

Location
ZKM Foyer

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Installation in cooperation with

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